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REFLECTIONS on SEFLIN

From October 1, 1998, to September 30, 1999, I served as President of Southeast Florida Library Information Network's (SEFLIN's) Board of Directors. Since I was still fairly new to the area (being employed at NSU since January 1997), my election to the Presidency of SEFLIN created a fast track learning situation requiring my comprehension of many policies while concurrently it gave me an early opportunity to gain a better understanding of the goals/objectives and operational aspects of SEFLIN.

SEFLIN is a non-profit organization of 26 libraries with more than 150 institutional locations serving 4.7 million Floridians in the five counties of Broward, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, and Palm Beach. There are six multitype library cooperatives in Florida; SEFLIN is the largest among the six. SEFLIN is headquartered in the main Broward County Public Library and its annual operating budget is approximately $1 million.

One of the primary purposes of SEFLIN is to promote/foster cooperation among its member libraries. Serving as the conduit for interlibrary loan services, delivering documents among member libraries, and providing staff development opportunities are examples of how SEFLIN provides opportunities for member libraries to reach their goal of improving library services for local constituents. I believe SEFLIN allows member libraries to do collectively what they cannot do individually. The days are over (if they ever existed) when some libraries could claim they owned "crown jewels" in their respective collections. Local acquisitions budgets are not keeping up with annual increases in publishers' prices. Thus, libraries have to develop a practice of interdependence (i.e., depending more on borrowing materials from other libraries). Changes in libraries are occurring at an unprecedented rate. SEFLIN is assisting member libraries by conducting various workshops/meetings focusing on staff development issues. Creating more staff development activities is an area that SEFLIN will give more attention to in the near future.

My year as SEFLIN included seeing Elizabeth Curry (after nine fine years as SEFLIN's Executive Director) leave her position to pursue her doctorate. An extensive national search for her replacement resulted in the recent appointment of Tom Sloan (State Librarian of Delaware) as SEFLIN's new Executive Director. SEFLIN has an excellent national reputation as an effective multitype library cooperative.

In sum, my year as SEFLIN's President was enjoyable, informative, and productive. Member libraries deserve commendation for making SEFLIN what it is. An organization like SEFLIN has no presence beyond that of the people who bring it to life.

DON RIGGS
Vice President for Information Services & University Librarian

"No possession can surpass, or even equal a good library, to the lover of books. Here are treasured up for his daily use and delectation, riches which increase by being consumed, and pleasures that never cloy."

---John Alfred Landford, 1823-1903
QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN
Harriett MacDougall
Director, Einstein Library

NSU Libraries, and other academic and administrative units on campus are involved in an ongoing planning and evaluation process. Each unit is writing a Quality Improvement Plan (QIP). There are three common goals for all NSU units. They are: 1) To assure a high level of satisfaction among the primary groups served. 2) To improve current levels of efficiency in all operations. 3) To improve current levels of productivity in all operations. The Executive Council has identified four other goals that the libraries will be working on throughout the year. They are: 4) To occupy and operationalize the new Library, Research, and Information Technology Center. 5) To expand the Health Professions Division Library. 6) To support Law School faculty and students in their curricular and scholarship research needs. 7) To upgrade the University Libraries' online information system (Novacat) to meet the growing needs of University Library users.

During the year NSU Libraries will be working on procedures to accomplish the stated goals and then will assess the attainment of the goals. To meet one of the goals, there will be two library-wide workshops on EFFICIENCY - Tuesday, November 2, 1:30-4:30 and Wednesday, November 3, 1:30-4:30. Dr. Robert Preziosi, professor at the School of Business and Entrepreneurship, will be the presenter for these sessions. Many of you know that Dr. Preziosi is a very dynamic speaker and popular teacher.

Please call Beth Cohen, x4620, or email - eacohen@nsu.nova.edu by October 25 to tell her which of these staff development sessions you will be able to attend.

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY TO LAUNCH FRIENDS GROUP
Elaine Blattner
Director of Library Development

NSU is in the process of establishing its first ever library friends group. The organization will be called the Circle of Friends. Gail Kaplan, former executive director of the Broward Public Library Foundation will serve as its president. Don Riggs, Vice President of Information Services & University Librarian, and Ms. Kaplan are forming its board of directors. The first newsletter, Tidings, has been published.

The Circle of Friends is a membership organization to promote awareness of the new Library, Research, and Information Technology Center. The friends group will hold special events for their members and provide support to the university in a variety of ways. Individual members are being sought. The categories are as follows:

- $50 Associate
- $100 Supporter
- $250 Patron
- $500 Benefactor
- $1,000 Founder

(Limited timeframe for this membership level.)

Employee Spotlight
Karen Hammel
Student Staff Writer
Einstein Library

DOT HOWARD

Over the past 20 years at her job within Nova Southeastern University's library system, Dot Howard has worked in a variety of different positions and has seen a lot of changes within the library staff. Dot first began working in the Einstein Circulation Department and from there moved to Inter Library Loan, where she worked for eight years. Currently she works in Consolidated Technical Services as a copy cataloger and maintains databases. She catalogues books for seven, soon to be eight, libraries on campus. On average, she processes an impressive 1200 books per month or 14,000 books per year.

When asked to describe in one word the changes that have occurred in NSU Libraries over the past 20 years, Dot said, "phenomenal". The number of people initially employed by the library was three; Harriett MacDougall, Bob Bogorff, and Dot. Now there are over 100 employees. Originally, students and staff used to check out books using the honor system. How times have changed!

Dot truly enjoys her job here at NSU in the CTS department. She enjoys working with books and says that succeeding at her job takes patience and perseverance, along with an understanding of cataloging rules, OCLC, and databases, such as Novacat.

Dot has a son, a daughter, and a beautiful granddaughter. In her spare time, she enjoys reading.

AND THE WINNERS are...

Louis Gittens, Consolidated Technical Services, and Wendy Zaman of the East Campus Branch Library. They received first and second place prizes, respectively, after successfully answering the questions in the previous newsletter. For those of you who are curious, the answers were:
1 - I'm underpaid and overworked
2 - Are to area; Ore to oree; Ole to oleo
3 - A different girl in every port
4 - The letter "e"
5 - Tea for two

Thanks to ALL of you who participated in the first NSU Libraries Newsletter Contest! A special thanks to San Francisco Burrito Co, Inc. for sponsoring this event!

Also, thanks to all of you who took the extra few minutes to respond to the survey. The majority of you seem to think that the newsletter is well organized, easy to read, interesting, helpful to the staff, and helpful in connecting all of the NSU libraries. We will try to include more personal stories, graphics, and in-depth articles. Other helpful suggestions were to include more recipes, use brighter paper, and to put the newsletter on-line to save paper.

asonic Francisco Burrito Co, Inc. for sponsoring this event!
New HPD Library Personnel

Janice Gottlieb
Director, HPD Library

Sheila Mondol, weekend circulation library assistant, is currently working full-time during the week as manager/coordinator for an asbestos removal company and is taking classes at BCC. She hopes to transfer to NSU to continue her undergraduate studies in international business administration.

Angela Colmenares, weekday circulation library assistant, has recently arrived here from California, where she worked as checking clerk in a bank. She plans to enroll at NSU soon.

Sarah Halaby, evening circulation library assistant, has been taking classes at Palm Beach CC and working as a file clerk for a group of family physicians. She will transfer to NSU soon to continue her undergraduate studies. She will major in clinical psychology and minor in social work.

Shana Sachs, part-time stack maintenance and ILL library assistant, is currently pursuing a master’s degree in speech-language pathology, after having received her B.A. from the University of Florida at Gainesville. She assisted in the speech-language program at Coral Springs Elementary School last year.

Jessica Nelson, started in June as part-time ILL library assistant. She is also enrolled in the speech-language pathology program. She received her B.A. from the University of South Florida. She currently teaches aerobics in the Recplex.

Michael Geier, Information/Computer Technologist, has recently arrived from Kentucky, where he was Director of Media Development for Gearheart Communications. He will also be caring for his new baby daughter while his wife has been named Professor of NSU’s Clinical Audiology Doctorate program (Au.D.).

Mary Lawrence, Circulation/Reference Librarian, moved here in August. She has been working in the W.E.B. Du Bois Library of the University of Massachusetts/Amherst for several years, and she recently received her M.L.S. from the University of Rhode Island. Thankfully, Mary enjoys working at night, because four of her five shifts will be evening ones.

Our former small staff is delighted and grateful to welcome these wonderful new members!

New EINSTEIN Library Personnel

Beth Cohen
Einstein Library

Pam Beegle, Reference Librarian, is an Ohio native hailing from Dover, Ohio. She graduated from Ohio University with a degree in political science, specializing in foreign affairs. She received her M.L.S degree from Kent State University. She has worked in libraries at Ohio University and Columbus State Community College. Pam enjoys doing research, helping people, and the academic environment.

Frances Sardone, Reference/Instruction Technology Librarian, was born in Ontario, Canada. She graduated from York University and worked nine years at the Canadian Imperial bank of Commerce before realizing her life’s calling was in librarianship. She received her M.I.S. degree from the University of Toronto, and worked in the university libraries. Frances enjoy theatre, travel, reading, the beach and of course, living in Florida.

SPECIAL VISITORS FROM AFAR

Johanna Tunal
Einstein Library

The Einstein Library has had its share of visiting librarians recently. Joan Brooks, the librarian at International University of Geneva, was at NSU from Sept. 13-16 for training. Joan will be working with NSU’s Doctorate of Business Administration students in a cluster that plans to start in Geneva by early 2000. She spent time with Wendy Zaman, Lia Hemphill, Pau Pival, Nora Quinlan, and Johanna Tunon learning about library databases, business resources, and document delivery procedures.

Shelle Witten, a reference and instructional librarian at Paradise Valley Community College in Phoenix, Arizona, visited on August 27. Shelle is traveling across the country while she is on sabbatical to see how other libraries are providing distance library services. Shelle was impressed by the range of services provided to NSU’s distance students and said it was the most comprehensive set of services she has seen during her travels across the country.

Joy Hatch, the Chief Information Officer at Friends University, visited on September 8. Friends University provides site-based training at four locations in the Kansas area. Joy was interested in learning more about how NSU provides distance library services for the students in NSU’s various programs.

--- CONNECTING ---

After reviewing an application for a library card, the librarian told the patron that he could not be issued a library card. When the patron asked why he was being rejected, the librarian replied, "What do you think we’re crazy?
You’ve listed your occupation as BOOKKEEPER!"
TECH TIPS
by Dick Fredericksen

EXCELLENT EXCEL TIP (Excel 97)
Set up Excel to always display comments. You may already know that comments are a great way to leave user instructions that pertain to a specific cell. To do this, click in the desired cell and choose Insert/Comment. Then, type your message and click outside of the comment box. Excel indicates that a cell contains a comment by inserting a small red triangle in the upper-right corner of the cell. To view the comment, you ordinarily have to hover the mouse pointer over the triangle. However, you can configure Excel to always display comments. Select Tools/Options from the menu bar and click on the View tab. Then, choose the Comment & Indicator option in the Comments panel and click OK. If you find the comment boxes get in the way of a particular bit of data, just drag them to a new position. An arrow will continue to anchor the comment to its originating cell.

Library Listings
Archives: 262-4642
East Campus: 262-4607
Einstein:
  Circulation 262-4601
  Reference 262-4613
HPD:
  Circulation 262-3106
  Reference 262-3117
Law:
  Circulation 262-6202
  Reference 262-6201
  (New PHONE NUMBER)
Oceanography: 262-3643

Directors
Einstein Harriet MacDougall
HPD Janice Gottlieb
Law Billie Jo Kaufman

WHAT'S NEW AT.

EINSTEIN Library
Congratulations to Mair Bonnin and her husband, William, on the birth of their baby. Cristina Elizabeth arrived on September 8, 1999 weighing in at 7 lbs., 3 oz. and 18-3/4" in length.

We extend a warm welcome to Frances Sardone, Reference/Instruction Technology Librarian, Mary Clare Sabio, part-time reference librarian. Paulette Smiley, Administrative Assistant for ILL, Yennifer Marcia, Library Assistant in DLS, Daniel King, Library Assistant in DLS, and Maria Hawkins, Assistant to the Director of Library Development.

LAW Library
Diane Altamari, Rhonda Gold, Billie Jo Kaufman, Lisa Smith-Butler, and Carol Yecies attended the AALL Conference in Washington, D.C.

David Morgan attended the 1999 LSAC Summer Regional Workshop, "Building a Web-Centered Marketing Strategy" in Washington, D.C.

Maxine Scheffler and Sarah Tabor attended the SEFLIN workshop for documents, "Depository Libraries and Intellectual Property.

Donna Struthers attended SOLINET's Community Planet Training in Memphis, Tennessee.

Randy Sweeting attended the CVE Core Training at Picturetel in Andover, Massachusetts.

All NSU Libraries would also like to extend a hearty welcome to Peggy Richard, the new Assistant University Librarian for Systems. Peggy has been head of the Systems Department at the University of Miami's main library for nine years prior to coming to NSU. Prior to moving to Florida, she lived in Rochester and was Head of Technical Services at the second largest law firm in New York State. Peggy, her husband, and six dogs now live near Biscayne Bay. Her daughter transferred from college in New York to UM. In her free time Peggy enjoys kayaking.

HOLIDAY PARTY

Well, it is that time of year again! The Second Annual NSU Libraries Holiday Party will be held on Sunday, December 12th from 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. in the HPD cafeteria. There will be a special visit from Santa Claus for the children, as well as entertainment. This is a potluck event, so bring your favorite dish and recipe to share! The Libraries will provide ham and turkey. Look for more information soon!

The editors of CONNECTIONS welcome any and all suggestions. Please e-mail us! Beth Cohen, eacohen@nsu.nova.edu; Betty Maxwell, maxwellb@nsu.law.nova.edu; Vicky Zaetler, vzaetler@hpd.nova.edu