

Jay Starratt, dean of library and information services and associate vice chancellor for information technology at Southern Illinois University, received the Illinois Library Computer Systems Organization's (ILSCSO) Distinguished Contributor Award. This award is presented in recognition of sustained contributions to the organization.

Jean Wilkins, recently retired director of the Illinois State Library, received the ILCSO Special Citation Award in recognition of her more than two decades of outstanding service and support for the ILCSO consortium and all Illinois libraries.

Diane Dates Casey, author of "The Impact of Consortial Guidelines on the Cataloging of Internet Resources," and Bernie Sloan, author of "Slicing the Membership Pie. The Bottom Line: Managing Library Finances," became the first two recipients of the ILCSO Distinguished Publication Award for their publications that pertain to ILCSO consortium practices, services, and resources.

Appointments

Deborah B. Dancik has been named university librarian at Willamette University. She is currently the associate director of libraries at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada, and will begin her new job later this year. Dancik was lauded for her 30 years of library experience, including managing public services and collections, adopting new technologies, and reorganizing and renovating library buildings. She has served on the ACRL Board of Directors and is a member of

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the editorial board of *Portal: Libraries and the Academy*. Her publications and presentations speak to topics from scholarly publishing to building management. "We are fortunate that Deborah Dancik has agreed to join us," said Carol Long, dean of the College of Liberal Arts. "Our library and its staff play a crucial role in the academic experience of our students and the ongoing scholarship of our faculty. Deborah brings 30 years of library experience to Willamette. She understands the challenges and opportunities that face academic libraries today, and we look forward to her leadership."



Deborah B. Dancik

Susan Avery has been appointed instructional service librarian at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Julie Chapman has been appointed assistant professor in the library instructional services program at the University of Illinois-Springfield.

Jamie Coniglio is now head, reference department at George Mason University's Fenwick Library.

Mary P. (Mollie) Freier is now instructional services librarian chair at the University of Illinois-Springfield.

Timothy H. Gatti is the new head of technical services at the University of Michigan Law Library.

Pearline Harmon has been appointed library coordinator for Tidewater Community College-Norfolk.

Jane Hutton has been named electronic resources librarian at West Chester University.

Sharon H. Kerr is now electronic resources manager at George Mason University.

Polly Khater has been appointed director, technical services at George Mason University.

Douglas King is now special materials cataloger at the University of South Carolina.

Nuala Bennett Koetter has been appointed head of digital services and development at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Andrew Lee is now reference and instruction librarian at George Mason University's Johnson Center Library.

Patti Lee is now reference and instructional services librarian at Agnes Scott College.

Dorothy Lockaby has been appointed coordinator of reference and instruction services at George Mason University's Johnson Center Library.

Travis McDade is now law reference librarian at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Janalyn Moss has been appointed reference librarian at the University of Iowa.

George D. Oberle, III, is now multimedia and liaison librarian for interdisciplinary programs at George Mason University.

Lene Palmer has been appointed head, collection development and preservation officer at George Mason University.

Ann Pettingill has accepted the position of associate university librarian at Old Dominion University.

Lois H. Radford has been named library coordinator for Tidewater Community College-Chesapeake.

Pamela Salela has been appointed assistant professor in the library instructional services program at the University of Illinois-Springfield.

Nancy Seamans has been appointed director, research and instructional services at the University of Iowa.

Bill Sees is now the head of circulation and support services at Columbia University Libraries.

Jen Stevens is now humanities reference and liaison librarian at George Mason University.

John Wagstaff has been appointed head of the music library at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Gwen L. Williams has been appointed reference librarian at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Libraries.

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Retirements

Larry X. Besant, director of libraries and media services at Morehead State University (MSU), has retired. Besant, who has been with MSU since 1985, lead Camden-Carroll Library from the era of paper files to automation, with its first automated system, LS/2000 in 1987. Under his leadership, MSU became the first state school in Kentucky to have a Web-based catalog, and he helped create the Kentucky Virtual Library and make databases and other electronic resources available statewide. Prior

to his service at MSU, Besant was director of the Linda Hall Library, assistant director for public service at the Ohio State University library, and assistant director for technical service at the University of Houston library. Besant has been active in state and national organizations, having served as the president of the Kentucky chapter of SLA twice, and chaired the State Assisted Academic Library Council of Kentucky from 1989-1990 and 1997-2000.

Charles T. Cullen, president and librarian of the Newberry Library in Chicago, has retired. Cullen has been president of the Newberry

Library since 1986, forging an era of financial stability, academic accomplishment, and public access. During his tenure, the Newberry Library has seen its endowment increased from \$27 million to \$63 million, which has ensured support for active acquisition, emerging scholarship, the strengthening of staff positions and resources, and technological advancement. Under Cullen's stewardship, the Newberry was an early adopter of new technology, becoming one of the first independent research libraries to have a Web site and to network via a state-of-the-art intranet. The Newberry Library is an independent humanities library that is free and open to the public. *~*

("Grants and Acquisitions" continued from page 241)

including Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Tennessee, Texas, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Missouri. The shop files include diagrams and schematics (including painting diagrams)

for a broad range of railroad equipment from railroad cars to tools and fittings. Other materials donated include Frisco maps, stationary, labor agreements, and publications. *~*

("New Publications" continued from page 239)

et-fuel pioneer and occultist Jack Parsons, whose research at Caltech led to the development of military ballistic missiles. Pendle successfully weaves together the threads of Parsons's relatively unknown career—his interest in space travel and science fiction, his immersion in thelemic magick based on the writings of the notorious Aleister Crowley, and his untimely death in a chemical explosion at his home in 1952. Much better written than John Carter's *Sex and Rockets* (Feral House, 2000), Pendle's biography also provides a glimpse of the southern California culture in the 1930s and 1940s that allowed such a free thinker to flourish. \$25.00. Harcourt. ISBN 0-15-100997-X.

bird that tried to carry off a 10-year-old boy in Lawndale, witnessed by two adults. Hall has assembled an intriguing list of cases and traditions that are difficult to explain. \$15.95. Paraview. ISBN 1-93104-497-X.

Thunderbirds: America's Living Legends of Giant Birds, by Mark A. Hall (204 pages, December 2004), examines Indian legends and modern sightings of big birds with wingspans of up to 20 feet. The most interesting instance of the latter was a flap (one might say) of reports in southern Illinois in the summer of 1977, one of which involved a large

Vanishing Point, by Richard J. Tofel (216 pages, August 2004), reexamines the unexplained disappearance of New York Supreme Court Judge Joseph Crater in August 1930, an event that made him the most famous missing person until Jimmy Hoffa. As part of his inquiry, Tofel looks at political corruption in New York City and the decline of the Tammany Hall political machine that Crater was involved with. Over time, speculation on the case has ranged from his outright murder by thugs enforcing a showgirl's blackmail scheme to Crater taking it on the lam to escape a corruption investigation. Tofel suspects Crater died suddenly at the brothel of notorious madam Polly Adler, who used her underworld connections to make the corpse disappear. \$24.95. Ivan R. Dee. ISBN 1-56663-605-1. *~*