

**LIBRAS ANNUAL REPORT
2012-2013**

Libras continues to serve a unique niche in academic librarianship. As a consortium of 17 academic libraries operating with dues that have not increased in decades, it provides educational and collegial activities geared towards small, private college libraries in the Chicago area. In recent years Libras has made significant increases in the amount of programming and in attendance levels. Events have transformed from simple gatherings to significant yet low-cost educational opportunities.

Highlights from the past year:

- Active participation in Special Interest Groups (SIGs)
- Increased utilization of fund reserves to increase programming.
- Significant funding of continuing education requests
- Migration of LIBRAS listservs to Google platform
- By-laws and handbook revisions and updates. The most significant change included revisions to caps on conference spending allowing more members to receive funding.
- Saying goodbye to three LIBRAS directors (Anderson, Freeman, and Vargas)

Officers and Appointees to Standing Positions: 2012-2013

Officers		
President	Katie Maier-O’Shea	North Park University
Vice President	David Malone	Wheaton College
Treasurer	Jill Bambenek	Dominican University
Secretary	Mary O’Dea	North Central College
Past President – Continuing Education Coordinator	John Small	North Central College
Appointments to Standing Positions:		
Communications Coordinator	Aimee Walker	North Central College
Archivist	Archives SIG	
SIG Chairs		
Archives	Julie Wroblewski	Benedictine University
College Management	Emily Prather-Rodgers	North Central College
Public Services	Jacob Hill	Elmhurst College
Technical Services	Andy Meyer	North Park University
Nominating Committee		
	Rita Koller	Lake Forest College
	Lisa Richmond	Wheaton College
	Yana Serdyuk	Concordia University

Summary of Meetings

August 28, 2012	Executive committee meeting
September 20, 2012	Technical Services SIG event
September 21, 2012	Collection Management SIG event
October 10, 2012	SIG chair meeting
October 30, 2012	Director's meeting
December 18, 2012	Social – Molly Malone's
January 29, 2013	Archives SIG event
February 7, 2013	Public Services SIG event
March 14, 2013	Technical Services SIG event
March 19, 2013	Collections Management SIG event
March 21, 2013	Technical Services SIG event
April 11, 2013	Social – @ACRL
May 1, 2013	Director's meeting
May 31, 2013	Public Services SIG event
May 31, 2013	Annual meeting

Elections

The election took place May 15, 2013 through, May 24, 2013. The nominating committee consisted of Rita Koller, Lisa Richmond (Chair), and Yana Serdyuk. The Committee formed the following slate of candidates:

Vice President/President-Elect: Elaine Fetyko Page, Elmhurst College

Secretary: Anita Morgan, St. Xavier; Michelle Oh, Lake Forest College; Amy Weidner, Benedictine University

Treasurer: Jill Bambenek, Dominican University

Aimee Walker, Communications Director, used Survey Monkey to conduct the election. Ninety-one votes were cast for the secretary position, which was the sole contested race. The election results were announced at the Annual Meeting, held May 31, 2013 at Benedictine University.

The election results were as follows:

Vice President/President-Elect: Elaine Fetyko Page, Elmhurst College

Secretary: Amy Weidner, Benedictine University

Treasurer: Jill Bambenek, Dominican University

Vice-President's Report

David Malone – Wheaton College

For LIBRAS the special interest groups (SIG) provide for the bulk of the organization's programming and over the last few years it is hoped that the special interest groups will cover the calendar through an event and "a half" through a substantive event and a lighter event such as a social or a hosted webinar. As in past years the SIGs chairs have completed their jobs admirably and have provided their LIBRAS colleagues with stimulating professional development opportunities. Below is a review of the events with further information available in each SIG chair's report at the end of this annual report.

Archives

Funding Opportunities for Collections Preservation (webinar)

Collection Management

eBooks: Benefits, Challenges, and the Future (webinar)

The Technical Services Side of the New Collection Management (co-hosted)

Public Services

Embedding Librarianship in Learning Management (webinar)

CSR skills for interacting with your library constituency: successful customer service practices

Technical Services

iPad Uses in the Library (webinar)

The Technical Services Side of the New Collection Management (co-hosted)

On top of the professional development programming, LIBRAS was able to offer its members opportunities for developing social and networking relationships through two social events. A holiday social was held in December not far from the Dominican and Concordia campuses. With ACRL being held in Indianapolis a social event was held to draw together those attending the three-day conference.

Though not a part of any one SIG event, North Park University invited LIBRAS members to attend several RDA-related webinars that were held on successive Wednesdays from mid-October through early November. Columbia College also invited LIBRAS members to an Open Access webinar on October 24, 2012. This was followed quickly by a workshop on photographic conservation hosted by Lewis University on the 26th. Finally, Wheaton College held an open house and invited LIBRAS members to view recent renovations to their learning commons.

Libras Annual Treasurer's Report 2012-2013

Jill Bambenek – Dominican University

(Through May 28th, 2013)

<u>Income</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Dues	\$8,500.00	\$8,000.00
Transfer from Reserve account	\$1,000.00	
TOTAL INCOME		\$8,000.00

<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Continuing Education			
Conferences	\$4,200.00	\$4,940.00	-\$740.00
Pre-conferences/workshops /etc.	\$2,400.00	\$1,700.00	\$700.00
Non-degree education	\$200.00	\$149.00	\$51.00
Professional Development Grant	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Research Grant	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Hospitality*	\$1000.00	\$1496.11	-\$496.11
Legal	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
Programming*	\$400.00	\$1719.00	-\$1319.00
Communications Technology	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Audit	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
*includes annual meeting			
TOTAL EXPENSES			-\$504.11

<u>Assets</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Cash in Checking*	
(First American Bank)	
*includes encumbered assets	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$16,866.97

The primary goal of this year's fiscal management was the smooth transition of all Libras financial responsibilities from former Libras treasure Terry Cottrell to current Libras treasurer Jill Bambenek. Another goal of this year's financial management was the ongoing consolidation of online payment for all bills at First American Bank. This was achieved through the establishment of an online bill pay account with First American Bank and a Libras debit card for other transactions. Print checks have been eliminated from the organization's pay program. Online account access for all financial systems is in place allowing Libras officers access to financial data in the case of the treasurer's absence. Annual dues were collected through E-invoices and spreadsheet tallies for expenditures and dues paid were maintained in

Google Docs in an ongoing effort to create a paperless operation for all Libras treasurer activities.

LIBRAS Continuing Education

John J. Small – North Central College

Significant changes were made to the Libras Handbook as it related to continuing education. The most significant change was to the cap on conference support that allows more members to receive funding. This was particularly important this year because the ACRL conference was within driving distance. Conference funding categories and the requirement to submit reports were also eliminated.

Applications

Thirty Eight Applications for funding were submitted

Thirty Applications were funded

Eight Applications were not funded

Categories

Twenty applications for Category “A” were funded

Eight applications for Category “B” were funded

Two applications for Category “C” were funded

Neither the Professional Development Grant nor the Research Grant was applied for during the relevant period.

Funded Conferences

ACRL - 12	ALA Annual - 12	Code4Lib - 1
ALA Midwinter - 1	ATLA - 1	NASIG - 1
ILLiad - 1	JAVA Seminar - 1	

Total Funds Awarded - \$7,064

Communication Director’s Report

Aimee Walker – North Central College

Website

With all of the changes that took place last year, the LIBRAS website has only undergone minor changes this year. Due to the change in requirements for continuing education funding recipients, the website now houses only recipient reports from 2010 through 2012. The remainder of recipients is listed, but reports are not available online. Anyone who wished to view a report that was published prior to 2010 should contact the Communications Director at

communications@libras.org. Additionally, minor organizational changes have been made to the LIBRAS website to better align with more common website structures. These minor improvements will continue to occur over the next year as more information is discovered about how the website is being navigated by LIBRAS library staff.

Listserv

The LIBRAS listservs (Directors list and general list) have now been migrated fully to the Google Groups platform. This is now the primary mode of communication for all LIBRAS announcements and events. All LIBRAS library staff were added to the new listserv, as staff lists were verified with all LIBRAS libraries when the listserv was implemented. Instructions for getting new staff added to the listserv are available on the LIBRAS website.

LIBRAS Archives Special Interest Group Annual Report

Julie Wroblewski – Benedictine University

Seven people attended the January 29th Archives SIG event hosted by Benedictine University. The event was a presentation of the Illinois Collection Preservation Network webinar on Funding for Collections Preservation. Participants learned about several funding opportunities for smaller institutions, including the Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board preservation grants (deadline is May 31, 2013!) and the Illinois Humanities Council Community Grants, as well as how to successfully identify and write up project proposals. Following the webinar, attendees adjourned for lunch at the campus coffeehouse and a discussion of current preservation projects and concerns and grant ideas, as well as future events and activities. Future events suggested were a happy hour some time after the end of spring semester to discuss summer projects and forming a peer review network for grant ideas and write-ups. The SIG will hold its next event, the aforementioned happy hour, in June.

LIBRAS Collection Management Special Interest Group Annual Report

Emily Prather-Rodgers – North Central College

The Collection Management SIG hosted librarians from seven LIBRAS institutions at North Central College on Friday, September 21, for *eBooks: Benefits, Challenges, and the Future*, a day-long webinar series hosted by the Southeast Florida Library Network (SEFLIN) at Oesterle Library, North Central College. Libraries represented at the webinar were:

- Aurora University
- Benedictine University
- Judson University
- Kendall College
- North Central College
- North Park University
- Wheaton College

Lunch was served during the webinar's intermission and time was provided throughout the day for discussion of topics such as "Libraries are about reading, not books" (Stephen Abram), the effects of e-content on literacy, and whether libraries are ready for the growing demand for e-content. Resources relating to the webinar may be downloaded from <http://nova.campusguides.com/seflinvc>.

The Collection Management SIG collaborated with the Technical Services SIG to host "The Technical Services Side of the New Collection Management" at Concordia University on Tuesday, March, 19. Representatives from YBP and EBSCO gave presentations on their services and librarians from North Park, Benedictine, Wheaton, and North Central College lead discussions. The Collection Management SIG thanks Andy Meyer, chair of the Technical Services SIG, for proposing the collaboration and taking the lead in coordinating the event.

LIBRAS Public Services Special Interest Group Annual Report

Jacob Hill – Elmhurst College

Public Services organized two events this year. First was a webinar hosted at Elmhurst College on Thursday, February 7th on the topic of "Embedding Librarianship in Learning Management" (presented by Beth E. Tumbleson and John J. Burke). Approximately 10 members attended the 90min event, which covered the following topics:

- Starting small by planning an effective pilot
- Designing for sustainability by using repositories and a strategic selection of courses
- Showcasing library tools such as the discovery layer, LibGuides, and screencasts
- Gaining faculty support with value-added selling points

The second event-a 3hr workshop- was scheduled for May 31 with 20 members attending. The workshop topic was "CSR skills for interacting with your library constituency: successful customer service practices," presented by Candace Fischer from the Management Association. The event preceded the LIBRAS annual meeting at Benedictine University. Outcomes for the workshop were as follows:

- Provide outstanding customer service using the CREATE and ACT model
- Effectively identify customer service needs through active listening skills
- Demonstrate excellent telephone and email skills
- Create a customer-centric culture
- Develop a personal customer service development plan

LIBRAS Technical Services Special Interest Group Annual Report

Andy Meyer – North Park University

The Technical Services Special Interest Group had another successful year of events and programming. We hosted two major events this year. On September 20th, North Park University hosted a viewing of the webinar “iPad Uses in the Library.” After the webinar, LIBRAS colleagues shared about their own experience with iPads in library. The following people presented on these topics;

- Margaret Heller discussed Dominican’s research project about how students use iPads in research
- Amy Weidner from Benedictine talked about library support for faculty and integrating iPads and apps into research guides
- Matt Ostercamp shared how iPads are being used at the circulation desk.

Following these short presentations, there was a more open discussion about iPads and apps led by Andy Meyer. A total of 15 people attended this event.

The second major event took place on March 19th. The Technical Services teamed up with the Collection Management Special Interest Group for an event titled “The Technical Services side of the new Collection Management” that was hosted at Concordia University. This full day event began with a continental breakfast and presentations from YBP and EBSCO. Steve Hyndman from YBP discussed ebooks and Demand Driven Acquisitions programs and representatives from EBSCO talked about usage consolidation and EBSCOnet analytics. After lunch, nine breakout sessions were offered on a range of topics. These sessions included:

- **Access 360, Title Source, GOBI** by Joann Moore, Danielle Miller, and Nathaniel Gray (YBP)
- **EBSCO Discovery Service** by Matt Andros and Kirk Powell (EBSCO Publishing)
- **What are valuable metrics? How to get them and use them?** by Sally Anderson (North Park)
- **Implementation Experiences and Tips on Managing a Patron Driven Acquisitions Program** by Amy Weidner and Luann DeGreve (Benedictine)
- **Ebooks and EBSCO** by Matt Andros and Kirk Powell (EBSCO Publishing)
- **Lower Costs, Greater Access - What Pay-Per-View did for Our Serials Budget** by Connie Mead and Steve Oberg (Wheaton)
- **YBP MarketPlace and GOBI** by Joann Moore, Danielle Miller, and Nathaniel Gray (YBP)
- **Consortial Bargaining Power** by Emily Prather-Rodgers (North Central)
- **Setting up EOCR and EDI with YBP** by Andy Meyer (North Park)

A total of 24 people attended this event and the meals were provided by YBP and EBSCO.

Overall, these events were tremendous successes in terms of both attendance and content. Building on this past success, the Technical Services Special Interest Group is focused on making more positive contributions to LIBRAS in the future, particularly in terms of professional development, informal networking, and by embracing new technology.