

Amigos Pasa?

The Official Newsletter of Amigos Library Services, Inc.

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April – June 2009

Amigos Hosts Annual Member Conference

Over 170 staff from member libraries gathered in Dallas for the annual Amigos Member Conference, May 6-7. The conference, whose theme was “Navigating the Now,” was held again this year at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Addison.

In choosing the theme, conference planners sought to focus libraries on the needs and demands of today's patrons even as they plan for the challenges of the future.

Opening session speaker Casey Bisson, Information Architect and Web Application Developer at Plymouth State University, Plymouth, NH, echoed the theme with



L to R: Conference Speaker Casey Bisson, Amigos' Charles Cason, Trustee Bill Hair

his presentation, “Software for Now,” in which he discussed how libraries can benefit from the growing trend toward free and open source software. Libraries, he said, can use open source platforms, often for free, to manage collections, track statistics, and make their collections available to the public.

Closing session speaker Lizanne Payne, Executive Director of the Washington Research Library Consortium (WRLC), Upper Marlboro, MD., concluded the conference with her presentation, “Where Now? Housing, Sharing and Serving Collections.” Payne noted that libraries are becoming increasingly challenged in balancing the costs of maintaining physical collections and providing broad access to electronic resources. More and more, Payne said, libraries are turning to shared storage facilities for management of print collections with networked distribution of content. Since 1989, Payne has presided over the implementation and development of the WRLC's shared digital library system and, subsequently, the construction and operation of a shared storage facility that began in 1994.

Day One Breakout sessions included “Now is the Time for Continuous Improvement,” “E-Leadership: Navigating with Technology,” “Get It Now: ILL Economics,” and “Member Discount Services Help You Navigate the Now” that also reflected the conference theme. Other breakout sessions included “DOCLINE for non-Medical Libraries,” “Three Simple Rules for Great Presentations,” “Using YouTube to Teach Information Literacy,” and “Open Source Tools and Reference.”

Additionally, in the breakout session, “Collaborating to Improve Information Literacy,” librarians from seven regional universities in Oklahoma reported on a web-based information literacy project the group has developed to facilitate learning. The project, for which Amigos served as a consultant, was funded by a grant from AT&T.

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Amigos Members Approve New Membership Structure, Fees Schedule

Amigos Members resoundingly approved adoption of a new membership structure and fees schedule at the May 7, 2009, Amigos Member Business Meeting in Dallas. The new membership structure



Voting representatives cast ballots.

provides for a single membership category: Member of Amigos. The new fees schedule consists of 12 tiers each for academic and public libraries. Fees are determined by library type, size, and annual budget. The new member structure and fees

schedules are effective July 1, 2009, the beginning of the new Amigos fiscal year.

“The overwhelmingly positive response of our members was most gratifying,” said Amigos Executive Director Bonnie Juergens. “This strong statement of member support revitalizes our commitment to expand the array of programs and services available to Amigos members.”

In the weeks preceding the May vote, Amigos conducted an extensive information campaign designed to communicate the value of Amigos membership. In April, Amigos Members received individualized Statements of Member Benefits, comprehensive reports outlining each member's savings resulting from participation in Amigos programs.

For more information about the new fees schedule, contact the Amigos Support Desk, 1-800-843-8482, ext. 2863 (972-340-2863 in the Dallas area) or support@amigos.org. *QP*

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Viewpoint from the Chair

I am delighted and honored to serve you as the incoming Chair of the Amigos Board of Trustees. As we venture into a new fiscal year, we are reminded of the good works and support



Carolyn Henderson Allen

that Amigos has provided to libraries for many years. Most recently, the membership adopted a new membership structure that will partially provide the resources needed to ensure a stable base for Amigos libraries, archives, and museums to continue to support the variety of needs to each member community.

The programs that are being established and those that have a long tradition of accomplishment will continue to be of the highest quality possible. I am most pleased about the success that Amigos has had in working with OCLC to optimize our membership needs. The Board is grateful for your support in continuing to value the work that Amigos does on behalf of its members throughout the southwest.

I would also like to welcome the new Trustees elected this past May at our annual conference. Librarian Trustees are Jennifer Goodson, Director, Fort Smith Public Library, Fort Smith, AR; Anne Prestamo, Associate Dean of Libraries for Collections and Technology Services, Oklahoma State University; and Carla Stoffle, Dean, University Libraries and Center for Creative Photography, University of Arizona. Our Non-Librarian Trustee is Oliver Delaney, Oklahoma City. These are fantastic colleagues who share a common vision of membership growth, organizational stability, and enriched training opportunities, and will provide thoughtful guidance through the year ahead.

Thanks go to my colleagues who completed their terms on the Amigos Board this past May. They have supported the Board with their wisdom, collegiality, and good common sense over the years. Danny Amos, Alice Coleman, Sara Lowman, and Sharon Saulmon served ably to enrich the services of our membership. Please join me in thanking them for their dedicated service to us all.

I am excited about our future prospects and look forward to a fruitful year ahead. Please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments, or suggestions for how your Board of Trustees might serve you better. *QP*

Member Conference continued from page 1

The first day's activities concluded with a Grand Central Station-themed evening reception and vendor fair for attendees.

Day Two breakout sessions included "Share Your Tech Success Stories," "Managing Print Collections with High-Density Storage," "RDA, FRBR, FRAD: What's Going On in cataloging?" and an Amigos orientation for library directors and administrators. The conference concluded with the annual Amigos member business meeting (see separate article) followed by a member luncheon and the closing session. *QP*

View the Amigos Continuing Education Services Training Schedule at www.amigos.org/?q=node/57 for up-to-date training schedule and registration information.

Prestamo Updates Amigos Trustees as Members Council Nears End

Ann Prestamo, Chair of the Amigos Delegation to the OCLC Members Council, briefed the Amigos Board of Trustees at a May 7 meeting in Dallas on council activities as OCLC's longtime governing body enters its final weeks. As has been reported previously, OCLC is dissolving the Members Council effective June 30, 2009, and instituting a new Global Council comprised of three regional councils: the Americas Regional Council, AsiaPacific Regional Council, and Europe/Middle East/Africa Regional Council.

In her report, Prestamo noted the Global Council has a number of missions. It will:

- reflect and articulate OCLC member interests to the OCLC Board of Trustees
- advise the Board of Trustees and OCLC management of emerging, critical issues that require OCLC tracking, planning, or other response so that OCLC's strategic planning is informed by this input
- provide feedback to the OCLC Board of Trustees and management on OCLC's strategic direction
- be empowered to elect six members to the OCLC Board of Trustees
- approve or reject amendments to the Code of Regulations and Articles of Incorporation

Prestamo, Associate Dean of Libraries for Collection and Technology Services, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK – and newly elected member of the Amigos Board of Trustees – currently serves as co-chair of the Implementation Committee for the Americas Regional Council (ARC). This committee is charged with facilitating the transition to the ARC. Once the transition is completed, this committee will serve for one year as the executive committee of the ARC.

Under the new governance structure, Prestamo emphasized every OCLC member library has a vote, or "seat" on a regional council. The new structure is designed to provide an inclusive forum for broad discussion of issues important to member libraries. The regional councils will also serve as two-way vehicles for communicating the interests of their members to the Global Council and advising regional council members of Global Council issues requiring their awareness, response, or action. Regional councils, she noted, will also advise the Global Council of new or emerging issues that require attention. To accomplish this, Prestamo said the protocols of the new structure call for each regional council to elect delegates to serve on the Global Council.

The Global Council will meet at least once per year and consist of 48 delegates elected by the regional councils. Each regional council will elect a minimum of four delegates, with the remaining 36 delegates allocated among the regions based on revenue generated. Each regional council will elect or appoint two members to serve on the Global Council Executive Committee.

All current Members Council delegates will serve out the remainder of their elected terms on the Global Council.

The ARC will hold at least one face-to-face meeting per year. The initial meeting will be in July 2009 in Chicago. This will be an information meeting, she noted, for those former Members Council



Members Council continued on page 5

Trustees Announce New Board Members and Elect Officers



Jennifer Crawford Goodson



Oliver Delaney



Anne Prestamo



Carla J. Stoffle

Amigos Library Services is pleased to announce that four new members have been elected to serve three-year terms on the Amigos Board of Trustees. New Librarian Trustees are:

- Jennifer Crawford Goodson, Library Director, Fort Smith Public Library, Fort Smith, AR
- Anne Prestamo, Associate Dean of Libraries for Collection and Technology Services, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK
- Carla J. Stoffle, Dean, University Libraries and Center for Creative Photography, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

The new Non-librarian Trustee is:

- Oliver J. Delaney, Oklahoma City, OK

The new Trustees join those currently serving three-year terms. Librarian Trustees include:

- Carolyn Henderson Allen, Dean of Libraries, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR
- Shirley Dickerson, Library Director, R.W. Steen Library, Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, TX
- Bill Hair, Associate Dean and Director of University Libraries, Baylor University, Waco, TX
- Rita Hamilton, Library Director, Scottsdale Public Library System, Scottsdale, AZ
- Sharon Jenkins, Director of Library Services, New Mexico Junior College, Hobbs, NM
- James Karney, Director, Waco-McLennan County Library System, Waco, TX

Non-librarian Trustees currently serving are:

- Patrick Heath, Boerne, TX
- Ken Morris, Okmulgee, OK

The Board has elected officers of Amigos for 2009-10. They are:

- Carolyn Henderson Allen, Chair
- James Karney, Vice Chair
- Shirley Dickerson, Secretary
- Bill Hair, Treasurer *QP*

Trustees Announce 2009 Fellowship Recipients

The Amigos Board of Trustees is pleased to announce the recipients of 2009 Amigos Fellowships. The recipients, their projects and awards are:

Helen Clements and Robin Leech, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK

Project Title: *Early Oklahoma Serials – A Pilot for Digitizing Oklahoma History*

Award: \$1,250

Tracey Thompson, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM

Project Title: *Building an Information Commons in Second Life*

Award: \$3,500

George Fowler, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR

Project Title: *Arkansas Libraries Collaboration UnConference*

Award: \$700

The 2009 Fellowship Selection Committee Chair is Nathan Bomer, Tulsa Community College Learning Resources Center, Tulsa, OK. Committee members are Susan Beck, New Mexico State University Library, Las Cruces, NM; Yvonne Condron, Frisco Public Library, Frisco, TX; Ann Dixon, Brackett Library, Harding University, Harding AR; and Pat Lokey, Maricopa Community College District Libraries, Scottsdale, AZ. Laura Kimberly, Associate Director and Manager of Continuing Education Services, serves as Staff Liaison.

Fellowship Recipients continued on page 4

FY2010 Business Plan Approval Highlights May Board of Trustees Meeting

At the May 5 meeting of the Amigos Board of Trustees in Dallas, Trustees approved the FY2010 Business Plan pending approval of a new membership structure and fees schedules at the May 7 Member Business Meeting. *Editor's note: both measures were subsequently approved. See "Members Approve New Membership Structure, Fees Schedule" in this issue.*

The approved business plan takes effect July 1, 2009, the start of the new Amigos fiscal year. Reflective of Amigos' new role with OCLC, the plan contains no surcharge for OCLC Core Services and includes limited OCLC commissions for billing and marketing services.

In her Chair's report, Rita Hamilton recognized those trustees completing their service on the Board: Alice Coleman,

Texarkana, TX-AR; Sara Lowman, Houston, TX; Sharon Saulmon, Midwest City, OK; and Danny Amos, Plano, TX.

In his treasurer's report, Trustee James Karney termed Amigos' operational performance through March positive, which he attributed in large part to the staff performance. Karney noted that while the organization's investment portfolio continues to perform poorly, a strong April showing helped regain some of the value lost in preceding months.

Trustees approved the recommendation from the Budget and Finance Committee to reappoint the Dallas accounting firm Weaver and Tidwell as auditors for FY2010.

Trustees authorized funding for three proposals submitted to Amigos for 2009 Amigos Fellowships based on the

recommendation of the Amigos Fellowship Selection Committee. *Editor's note: see "Trustees Announce 2009 Fellowship Recipients" in this issue.*

In her Executive Director's Report, Bonnie Juergens noted that in the six years since Amigos began offering voting representatives the option of proxy voting in elections, the number of proxy ballots received has remained constant. She also reported that Amigos expects to receive a contract from Texas State Library and Archives Commission to continue operation of the TExpress courier service. She noted that participation in TExpress and Trans-Amigos Express courier services has grown more than 30 percent in the last year.

The next Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for August. *QP*

Conferences Offering Registration Discounts to Amigos Members



Amigos members are entitled to receive registration discounts for two upcoming conferences sponsored by *Information Today* magazine.

A \$100 discount off the early-bird registration price is available for the two-day WebSearch University conference, September 14 - 15, 2009, in Washington, D.C. A \$180 discount off the early-bird registration price is available for the three-day Internet Librarian 2009 conference, October 26 - 28, 2009, in Monterey, CA.

In order to receive the WebSearch University registration discount, Amigos members must use the registration form located on the Amigos website, <http://www.amigos.org/websearch09sept.pdf>. Completed forms must be received at Amigos by July 31, 2009.

In order to receive the Internet Librarian 2009 registration discount, Amigos members must use the registration form located on the Amigos website, <http://www.amigos.org/intlibconf09.pdf>. Completed forms must be received at Amigos by September 11, 2009.

Important note: registering directly with *Information Today* will not allow Amigos members to receive the discount. For more information, contact Chris Brown at Amigos, 972-340-2829 in the Dallas area, 1-800-843-8482, ext. 2829, or brown@amigos.org. *QP*

Subscribe to *AmigosNow*

AmigosNow is the weekly digest of the Amigos news feeds on topics of interest to Amigos members. To subscribe, visit www.amigos.org/?q=node/93 and click on **Subscribe**.



Fellowship Recipients continued from page 3

Each year, the Amigos Fellowship Program awards up to \$7,500 to library and information professionals in Amigos member libraries to fund individuals' development projects.

Since the program's founding in 1990, it has awarded over \$75,000 to foster research and development of resource sharing capabilities among Amigos member libraries. Awards are based on the significance of a proposed project's contribution to library resource sharing. To date, 49 funded projects have resulted in nationally published articles, enabled a recipient to complete research on a Ph.D., and been the basis for numerous training courses.

For more information on the Amigos Fellowship program, including application information, previous winners and their project reports, go to <http://www.amigos.org/?q=fellowship>. *QP*

Amigos Awarded TExpress Contract

Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) has notified Amigos that it has been awarded a one-year contract to continue operation of the TExpress courier service for participating TexShare libraries beginning September 1, 2009.



Amigos has served as the TExpress service's principal administrator since the program's debut in 1997. Currently, 228 Texas libraries participate in the courier service.

In a letter to Amigos announcing the contract award, TSLAC said it will continue to subsidize a portion of each participating Texas library's annual courier service fee. TSLAC and Amigos are also investigating the purchase of cloth bags to be used by participating Texas libraries. *QP*

Amigos to Host "Going Green @ Your Library" Online Conference

Amigos Library Services will host its first-ever online conference, "Going Green @ Your Library," October 7, 2009, for libraries interested in seeking ways to become more environmentally friendly.



Dr. Florence Mason is the featured speaker for the daylong conference. Dr. Mason is currently an adjunct faculty member at the University of North Texas College of Information, Denton. She is a library consultant and owner of F. Mason and Associates, a library consulting firm.

Amigos is seeking presenters for the conference and has posted a Call for Presenters form on its website. Suggested topics include:

- Reduce, reuse, recycle -- programs your library/archive has instituted
- Environmental improvements, e.g., air quality, footprint analysis
- Social awareness or policy initiatives taken by your library
- Green IT
- Going green in reference, cataloging, administration or . . .
- Low cost/no cost possibilities -- practical solutions
- Integrated pest management
- Architecture for new buildings and renovations
- Building maintenance

Conference information is available at <http://greenlibs.amigos.org/>. Questions about the conference should be directed to Continuing Education Librarian Christine Peterson, 1-800-843-8482, ext. 2891, or greenlibs@amigos.org. *QP*

Take Advantage of the Amigos Member Discount Program

The Member Discount Program offers Amigos Members thousands of reliable, affordable products and services from leading providers at discounted rates.

Visit www.amigos.org/?q=node/232 for more information.

delegates continuing as Global Council delegates. Subsequent meetings are planned for Boston in January 2010 and June 2010 in Washington, DC. Prestamo described the Boston meeting as an informational meeting open to all OCLC ARC member library representatives, and the Washington meeting as the first official ARC annual meeting. In addition to the face-to-face meetings, Prestamo said, virtual meetings may occur throughout the year as needed. Prestamo encouraged Amigos members to become actively engaged with the ARC. To facilitate this, she noted that OCLC plans to explore a number of avenues of communication in addition to virtual meetings and test them for their effectiveness.

In other matters, Prestamo advised Trustees that OCLC has delayed implementation of its revised *Policy for Use and Transfer of Worldcat® Records* until at least the third quarter of 2009. She noted that an OCLC review board established to examine the proposed policy revision prior to implementation had received over 1,600 responses during a period designated for comments. She added that many groups and organizations, including the Association of Research Libraries and International Coalition of Library Consortia, issued reports and presented petitions to OCLC questioning the proposed revision. She said these and the comments were factors in OCLC's decision to delay the revised policy implementation pending completion of a more thorough review.

Editor's note: The Review Board on the Principles of Shared Data Creation and Stewardship recommended in its May 18 report to the Members Council that the proposed policy be formally withdrawn. Until a new policy is in place, the Review Board suggested that OCLC reaffirm the existence and applicability of the Nov. 16, 1987, "Guidelines for the Use and Transfer of OCLC-Derived Records." The Review Board accepted feedback on its report <http://community.oclc.org/reviewboard>, submitted a draft report for the June meeting of the OCLC Board of Trustees, and was scheduled to finalize its report by the end of June 2009. QP

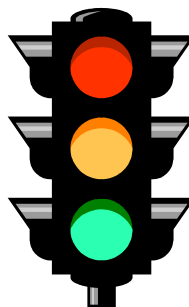
Welcome to the Newest Amigos Member!

Colby College Miller Library

Waterville, ME
Dr. Clem Guthro
Library Director
Join date: June 2009



STOP & Learn!



Amigos offers the successful STOP & Learn series of online OCLC update sessions **free** to Members. These 60-90-minute sessions provide Amigos Members with the latest information on OCLC programs and services. Session topics include CONTENTdm, OCLC cataloging services, FirstSearch, and QuestionPoint. Session content is periodically updated as OCLC updates its programs and services. All sessions are recorded and available for later viewing. For complete STOP & Learn program information, contact Chris Brown at Amigos, 1-800-843-8482 or brown@amigos.org. QP

Want to Be Featured in ¿Que Pasa?

Do you have a creative way to engage patrons? Doing something innovative at your library? We want to help you spread the word! Contact [Larry Godwin](mailto:larry@amigos.org) for the opportunity to be featured in an issue of ¿Que Pasa?