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The Walla Walla Valley has one of the highest concentrations of flowering trees I’ve ever had the pleasure of being around, making spring one of my favorite times of the year. Starting sometime in March the trees will begin to dust off their winter greys and pull forth their Easter best. Light pinks, dark pinks, and whites hang from above while the ground pushes up its offerings of snowdrops, yellow daffodils, and tulips of varying shades. All of this color and beauty makes spring one of my favorite parts of living in the Walla Walla valley.

This year at Peterson Memorial Library at Walla Walla University, we’ve had the pleasure of having a similar experience inside the library. Our library refresh project has been a constant over the course of the last year and has kept us busy handing out ear plugs to our students, working from home when our office windows are being replaced, and answering reference questions over the sound of a dentist’s drill (magnified times ten or so!).

Now as spring rolls around we are beginning to see the library blossom a bit more every day. New windows and finishing work have been installed, new furniture shipments have arrived, and here and there throughout the library color has popped up – not unlike the tulips and daffodils coming up out of the ground. As you wander through the reference room, the lobby, the reading rooms, and down into periodicals, color can be seen on the walls and in the furnishings in the areas we’ve been fortunate enough to be able to refresh this year. We hope that you’ll be able to join us in June for our conference. The dogwoods, tulips, and daffodils, will have come and gone for the year, but our furnishings promise to stick around for a while!

Of course new furniture, carpet, paint, and other décor changes can certainly brighten up a library building, but there are other things that have nothing to do with the age of one’s furnishings, or how long it’s been since that wall has been repainted. These unexpected delights can make librarianship a blessing year around: The smile a student gives when you help them solve a problem at the reference desk, the surprises that you find among the books in the stacks, or the students who come through the library offering everyone cookies during finals week. All of these things bring splashes of ‘color’ into a library building year around.

As your school year draws to a close, I urge you to look for those splashes of color around you, whether they are natural plants, library furnishings, or the people that walk into your library and the interactions you have with them. Look for the color in the end of your school year and bring that color with you to the ASDAL conference in June.

May you have a blessed end of the school year filled with all varieties of color!

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Christy Scott, ASDAL President, is the Reference and Interlibrary Loan Librarian at Peterson Memorial Library, Walla Walla University, College Place, Washington, (Christy.Scott@wallawalla.edu).
CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Warren Johns

Tentative Schedule for 2013 ASDAL Conference

Tuesday evening, June 25
4:00 – 5:30 – Conference registration at the Library
7:00 – 8:30 – Poster session at the Library with continued registration, plus refreshments in the Library lobby

Wednesday a.m., June 26
Notice that all meetings will be in Winter Education Complex (WEC). Please download a campus map by going to the ASDAL website, clicking on “Conferences” and “Information.” Then click on the link to Winter Education Complex to view the campus map.

8:00 – 8:30. Late arrivals registration.
8:30 – 9:00. Devotional by Bob Cushman, a Walla Walla VP.
9:00 – 10:00. Keynote address: Drew Harrington, dean of Clark Memorial Library, University of Portland
10:15 to 11:45. 1 paper; Business Session I

Wednesday p.m., June 26
1:30 – 2:45. Tour of the Peterson Memorial Library
3:00 – 5:30. Adventist Resources Section. Discussion of Adventist Digital Library. Presentations by Joshua Marcoe and Mark Copsey
6:30 or 7:00 to ?. Committee meetings (tbd, perhaps SDA PI and 1 or 2 others)

Thursday, all day tour
Meeting time and place to be announced

Thursday evening
Committee meetings (ALICE Board and remaining committees)

Friday a.m., June 28
8:30 – 9:00. Devotional by Tammy Randolph, education professor, WWU
9:00 – 10:00. Formal paper
10:00 – 10:15. Break
10:15 – 11:30. Two formal papers
11:30. Photograph of all attendees

Friday p.m., June 28
1:30 – 2:00. Break-out sessions
2:00 – 2:15. Break
2:15 – 2:45. Formal paper
2:45 – 3:00 Break
3:00 – 3:45. Formal paper
3:45 – 4:45. Business Session II. Committee reports

Friday vespers
Whitman Mission (perhaps 7 to 9)
Sabbath, all day
Pre-planned Sabbath activities

Sunday, all day
School Libraries Section, coordinated by Audrey Campbell

Sunday a.m., June 30
8:30 – 9:00. Worship with Alden Thompson, theologian, WWU
9:00 – 10:00. Byron Dulan, M.A., LLU
10:00 – 10:15. Break
10:15 – Terri Aamodt, author (History of Walla Walla College; etc.)
11:00 – 11:15. Break
11:15 – 12:00. ARS business and Adventist historical updates

Sunday p.m., June 30
1:30 – 2:15. Table talk or formal paper
2:15 – 3:00. Formal paper
3:00 – 3:15. Break
3:15 – 4:00. Formal paper
4:00 – 5:00. Business Session III
6:00 – 9:00. Banquet, awards, commendations

2013 ASDAL Formal Presentations

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HELP! We need proposals for posters. Let me know in the next few weeks. Contact Warren Johns, Program Coordinator. Email: wjohns@llu.edu, or call at: (909) 558-4584.

2013 ASDAL School Librarians Sessions

PLEASE HELP ON THIS ONE! The ASDAL officers have asked Audrey Campbell, a local school media person nearby to Walla Walla, to organize this session. Don’t hesitate to suggest a topic for a paper on almost any subject pertaining to school libraries, K through 12. You are not limited to the theme of the conference. Even if you have spent all your library career in academic libraries, you are more than welcome to present, even if you are making a presentation earlier in the conference! Contact Warren Johns, Program coordinator for ASDAL 2013, at
PRESIDENT-ELECT Warren Johns, is Special Collections Cataloger at Loma Linda University in Loma Linda, California (wjohns@llu.edu).

PRE-CONFERENCE TOUR ANNOUNCEMENT

The 2013 pre-conference tour of Portland has been cancelled due to lack of interest. Please contact Bruce McClay (Bruce.McClay@wallawalla.edu) if you have any additional questions about the tour’s cancellation.

ADVENTIST RESOURCES AT THE 2013 ASDAL CONFERENCE

Jim Ford

At this year’s ASDAL conference there will be a full discussion of the forthcoming Adventist Digital Library. A number of years in the making, with its origins at the 2008 ASDAL conference, the Adventist Digital Library (ADL) is set to become a reality later this year. In May a number of ASDAL leaders will travel to the General Conference for a day-long discussion about and an introduction to ADL. ADL is currently spearheaded by the GC Archives, the White Estate, and the Andrews University Center for Adventist Research, but it is set to expand beyond the original core very soon. The leadership of ADL is anxious to give ASDAL members a voice in its future development. Wednesday afternoon at the 2013 ASDAL conference is tentatively set as the time for this introduction to the ASDAL group and a time of discussion. You will want to be a part of this historic occasion.

Following the ADL discussion there will be an introduction to the Walla Walla University Archives and Special Collections. Mark Copsey will lead out in that.

On Sunday the Adventist Resources Section programming will continue with two presentations by individuals from the Pacific Northwest. Both will look at an aspect of Adventism and tell us how they were able to use collections of Adventist resources to meet their research needs. Byron Dulan from the Washington Conference will talk about African American Adventists in the Pacific Northwest, and Terrie Aamodt, history professor at Walla Walla University, will talk about her research in Adventism.

Jim Ford is Chair of the ARS Planning Committee and Associate Director of the Center for Adventist Research at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan (fordjim@andrews.edu).
The librarian profession is one of the most peaceful professions. Rarely do librarians face trauma or catastrophe in their work. Right? But when a librarian ventures out of his quiet cocoon into the world around, he sometimes encounters a never-to-be-forgotten traumatic experience, as I did when I completed the Boston Marathon on April 15, 2013 just minutes away from the two bomb explosions.

Obviously I survived or I would not be writing this from the tranquil confines of the Del Webb Library at Loma Linda University exactly one week later. Obviously I was not injured as sadly some 170 spectators and a few runners were, some critically, or I would still be back in Boston. Little did I realize that when I started the race in the quiet suburb town of Hopkinton, Mass. at 10:45 a.m. that 4 hours later I would be as close to a major terrorist act that I ever would want to be—about 200 or 225 yards away. (See my picture at the start in Hopkinton—so relaxed, but eager to run.) My wife Lorettala, who was working at LLU in her daily job of assistant dean in the School of Medicine, calculated that I would be running the marathon in about 4 hours, as I had told her in advance, which placed me at the place and time of the bombing according to the first news reports. For an agonizing hour and a half afterwards she didn’t know if I was directly in the path of the two bombs.

This is where divine Providence enters into the picture. Normally all runners slow down significantly in the last 6 miles of the 26.2-mile marathon, as I did at my first Boston Marathon in 2009. I ran it in 4 hours 22 min. They always say a marathon begins with the last 6 miles. Upon starting to cramp around mile 18, I was planning to slow down and run the last 6 miles at a 10:30 per mile pace so I could finish successfully. Immediately I drank twice as much in fluids at miles 19 and 20. Starting with about mile 22 the cramping lessened and I began to pick up the pace again. The fluids were kicking in. Plus something was urging me on, “Warren, don’t slow down now!” So now I know that the Lord, whom I had invited to be my companion on this race, was the one urging me on. Surprisingly the cramping lessened. My plans were overruled by divine plans. I have run more than 30 marathons, and I have never been able to keep running as fast towards the end once cramping sets in. It always forces you to slow significantly, often to a walk. For the next 3 miles (miles 22 through 24) I still was averaging a 9:30 per mile pace as the computer records show! That little burst starting with mile 22 pushed me past the site of the two bombings. Otherwise I would have been much closer, perhaps witnessing the carnage and bloodshed or even taking on some pieces of shrapnel as a few runners did.

Six minutes exactly beyond the finish line as I was gathering water, refreshments, the finisher’s medal, and making my way towards the buses to retrieve my running gear and a warm jacket, I heard an explosion that I first thought was a Fourth of July fireworks cannon on top of a building at the finish line. The sound waves reverberated along both sides of the narrow Boylston St. near the finish and echoed in my ears as well. I had never heard as loud an
explosion. When I heard the second explosion then I knew it wasn’t a Fourth of July celebration on Patriots Day, and I yelled to the man next to me, “Terrorism.” Runners are a very well-disciplined group. There was no panic, no pushing, no stampeding. In fact there was no running, perhaps because we were also so fatigued, we couldn’t run very well! Within seconds we all figured out it was indeed terrorism. Only 30 seconds or so after the two blasts I took a picture down Boylston St. looking past the finish line and showing the smoke already filling the street. (See accompanying picture. Notice the fright on the gentleman’s face to the right.)

In the next two to three minutes we noticed two major reactions: 1) Policemen usually in groups of two were weaving their way through the densely-packed crowd of race finishers, who were slowly moving away from the finish. Amazingly the police were running, not walking, towards the explosions. I applaud their bravery because for all we knew there could have been a third bomb exploding once the first responders arrived at the scene, as we hear about in Iraq and other places. 2) The dozens of race officials with their yellow jackets, all of whom were volunteers, were still standing all up and down Boylston St. for at least four blocks between the finish line and Boston Commons, a large grassy area, shouting almost in unison, “Clear the area! Clear the area!” and waving us on like traffic policemen. Like the captain and crew of a sinking ship they didn’t leave the area until the last runners had cleared the area. Some runners were so depleted they could hardly walk, but they were assisted out. So I applaud also the volunteers.

Then another unexpected scenario developed. Within about five minutes after the blasts, once we got past the buses with our gear, all the runners with cell phones, including myself, frantically started calling loved ones at home. We couldn’t get through; the lines were jammed! Some runners gave up retrieving their gear, and abandoned their belongings in order to preserve their lives. Fortunately, I had packed all my gear with warm pants and jacket in a red bag (see again the first picture), and they were able to retrieve it quickly. All the other racing bags were yellow. I chill easily after a marathon, especially when I ran the London Marathon in 2001 where the temperatures were in the mid-50s as in Boston. After about half an hour waiting on the street corner five blocks from the finish, my friends picked me up. I couldn’t call them on the cell phone as planned to arrange for an earlier rendezvous. In the meantime three different times pedestrians stopped to ask me, “Are you all right? Do you need help?” So I applaud the kindness of the Bostonians I encountered afterwards. Just a few yards from me crumpled on the sidewalk was a young female runner with two pedestrians standing over her, giving her assistance. She had no one to pick her up yet. She was sobbing uncontrollably, probably not only because of the depletion one’s body undergoes from
running 26.2 miles, but because of the terrorism and carnage she may have seen with her own eyes. I heard later that thousands of runners could not hook up with friends or waiting family members for hours afterwards, until well after dark in some cases. The chaos afterwards in that part of Boston amongst frantic runners is not pictured as much in the news media, which was focused on the dead, the dying, and the wounded, and rightly so.

I have never experienced seeing and hearing more sirens of ambulances, police cars, and other first responders in my immediate area than I did then. All of these sights and sounds have left an indelible impression on my mind. That’s why I say it is “a never-to-be-forgotten experience.”

The most exhilarating moment of the experience was not when I crossed the finish line in 3 hours 57 min., but when I was able to get through on a borrowed cell phone to talk to my frantic wife. It was about 1 hour and 30 minutes after the bombing. The first call that went through actually went to Vivian Tamano, who works with me in the Technical Services Department for the University Libraries. She then called my wife and next Carlene Drake, director of the Library. A few minutes later I was so relieved to talk to my wife, Loretta, who had just heard the news I was safe. Soon the word spread all around Loma Linda that I was safe and uninjured.

Warren Johns, President-Elect, is Special Collections Cataloger at Loma Linda University in Loma Linda, California (wjohns@llu.edu).

SOUTHWESTERN ROLLS OUT ONLINE INDEX TO EWG LETTERS AND MANUSCRIPTS

Alfredo Vergel

With the launch of a web version of the topical index to Ellen White’s letters and manuscripts last fall, Southwestern’s library filled a gap in online resources on Adventist history.

Last spring an exponential increase in the use of the topical card index to Ellen White’s letters and manuscripts prompted me to explore the possibility of making the index available on the web. This was a project previously considered here, but one that required digitizing or otherwise converting the index to an electronic format—a labor-intensive task beyond our current resources.

While talking to White Estate Vice-Director Tim Poirier about it, I found out that such an effort would not be necessary. As it turned out, there was already an electronic version of the index in an outdated file format (NDX extension) that, while requiring quite a bit of work to use, obviated the biggest hurdle in completing the project.

The topical index, along with its biographical and addressee counterparts, is believed to have been created in the 1930s, with additions since. At the time, the index undoubtedly represented an improvement over Marian Davis’ scrapbooks, and perhaps it evolved from the work of Ellen White’s most prominent assistant.

While following established general principles, the index has a few idiosyncrasies and did not benefit in its creation from the specific standards, guidelines and thesauri available today. For example, it is unclear what exactly the difference is between subheadings preceded by a dash and those in parenthesis.

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Nevertheless, presumably because of its usefulness in locating references in the unpublished writings of Ellen White, the index was rekeyed in the 1980s. Some scanning and correcting may also have been part of the process of converting it to an electronic format. This electronic version seemingly fell into disuse with the full-text database created in the 1990s.

However, the full-text database is yet to be available to the general public, and Southwestern students have found the card index quite helpful in a course on Ellen White’s writings for which they are required to use her letters and manuscripts. Hence the need for an electronic version that more than one person could use at a time and that would not involve the level of maintenance, and misfiling proneness, of a card index.

Converting the file meant I had to clean out a large amount of computer code gibberish. It meant double checking quite a few of the paper cards in order to correct the electronic record and vice versa. Once a comma-separated format was ready, loading the data to a table to be queried online was easy by comparison. Access to the headings is open to anyone, but it is necessary to be a registered user in order to see the corresponding instances.

Currently being tested in earnest by students, the index has already gotten some use by other patrons. One of them, Pastor Kevin Morgan, co-author of the 2009 book More Than Words: A Study of Inspiration and Ellen White’s Use of Sources in The Desire of Ages, requested access to the password-protected index as an aid in his current work on two related titles. I recently learned about his experience with it. “I found a very good quotation using the database and just wanted to thank you for having it,” he wrote.

Similar deployments of the biographical and addressee indexes are scheduled for the next two summers. As well, continued refinement of the topical index is in order. Beyond cautious review of headings, the long-term goal is to electronically cross-reference these indexes to the letter and manuscript index in order to bring all references to a particular letter or manuscript under one record. All our indexes are easily available at egw.swau.edu.

Alfredo Vergel is Public Services and Special Collections Librarian at Southwestern Adventist University in Keene, Texas (avergel@swau.edu).

A HISTORY OF THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST PERIODICAL INDEX, PART 3: STILL A WORK IN PROGRESS

Daniel Drazen

The first two parts of the history of the Seventh-day Adventist Periodical Index are what they claim to be. They’re histories, written with scholarship, objectivity and distance. I can claim none of this for my contribution to the history of the Index for one simple reason: I still work here. What this paper represents is a memoir rather than a history. It is about what I’ve been doing for a living for 20 years, longer than any of my predecessors. Whatever

scholarship I practice will involve me racking my brain for memories as the primary source, rather than relying on documentation prepared and, to a certain extent, forgotten.

1992: A NEW BEGINNING
On my first day as Editor of the Seventh-day Adventist Periodical Index, I had to leave town. I wasn’t trying to avoid anything; rather, I was informed that my first official act would be to accompany the then-Managing Editor, Harvey Brenneise, to the 1992 ASDAL Conference being held at Walla Walla College in College Place, Washington. My staying in Berrien Springs wouldn’t have accomplished much anyway, as the Index was still in transit from La Sierra College in Riverside, California. Only when I returned to Michigan did I officially pick up the reins.

The Index, at the beginning of my experience of it, consisted of a Gateway computer with 8 megabytes of memory, a laser printer that outweighed the CPU, desktop card files containing information on our clients/subscribers, and one cube-shaped card file, roughly five feet on each side, that when full couldn’t be moved even if you ran a truck into it. The Index’s first home was a large recently-remodeled room just behind the circulation desk of the James White Library. In the beginning, I had the room all to myself, but this situation wouldn’t last as the room was scheduled to be subdivided into smaller offices at some point; as I write this, that space has been subdivided into an office, the work space for the Interlibrary Loan department, and storage space.

It wasn’t too much later after the move that free-standing wall dividers were scheduled to be installed. In order to anticipate just what would go where, masking tape was put down on the floor to define the Index’s space. Since there was nobody with whom to share the space at first, I tried not to be territorial about the situation and regularly walked through the non-existent walls if I wanted to go somewhere.

One of my first responsibilities was to learn how to deal with Index Time. Index Time is not the same as clock or calendar time. With the Index, we are almost perpetually one year behind the rest of the world, preoccupied with 1999 when the calendar says it’s 2000. This has confused some of our clients who wonder why they would receive their 1999 edition of the Index in 2000 and why they’re not going to receive their 2000 edition for another year. The short answer, of course, is that when it’s still 2000 I have to wait for that year’s magazines to arrive and be indexed. This is the perennial problem of reference librarians: should the information requested be comprehensive or should it be delivered in a timely manner? I refer to this as the Great Binary: do you want it fast or do you want it complete?

This contributed to the Index’s functioning at a different pace from the rest of the university. Aside from the major breaks for the major holidays, nothing about the Index’s way of doing business was in sync with the rhythm of the academic year: when classes started, when Fall and Spring breaks happened, when Weeks of Prayer took place. Since the Index was ultimately the property of the Association of SDA Librarians rather than the University library or even the University as a whole, it contributed to the sense I had from those early days that the Index was “in the library but not of it.”

I had gotten a taste of this during my first library job after graduate school. I was hired in mid-1976 as a part-time temporary assistant at the Editorial Library of the Encyclopaedia Britannica office in Chicago. They were in the midst of a major English literature cataloging project and needed someone who could help take up the slack in the Library until the project was completed at year’s end. Although I had hoped to go into academic librarianship when I graduated, the job market in the mid-1970s was abysmal. It was even worse for seminary and theological libraries where I had desired to work; with many of them having to pool their resources and join consortia, there was effectively a negative job market in the field. But working at Britannica proved to be an invaluable experience in special librarianship. It was the kind of in-the-trenches librarianship that I came to enjoy and for which I was trained at Rosary College in River Forest, Illinois (now Dominican University).

One of the more fascinating features of working at EB was the fact that the Yearbook offices were just down the hall from the Editorial Library. Around November, the process of putting the Yearbook to bed began in earnest. This only intensified if someone famous passed away or if there was a major development of some kind before the end of the year (since the year in question was 1976, the presidential election was already in the budget, as it were). One example of a development that literally hit close to home was the sudden death of Chicago’s long-time and iconic
Mayor, Richard J. Daley on the 20th of December. This gave me my first exposure to the realities of working on a deadline.

With the Index, we have to wait for some publications to get to the office before we could even think about putting the Index to bed. There was an understandable delay in some publications getting to us, especially from overseas. There were also, however, some problems with a handful of domestic titles which gained a reputation for tardiness. Perhaps the worst in this respect was Origins, published by the Geoscience Research Institute and issued on an increasingly irregular schedule. Some years there were two issues, some years only one, some years they didn’t even bother, creating a lacuna in coverage. It was understandable given the nature of the publication: it is a scholarly journal dealing with biology, earth sciences, and other fields dealing with the creation/evolution debate. This is not to say that the more prosaic publications didn’t experience delays as well, but many of those delays had nothing to do with the periodical’s production schedule. I remember one issue of Insight which arrived in an apologetic polybag supplied by the US Postal Service because the magazine had been damaged while in handling. Actually, “damaged” may be too kind; I remember thinking that the issue looked as if someone had fed it through a carburetor.

The raw material for the Index is magazines, sent to us by publishers from around the world. My job as editor settled into a well-defined one: to index each issue of each periodical as it arrives and to enter it into a database. Back in the day, the year’s information was kept on the desktop computer and organized using Pro-Cite indexing software, a dependable program which I use when doing “outside” indexing.\(^2\)

We had a subscription list consisting of 54 periodicals which received the print Index on a quid pro quo basis; in exchange for indexing their publications, they would receive a free copy of the annual print edition of the Index. It was a straightforward arrangement, and we liked to say that it was a way to help promote the publications we indexed. Once it was reasonably established that we’d gotten most if not all of the year’s periodicals in house and on the computer’s hard drive, the Index would be generated, proofread, and then taken to a local printer to be run off and bound. The hard copies were then mailed off to each of the 163 subscribers then listed.

As the turn of the century approached, however, I noticed that one or two periodical titles stopped coming, then the number of absentee titles increased. It wasn’t hard to figure out why: publications needed to trim their unpaid subscription rolls and the Index copies were clearly expendable. This development was an important step in bringing the Index into the orbit of what is now known as the Center for Adventist Research within the James White Library but what was then referred to as the Adventist Heritage Center. We thus began indexing the periodicals received by the James White Library and then returning them to be archived, a practice which continues as of this writing.

Being the Editor of the Index also involved a low level of banking: I was responsible for maintaining an account at the University, invoicing those clients who needed to be invoiced and not invoicing those who received their copies on a complimentary basis (church officers, editors of indexed periodicals, etc). While I regularly reported to the Managing Editor on the status of the accounts and invoices, it was left to the Managing Editor to deal with the subsidizing schools.

**STAFF**

When asked how many people worked on the Index, my stock answer was that I worked with a staff of three: Me, Myself, and I. Having come on board the Index in the shadow of the financial crisis of 1992 that precipitated the move to Andrews University\(^3\), I found myself in the beginning doing pretty much everything in the office. But eventually, for a period of a little over a year, I was to have a staff of one: Gina Boyd.

\(^2\) In addition to generating the Index itself, we also supply two semi-annual indexes to the Adventist Review, one to Ministry, and we compile the end-of-volume index that appears in the Summer issue of the Journal of Adventist Education.

\(^3\) Clouten *op. cit.*
Gina was the spouse of a seminarian. She worked at the Index from October of 1992 through December of 1993. I did what I could to delegate some of the non-professional duties to her. In the end, she resigned when her husband graduated and received a call to Palau.4

With Gina’s departure at a time when the budget for the Index was so tight there was some concern as to whether it would even survive5, I was once again left with sole responsibility for running the Index. This created a problem of governance. I had no problem with the nature of the work; I felt, and still feel, comfortable doing solitary indexing work. It did mean, however, that any kind of consistent authority work had to take a back seat to getting articles indexed and entered into the computer in a timely fashion. Global updates of authority information when, for instance, an author passed away was taken care of on the fly, as was general proofreading.

A more subtle, and unfortunate, side-effect was that I was no longer qualified to attend Index Board meetings. In the past it was different; I was free to attend simply by virtue of my being Editor. When I lost Gina, and in accordance with General Conference Working Policy, I was reduced at a stroke from Management to Labor, and Labor simply did not have a seat at the table when the Board would meet. I don’t know to what extent this rule was a holdover from the church’s stand on trade unionism. The rule was partially amended later on to stipulate that the Board could (note the subjunctive mood) invite the Editor to sit in on Board meetings but it would still be without the right to vote on policy. And given the tight finances that the Index was living with, my requesting such an invitation seemed like an act of presumption if not of fiscal irresponsibility. It was possible to attend Index Board meetings if Andrews was hosting the ASDAL Conference that year, but it seemed pointless when the authority to attend was lacking. I resigned myself to reading the Minutes of the meetings when they were published.

As a result, I have had to trust in my Managing Editor to report on conditions on the ground to the Board at its semi-annual meetings6, and to the credit of the Managing Editors I have had, they have done just that. I submit two Editor’s Reports a year just prior to each Board meeting, and I have come to count on the presence of the Managing Editor in presenting news of the Index in my place and acting as an advocate to the Board. Still, there are times when the exclusion of the Editor from the workings of the Board feels like an unavoidable yet gratuitous insult. The Index moved from one room of the James White Library to another on an average of once every three years as circumstances within the library changed. This demanded a certain amount of flexibility on my part. Yet as the years went on, I felt as if my ability to be flexible was being taxed to the limit.

It was during the year 1999 that I began to realize that while I was keeping up with the indexing work, I had no real idea what my job was supposed to be. With nobody to supervise and all of the work of indexing on my shoulders, I accepted this as my primary responsibility. At the same time, I began to feel as if the banking and the tracking of invoices, the polling of subscribers and proofreading and my clumsy stabs at marketing, were slipping through my fingers.

I was used to improvisation. This job was not something I learned about when I was getting my Master’s Degree in Library Science. Then again, a lot had changed since I was in graduate school. Back then in the mid-1970s, library automation was one course, database searching of files on Lockheed DIALOG and SBC was only one class of that course, and nobody knew about the Internet. Yet I had primarily been doing computer searches from 1977 to 1990 for a couple of small businesses in Chicago, before going on to a short stint of one-person special librarianship, after which I was hired as Index editor. It was the database searching that best prepared me to work for the Index, though if anybody had told me that at the time I’d have said they were crazy.

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4 Something like three student workers came to the Index, but none lasted for long enough to make an impact on operations. In the case of one student worker, he was effectively poached by another department.

5 ASDAL Action: 1994, Winter, 10

6 The Winter meetings of the Index Board have since been replaced with conference calls. The Summer meetings continue to be held in conjunction with the annual ASDAL Conference.
Still, nothing had prepared me for what I was actually doing. I finally realized that I needed to do something that I should have done earlier: talk to other periodical index editors. So I made some phone calls and arranged a couple of interviews.

**PEER REVIEW**

On July 16, 1999, I visited the office of the RELIGION INDEX: ONE (RIO) in downtown Evanston, Illinois, to get some idea of how other periodical indexes that cover the same turf as the Seventh-day Adventist Periodical Index do things. I had also discovered that the office of the editor of the CATHOLIC PERIODICAL AND LITERATURE INDEX (CPLI) was literally a block away from RIO’s office, so a visit to CPLI’s editor was also arranged.

I met with Carolyn Coats, who is then Editor of RIO. As editor, her primary responsibilities consisted of authority work, editing, and proofreading. The actual indexing was handled by specialists among the staff of 10 people who produced RIO and the other religion indexes published by the American Theological Library Association. RIO was, and is, a part of ATLA with a (1999) budget of $2.7 million excluding income from grants.

As periodicals came in, the indexers selected the titles and indexed them based on their interests and expertise; ability to read a foreign language was one factor, since 25% of the 600 periodicals indexed by RIO in 1999 were not in English (while being multilingual was not a factor in editing the Index at that time, it would play a role in the future). They then indexed the publication using a controlled vocabulary of terms produced by RIO. Because the publications were primarily scholarly, a “very efficient” indexer could average 40-50 articles indexed in a day, whereas new indexers tended to get through about only 20 articles per day. Only after the issues are indexed were they checked in.

The indexing at the time was being performed using an in-house software package called AIDE, but RIO was then in the process of switching over to using STAR by Cuadra Associates. Once the citations had been entered, the information was FTPed to the Information Services Department within ATLA. RIO was also implementing Magic periodicals check-in software to phase out the then-current manual system. They were also phasing out the Nextdata search engine used on the CD-ROM version of RIO and switching to a Dataware product. They then sent the CD-ROM out to MEDITECH for duplication.

Carolyn admitted that good indexers are hard to find. Before 1985, when the ATLA office relocated to Evanston from the campus of the University of Chicago, the indexing was done by a few full-time indexers but mostly by graduate students working part-time. Even after the move, a core of University of Chicago graduates were at the heart of the indexing operation. In filling job openings, I was told that they look for someone with a graduate degree and some information services experience. Indexers averaged about seven years on the job. Some worked at indexing “for now” until something opened up in teaching or in another field. For the most part “the indexers pretty well run themselves,” according to Carolyn. Marketing, customer relations and billing were handled by the Finance and Member Services Departments within ATLA, and not by the editor or indexers.

In contrast to the offices of RIO, the CPLI office consisted of one large room with a cubicle subdivision for the Editor, Barry Hopkins. The CD-ROM version of the CPLI, which covered three newspapers among its 150 publications, was being co-produced by the ATLA, whereas the print index is physically produced out of state. Hopkins admitted that when he came to the job in 1996 CPLI was “in serious disarray.” This resulted in a backlog of publications that went unindexed, though when we spoke he said that they were “just about caught up.” Hopkins agreed with the productivity rate of 40-50 per day when concentrating on scholarly publications; when indexing newspaper articles, it was possible to index up to 150 articles per day.\(^7\) CPLI used index terms based largely on the Library of Congress Subject Headings, with annual Catholic directories used to verify proper names and insure the quality of authority work. As with RIO, matters of finance, marketing and customer service were handled by the parent organization, the Catholic Library Association.

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\(^7\) I’ve found this to be consistent with the rate at which I index periodicals for the SDAPI. Whereas articles from general publications (e.g., Conference magazines such as the Columbia Union Visitor or the Adventist Review itself) can be indexed at the rate of about 20 citations in an hour, the rate is half that for scholarly publications such as Andrews University Seminary Studies and the Journal of Asia Adventist Seminary. When it comes to retrospective indexing of the Advent Review and Sabbath Herald with its plethora of short news items, it is indeed possible to index close to 150 articles per day.
The indexing situation at CPLI was not what it should have been, according to Hopkins. He depended on satellite indexing, with a staff of five indexers (two in Pennsylvania, two in Illinois and one in the District of Columbia). The Pennsylvania indexers seemed to be particularly vexing, as they were something of a legacy and in the Editor’s view they frankly didn’t know how to index properly – Mr. Hopkins resorted to the word “incompetence” several times when discussing them. The data entry had been done out of the Pennsylvania facility, but at that time the materials were sent to the Evanston office for data entry once index terms had been assigned. This was how authority control was maintained. The CPLI Advisory Board met twice a year to establish policy and direct the course of the Index.

The productivity for the Seventh-day Adventist Periodical Index falls somewhere between the 40-50 articles indexed per day for scholarly publications covered by RIO and the 150 per day for newspaper articles as cited by Barry Hopkins of CPLI. At present, I have been indexing between 375 and 400 articles per week. General news articles that appear in Conference publications (stories about church openings, dedications, anniversaries, etc.) do indeed take less time to index than pieces that have to be read carefully in order to get the full gist of the article, whether that article is scholarly (Andrews University Seminary Studies), written for the informed layperson (Liberty, Journal of Adventist Education), or a narrative (Adventist Review, Guide).

Perhaps it was because I saw both Ms. Coates and Mr. Hopkins on a Friday, but both offices and their employees were fairly casual in appearance. Because of the generally solitary and nonpublic nature of indexing, I expect that this was not unusual for the rest of the workweek. While I have observed the library’s dress code, especially since the Index came into the orbit of the Center for Adventist Research, Fridays at the Index are decidedly casual.

AN INAPPROPRIATE BUSINESS MODEL

I also came away from my interviews with the impression that not only had I talked with kindred spirits, but that it requires a certain personality in addition to specific training to engage in periodical indexing. This is particularly true in the case of CPLI where Mr. Hopkins frequently has to re-do the work of his Pennsylvania staffers. Most important was the realization that both RIO and CPLI depend on their parent organizations to handle those matters which were, quite frankly, beyond the scope of indexers, myself included. I had always felt out of place when dealing with the marketing and financial record-keeping of the SDAPI, though I have done my best to track payments and invoices through a complicated system involving subsidies paid by the schools, direct billing, and billing through the General Conference. I realized that the Association of SDA Librarians does not have a full-time Finance or Members Services office, but I believed that one of the matters that ASDAL and the Index Board needed to look into was the transferring of non indexing-related tasks such as marketing and bookkeeping away from Editorial and toward some entity/entities better equipped to do the work. RIO and CPLI were each part of a larger whole, and within those parent organizations there were offices and departments that handled things that the editors didn’t have to worry about: invoicing, accounting, subscriber relations. The editors were doing what they’d been trained to do and they were focused on their professional duties.

I, however, was spreading myself across areas of responsibility for which I was ill-equipped and which were siphoning off time and energy that would have been better devoted to indexing. I had become something of a small-town shopkeeper: stocking the shelves, making the sales, keeping the books and sweeping the floor before locking up for the night. The editorial model I had inherited was an entrepreneurial model rather than a professional one. I wrote up a report on my visit to the RIO and CPLI offices and submitted it to the Managing Editor, hoping that he would take the hint. Hint taken. Since then, the billing and accounting was handled by the University’s Purchasing Department. I supplied Purchasing with a list of billable clients and they did their job.

I farmed out the non-professional responsibilities of the job in other ways. Since I produced the inserts for the CD-ROM version of the Index, I entrusted the printing to Lithotech, the printing and reproduction department within Andrews University. And the ordering of supplies for the Index, such as CD cases and mailing envelopes, I left to the administrative assistant at the Center for Adventist Research.

Still, the Index functions under what I consider to be an eccentric corporate structure. The day-to-day operations of the Index still rest on the shoulders of one individual, though there is some spreading out of the responsibilities in practice. Above the Editor is the Managing Editor, who has other responsibilities as Associate Director of CAR.
The Managing Editor is also a designated member of the Publication Board along with other officers who convene twice a year to deal with the business of the Index. The administrative structure of the Index thus takes on the shape of an inverted pyramid. At the risk of sounding politically incorrect, it is a situation where something like eight part-time chiefs direct the goals and actions of one full-time Indian.

The Index has endured numerous financial threats and has changed with circumstance, time and technology. Not all changes, however, have worked out well.

THE ACCESS EXPERIMENT
In 1993, the James White Library underwent a sea change when the online public access catalog, JeWeL, began operation. This led, three years later, to the Index abandoning the annual print format and becoming an online database itself.

This was a welcome change. Putting the entire database on one CD-ROM replaced consulting one annual paper copy of the Index after another. It felt like the old days of performing DIALOG searches across not only a number of databases but across a number of years. But because the Index database was Innovative-based, as was the rest of JeWeL, we were affected when the cost of connecting to Innovative went up. This led to what I call the Access Experiment.

In order to avoid the costs involved with Innovative, the Index was put directly on the James White Library’s in-house computer system, JeWeL, rather than simply using JeWeL as the means to access Innovative. The database was configured in such a way that the data elements for each citation were entered as cells in the Microsoft Access program.

The logic for using Access was that this was the system that was being used to enter obituary information, so it should have been compatible with using it for more detailed journal citations as well.

The limitations of Access in this case were apparent almost immediately. When entering obituary information, after all, there is a consistency to the number and nature of fields being used per record (name of the deceased, source of the obituary, date of birth, date of death).

Journal citations, however, are more complex than obituary records. There might or might not be an author, the journal citation information is separated into distinct fields, one for the periodical title. There could be any number of descriptor fields, or even none at all in the case of poetry.

The most unforgivable feature of the Access Experiment was that when I entered a citation into the database, it did NOT automatically appear in the Index. It was held in reserve, as it were, until the Systems Librarian at Andrews University uploaded the information to the Index. This did not happen immediately, as the Systems Librarian had other responsibilities. This led to delays in updating, some of them unforgivably long. At one point, there was a three month lag between uploads. This created a real hardship for users who found no new information when they executed a search, with no way of knowing when the next upload would occur.

There were other drawbacks. Due to the sheer size of the number of records, records were split so that an entire citation could not be viewed without creating a proper form. Also, subheadings tended to be divorced from their main headings. Finally, it was proving impossible to import Access citations for outside indexing purposes, leading me to duplicate my work in creating those files for Pro-Cite manually. Clearly, the Access Experiment was not working out.

The Board eventually voted, in view of the limitations of the Access Experiment, to return the Index to Innovative. I didn’t attend the 2001 Index Board meeting, which coincided with the ASDAL Conference at Pacific Union

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College, but I was told that when the Managing Editor announced to the assembled librarians that the Index would go back to Innovative, the news was greeted with a standing ovation.

IT'S A SMALL WORLD
In 2002, two articles appeared in the April issue of the Atlantic Union Gleaner. One had to do with a ministry to married couples, and the other with disaster relief by ADRA as a result of floods in Indonesia. What set these articles apart was the new section in which they appeared: “Que Esta Pasando?” Both articles were in Spanish. Facility in languages other than English was not one of the initial requirements for the Editor’s job, though the fact that a quarter of the periodicals indexed by RIO were not in English should have been a sign of things to come. More and more Conference periodicals began publishing Spanish-language articles. The Lake Union Herald began the column “Conexiones en Espanol” in 2005, Southern Tidings began running “Noticias” in 2004, “Accion” appeared in the North Pacific Union Gleaner in 2000, and the Southwestern Union Record initiated “Vision Hispana” in 2010.

I had taken a year of Spanish in high school. It wasn’t enough to make me conversant, but it was a start. Rather than decide that this wasn’t my responsibility, I armed myself with a Spanish-English dictionary, bookmarked language translation sites on the Web, and went to work. In some cases, parallel bilingual articles appeared, as in several issues of Guide magazine and in the “Profiles in Caring” section of the Columbia Union Visitor. In other cases, a Spanish-language article would acknowledge that it was a translation of an English-language article appearing either in the same publication, in a different publication, or online.

To date, there hasn’t been a large amount of French publications, though they have appeared in the “Quoi de Neuf?” section of the Atlantic Union Gleaner. In the case of one scholarly journal, Spes Christiana, the appearance of French- or German-language articles is a moot point as I rely on the English-language abstract accompanying the article when I do my indexing. It’s still clear, though, that non-English language material is here to stay in North American Adventist publications. And that means that the Index will have to deal with them.

“AS SCIENCE GOES SELF-SUPERCEDING ON”
The latest change to the Index has effectively changed the way it does business. It was as thorough-going as it was unanticipated.

The annual generating of the CD-ROM Index master had been assigned to the Systems Librarian. It was he who maintained the computer on which the data could be formatted and enhanced by a Rocket search engine (formerly known as Folio). Producing the Index became an annual melodrama: would the computer hold together long enough to format one more annual CD-ROM, which could then easily be duplicated?

I suppose I could have tried to bring myself up to speed technically, despite the drain on my time represented by indexing. But libraries are, like most bureaucracies, subject to territorial squabbles. In putting together outside indexes, I would use Innovative to build a list of the citations I needed. These were then taken by the Systems Librarian and changed into the comma-delimited format that would enable them to be imported into Pro-Cite. Then, in 2012, the annual attempt to create a master CD-ROM crashed and burned in an unanticipated fashion. The indexing software had managed to run on older 16-bit machines running with Windows 6, Windows XP or Windows Millennium. But when the Systems Librarian tried running the test CD-ROM on a 32-bit machine using Windows 7, it wouldn’t work. With Microsoft in the brink of ending support for Windows 6 and other operating systems for older machines, the Index saw the market for its annual CD-ROM melting like April snow.

An attempt was made, through the CAR’s administrative assistant, to poll subscribers to see if there would still be a demand for the Index on disc. If there was response from the subscribers I never heard a word about it. There may have been a reason to issue the Index on disc at one time: Internet access was not universal back in the day, especially in developing countries, and academy librarians may have felt that the Index on disc was a way to avoid accessing the wilds of the Internet all together.

Most important of all, our subscription base was dwindling steadily. From 163 subscribers in 1992, the number of Index subscribers had shrunk to 124 two decades later. And half of the CD-ROMs we sent out were complimentary copies sent to periodical editors and church officers. The implications were obvious. Quietly, without ceremony, the SDA Periodical Index pulled the plug on its CD-ROM product in order to concentrate on the online database.

**GROWN-UP OR MATURE?**

Clouten\(^{11}\) expressed the history of the *Index* as being comparable to the human lifespan, from infancy to maturity. This is not a completely useful analogy. It might be better to say that the *Index* has, at this point, matured. It has not only weathered a number of storms, it has also arrived at a consciousness of its purpose for being and has learned and adapted itself in fulfilling that purpose.

It hasn’t always been easy, and there have been less-than-successful attempts along the way, but overall, the *Index* has fulfilled its purpose: to enable scholars and non-scholars alike to access the periodical literature of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

It may not have succeeded to the extent that it has not the *Index* put away childish things, or at the very least jettisoned an inappropriate model for operating. Of all the years that I have been Editor, 1999 can be said to be one of two pivotal years because that was the year the *Index* stopped making it up as we went along and became professional. That professionalism, based on the experience of other periodical index editors and not on guesswork, is what will guide the *Index* as it moves forward. As it turned out, that future will not include the annual issuance of an adjunct copy either on paper or on CD-ROM.

What do I see for the future? That’s unanswerable, but I can state what I’d *like* to see. I’d like to see the current Editor’s position split off into two. At the present, my job is divided between inputting information from articles, and doing the true editorial work of proofreading and authority work. In an ideal situation, there would be one person to handle the indexing and another to do the editing.

One strategy that did *not* work was the use of student labor. It proved too ephemeral as students moved on, demanding more time in quality control (c.f. the experience of the CPLI), and having the Editor assign index terms and break down citations into bibliographic bits of information to be keyed in is sheer redundancy. Both the Indexer and the Editor would need solid professional backgrounds, the former in cataloging and the latter in more general librarianship.

The Indexer position would, in a sense, be the harder of the two to fill. That is because the job demands not only the professional skills of someone with a Master’s in library science but also a personality which is comfortable with the solitary and repetitive nature of the work. The experience at RIO has been that indexers coming from other disciplines, such as teaching, last about seven years. As I write this, I have logged over 20 years at the *Index*. In discussing the nature of my work, I admit that aspects of the job can, to the more gregarious, sound as interesting as watching paint dry. But it suits me, and I can’t ask for more than that.

I’m still a number of years away from retirement, from passing on the work I’ve done to other hands. With a clear idea of what the *Index* needs to me and how it needs to do it, seeing the *Index* continue on is something about which I can feel good. And so long as the users can access the information they need in a timely and comprehensive manner, they can feel good about it, too.

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\(^{11}\) Op. cit.
The sales and usage of ebooks have increased astronomically since their advent in the 1990’s when the first NetLibrary ebook packages hit libraries. Although many patrons still prefer print format, the rise in off-campus programs, space shortage in many libraries, growing availability of e-readers, and presence of digital natives on campuses have prompted an increased interest in the digital format. Change always brings challenges, and both publishers and libraries have experienced challenges in formatting, processing, and promoting the new format, and dealing with sticky issues like copyright and interlibrary loan. Patrons must learn new ways of accessing, taking notes, and citing electronic books.

Last spring I surveyed SDA academic library deans and directors around the world to find out how they are addressing ebook issues and if there are ways ASDAL can help. A full report of this research was presented at last year’s ASDAL Conference in the Philippines, but here are a few of the findings that may be of interest to those unable to attend.

Librarians from 23 institutions in Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, and North America participated in the study, with almost 75% reporting off-campus programs. Two-thirds of the libraries had purchased ebooks. The remaining third listed “no budget” as the number one reason they hadn’t acquired ebooks. The majority of libraries reported that students and faculty were at least somewhat interested in ebooks. Students generally were rated as having a higher interest than faculty members.

Promotion is always important when introducing new services. Libraries that reported a high degree of interest also reported a high level of promotion using techniques such as inclusion in library instruction presentations, displays showing students using e-readers, and informal conversations with students and faculty. One library director commented, “Once students try the electronic books, then they usually like them.”

One of the questions most commented on was, “Should there be an SDA ebook database and if so, who should administer it?” The majority of librarians (80%) responded in the affirmative regarding the need for an SDA ebook database. The largest portion of those librarians thought it should be administered by ASDAL (42%), while 15% indicated that it should be administered by the General Conference. Another 15% indicated that an SDA ebook database should be administered by SDA publishers. One idea, which came out of further discussion at the conference, was to eventually include recently published SDA books in ebook format as part of the Adventist Digital Library.

Some of the comments and ideas voiced by ASDAL members regarding an SDA ebook database were:

- “It would be good if ASDAL or GC will administer the centralized ebook database.”
- “[Should be] negotiated—see which agency can administer it the best.”
- “Yes, we should have a centralized SDA ebook database. Not sure which entity should administer it. Could the ebook database be added to the Adventist Virtual Library discussion? Does ASDAL have the resources to manage an ebook database cost effectively?”
- “I would like to suggest that ASDAL use its combined influence to strongly urge the Adventist publishers to provide electronic copies of their publications, not only for single copy sales, but also for library editions that could be checked out by multiple people at the same time for classes. It would be nice to send the recommendation to not only the main publishers but also include the GC entities such as the Biblical Research Institute, Geoscience Research Institute, Andrews University Academic Press, Ellen G. White Estate. Consideration for library editions of electronic media such as the SDA Bible commentary CD would be very helpful and would be easier for libraries to distribute electronically rather than physically.”
- “Not sure what you mean by this. If you mean purchasing a shared collection of SDA ebooks, then I would say we are not interested at this point. Administration will be a significant issue as will funding the project for purchasing the books. Right now we’re not in a position to start funding a new shared ebook project.”
• “My building is full and there is no current plan for a new building or expansion of the present one. It will become increasingly difficult to collect denominational materials if the publishers do not offer titles as ebooks.”
• “Ebooks are becoming a necessity. It is very important to create a standardized policy and SDA study for cooperation in this matter.”

**Results and Recommendations.** (1) The majority of librarians surveyed have ebooks in their collection and off-campus programs at their institution, but a minority reported high interest and usage of ebooks. (2) Those libraries with high ebook interest had effective ways of promoting ebooks to students and faculty. (3) The majority of librarians were interested in the establishment of an SDA ebook database. (4) Ebook format may need to be addressed in library selection policies.

Low interest in ebooks could be due to a variety of factors, including budget, type of acquisition model, lack of marketing, lack of staff and patron training, and lag of technology in making ebook access user-friendly. Increased marketing of library materials and services is highly recommended. Particularly with the increase in off-campus programs, ebooks are needed to support curricula for distance students. An SDA database which includes current as well as older SDA publications would be beneficial to students worldwide.

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**THE ADVENTURES OF LIBRARIAN M: SHE SHOULD HAVE USED MENDELEY**

Melissa Hortemiller

It all began (as many librarian tales do) with a project for a patron. Librarian M had spent a considerable amount of time hunting and gathering resources for a professor in need. Just as she was about to save the day by clicking the “share” button in her citation manager program, she received a message that complicated her mission terribly: “An error has occurred. Cannot share folder.”

“It will take a little extra time,” she thought to herself, “but I’ll copy and paste the links to each of these resources and e-mail them directly to the professor.” But this was not to be, for her citation program did not import URLs, but did the very bare minimum work that was required of it—importing only the information necessary to create a bibliography.

“Drat!” our heroine exclaimed. Now she would have to retrace her search steps and spend another couple of hours finding articles that she had already found to send to the professor. What a waste of a librarian superhero’s time! If only poor, unfortunate Librarian M had known about Mendeley, her citation manager experience would have been drastically different and she could have gone on to rescue other patrons in distress. What is Mendeley, you ask? Let’s part from Librarian M’s tale of woe to take a look.
Mendeley in a Nutshell

Mendeley is a free online and desktop citation and resource manager that goes above and beyond many of the “big name” managers out there today, such as Zotero and EndNote. After downloading the Mendeley software, users can add whole PDF files to their user libraries and automatically extract pertinent information from the files to create citations. Mendeley also contains a built in PDF viewer, which means there is no need to open additional programs to view files; users can even highlight and make notes within the PDF file rather than having to open a program like Adobe Acrobat. User libraries can be built up and accessed from the desktop software or from the online portal, thanks to the “sync” feature. An optional Microsoft Word plugin is available for download, which allows users to easily generate citations and entire bibliographies for their papers without even leaving the Word program.

Additionally, Mendeley promotes research and collaboration by functioning as a type of social network. Users can find or invite contacts to add to their research network and can communicate with them via the “message” feature. Users can also create and join groups centered on their specific areas of interest. Resources and citations can be shared among members of these groups, though actual file sharing is restricted to those who have purchased a subscription to the institutional or team versions of Mendeley.

Ups and Downs

Like almost everything in the world of technology, Mendeley has its pros and cons. Though I am fairly new to this program, I have noticed a few of its positive and negatives.

Ups

- Users can save “screen shots” of online resources. The HTML link is automatically added and goes right back to that same page. This is fantastically convenient!
- Social networking is the wave that every one is riding right now. Mendeley seems to know what users want and need in this area.
- Mendeley appears to have the best and most comprehensive offering of features out of the major citation programs to date. To see a comparative chart, visit: http://www.mendeley.com/compare-mendeley/

Downs

- There are several items to download for users who want to utilize Mendeley’s full potential. This may be a deterrent for people who cram their hard drives full of things or those who just don’t want to download more things to their computers (or even can’t download if they are using a public computer with downloading restrictions).
• Mendeley is such a huge, inclusive program that it requires a time commitment to sit down and familiarize oneself with all of its features and functions. This is not a problem for librarians who love to explore new programs, but some people may just wish to stick to the tried and true.

• Some Mendeley features are restricted to users who have purchased a subscription. This includes file (but not citation) sharing and creating private groups.

The Future of Mendeley

When I began writing this article, Mendeley was still self-owned and operated; however, in an unexpected turn of events, Elsevier has recently bought the program. This is somewhat ironic because Mendeley has been a supporter of open access, while we probably all know that Elsevier charges for resources. Thus I have no idea what the future holds for Mendeley, but for now it remains a useful tool for librarians to look into and utilize.

If you’d like to read more about Elsevier’s acquisition of Mendeley, you can visit:

http://scholarlykitchen.sspnet.org/2013/04/08/a-matter-of-perspective-elsevier-acquires-mendeley-or-mendeley-sells-itsself-to-elsevier/

Or just Google it. 😊

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CONFERENCE REPORTS

CATLA

On Friday, April 29th, 2013, the Chicago Area Theological Library Association held its spring meeting at the Hesburg Library on the campus of the University of Notre Dame with 30 members in attendance. The speakers for the day were Mary Ellen Konieczny, Professor of Sociology and Mark Noll, Professor of History at Notre Dame. Mary Ellen’s presentation was on the Sociology of Religion from the 1960’s until the present time, and she shared an extensive bibliography of materials on this topic. Interestingly enough, most of the writers on this subject are women! Mark Noll’s presentation addressed Evangelical Protestant Scholarship—its problems and its progress. He gave a lot of the history of the modern university, Protestantism in general, and Evangelical Protestantism in particular. He made several points, addressing the progress that has been made in this area, such as: maturing scholarship in evangelical theological seminaries, cooperation between evangelical and Catholic scholars, evangelical participation in the disciplines, with philosophy in the lead, getting beyond creation-evolution in science, reasonably vigorous publications, connections with emerging Christian communities around the world, and the impact of individual scholars. The presentations were well received and members commented on the successful day! It was refreshing to have something different in the way of presentations.

Sallie J. Alger is retired from the James White Library at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan (salger@andrews.edu).
This was my first time attending ACRL and I would go again. The sessions I attended were all good. Since I am now a Reference & Instruction Librarian, I focused on sessions dealing with instruction. One session, entitled “This Library Orientation is Fun!: Building a Successful Virtual Tour Experience for Students,” was probably the highlight of the conference for me. Scott Rice, the E-Learning Librarian at Belk Library and Information Commons, has created the following: Virtual Tour/Scavenger Hunt, The Library Adventure Game, and the Information Literacy Game. He provides individuals with game files to use for their own library at this website: http://guides.library.appstate.edu/games.

The conference proceedings are available at the following place: http://www.ala.org/acrl/acrl/conferences/2013/papers.

It was nice to catch up with fellow ASDAL Librarians, and those that could went out to eat for Thursday lunch.

Kieren Bailey is Reference & Instruction Librarian at Oakwood University in Huntsville, Alabama (kbailey@oakwood.edu).

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D. Glenn Hilts Scholarship Reminder

Marge Seifert

This is just a quick reminder for ASDAL members to invite library students to apply for the D. Glenn Hilts Scholarship. To qualify, applicants must be Seventh-day Adventists in good standing who have been accepted into a library school accredited by the American Library Association and expect to study at least one full academic year on a full-time basis. Application forms are available on the ASDAL website.

Marge Seifert is Chair of the D. Glenn Hilts Scholarship Committee and Public Services Librarian at Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, TN (meseifrt@southern.edu).
Laz Otti Memorial Library, Babcock University

June 2010 witnessed the foundation laying ceremony of Laz Otti Memorial Library at Babcock University in Nigeria by the former Chairman of the Economic and Financial Crime Commission (EFCC), Dr. Mallam Nuhu Ribadu. The Library was donated by Dr. & Mrs. Alex Otti and was completed and commissioned on Sunday, November 25, 2012 by the Chairman, Dangote Group, Alhaji Aliko Dangote (GCON).

The two-story state of the art modern library, named after late Lazarus Otti, a famous and dedicated pastor of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Nigeria and father of the donor, is situated at the centre of academic activities at Babcock University’s main campus. The building is ready for use and will accommodate about 1000 library users. This will ease the challenge of reading space experienced at the Adekunle Alalade library presently used by the University.

Laz Otti Memorial Library will be fully air-conditioned and will be equipped with modern facilities and a constant Internet connection to facilitate access to information for staff, students, and community users.

The pictorial below shows some of the highlights.
Clara Okoro (sisiclara7@yahoo.com).

Oakwood University

Eva B. Dykes Library Introduces Use of Clickers
In April, two Principles of Research classes got to experience the use of clickers during a library instruction class. The professor had asked us to come and do a refresher course on using APA. I created a testing your knowledge quiz for the class. The quiz was made up of multiple choice and true and false questions. Using the clickers turned what is often a very tedious task for students into a fun, engaging and interactive learning experience. Student feedback was 90% positive. Here are just a few comments of their comments:

“Great class the clicker made class fun. We are never too old to have fun in class. The information will stick with me”.

“This class was very good. The clickers were very easy to use, effective and engaging”.

“I liked that it was detailed, engaging the clickers was kind of cool. I learned about the typical mistakes I made on my papers”.

Over the summer we will be revamping the library instruction program to include the clickers and other multimedia tools.

Eva B. Dykes Library Turns 40
April 22, 2013, marks the 40th anniversary of the Eva B. Dykes Library. As part of the celebrations, the library hosted the artwork of Mrs. Adrienne Rowe-Saulsbury, a grade one teacher at Oakwood Elementary. The works
featured vivid depictions of Bible stories/objects and nature scenes. Comments indicated that the pieces entitled, “A Rose among Thorns”, and “Jugs” from 2 Kings 4:1-7 were viewers’ favorites.

Other celebrations include the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Letter from Birmingham Jail. Faculty, staff, and students will join other libraries and cultural centers on April 16, 2013 in reading the text on the steps of the Ashby Auditorium, where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke in 1962.

A game night and poetry reading by Art & Soul will take place on April 22.

“Jugs” and “A Rose among Thorns” were two of Mrs. Adrienne Rowe-Saulsbury’s pieces displayed in the library.

Ten interesting facts about the Eva B Dykes Library:

1. Named for Eva Beatrice Dykes who graduated with a Ph.D. in 1921 from Radcliffe College, a school for females affiliated with Harvard University.
2. The Eva B. Dykes Library building was dedicated on April 22, 1973. It was a Sunday morning during alumni weekend celebration.
3. Dr. Jannith Lewis was the Library Director for 49 out of her 50 years at Oakwood
4. The library was designed to house 150,000 volumes and to seat 400 patrons.
5. Mrs. Clara Peterson-Rock was appointed to serve as the first Archivist for Oakwood University in 1972.
6. A small television studio that produced media materials for sale and classroom use was housed on the lower level. Dr. Timothy McDonald was the first media director.
7. Mrs. Minneola Williams Dixon became Oakwood University’s second Archivist from 1988 to 2009. Her “Heritage Moments” can still be heard on WJOU.
8. The library was the first academic building to become "wireless" in 2005.
9. The library's website is accessible from your mobile device.
10. Like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter!

Paulette Johnson (pjohnson@oakwood.edu).
Southern Adventist University

Institutional Repository
Below is an article, written by student Myron Madden, about our institutional repository. It was featured in The Southern Factor, an SAU employee newsletter:

“After months of planning, Southern has become the first Seventh-day Adventist university in the United States to have an institutional repository. Southern’s repository, called Knowledge Exchange, is home to the academic and creative works of students and faculty, including journal articles, research, creative writings, artwork, media projects, theses, and dissertations. Knowledge Exchange also hosts interesting features such as digitized glass slides and old yearbooks.

Jan Haluska, chair of the English department, believes being showcased on Knowledge Exchange is an honor. “The repository will give both students and professors something to shoot for,” Haluska said. Particularly excited about the repository is Robert Coombs, editor-in-chief of the Journal of Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Research (JIUR)—an academic journal published annually by the university that features five of the best research articles by students from various departments. “Having a repository will give the journal worldwide access,” Coombs said. “Beyond the scope of just writing in this journal, students will be able to say ‘you can look me up online!’”

Although librarians are eager to bring Southern into the future, they cannot accomplish this goal without the academic and creative minds of Southern. “We need students and faculty to supply us with work to put into the repository,” said Deyse Bravo, periodicals and special collections librarian.

While representatives from each department will manage what pieces their department uploads, Daniel Maxwell, electronic resource librarian, urges students to contact him if they have anything they would like to submit for uploading to the repository.

Deyse Bravo (dbravo@southern.edu).

New Assistant Circulation Manager
Luis Rodas, a Southern alum, is the new Assistant Circulation Manager at McKee Library. Rodas is no stranger to libraries. As an undergraduate theology student, he worked in McKee Library’s Circulation department. After graduating, he moved back home to California and gained a position at the Glendale Public County Library. He also worked in the Heritage Room at La Sierra University Library. In his free time, Rodas enjoys all types of lively and outdoor activities. His favorite sport to play is soccer. McKee Library is happy to have Rodas on the team!

Cecelia Luck (cluck@southern.edu).
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ASDAL Action is the official publication of the Association of Seventh-day Adventist Librarians. Its purpose is to keep members abreast of the association’s activities, collection development projects and activities related to SDA materials, and the progress of SDA libraries throughout the world. It includes book reviews, bibliographies, and articles that keep SDA librarians up-to-date with the profession.

It is published three times a year: fall, winter, and spring. Deadlines are October 15, January 15, and April 15.

Forward manuscripts for publication, using Word, Times New Roman, 10 pt., single-spaced font to:

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