



A Newsletter from the Library Binding Institute



Check out a slide show and coverage of LBI's fall meeting in Whitefish, MT, September 22 - 24, at <http://www.lbibinders.org/Temp/FallMeeting2006.htm>.

## LBI 2007 Spring Meeting

May 5-8, 2007 • Hotel Santa Fe  
Santa Fe, New Mexico • [www.hotelsantafe.com](http://www.hotelsantafe.com)

It's not too early to begin planning for the 2007 LBI Spring meeting, May 5 - 8, Hotel Santa Fe, in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Located in the city's world renowned historic district, the Hotel Santa Fe, is the only Native American owned hotel in the area. Its cultural ambience, combined with the hotel's elegant rooms and culinary excellence, is something you won't want to miss!

For more information on the Hotel Santa Fe, go to [www.hotelsantafe.com](http://www.hotelsantafe.com). For information on things to do in Santa Fe, go to [www.santafe.org/Visiting\\_Santa\\_Fe/index.html](http://www.santafe.org/Visiting_Santa_Fe/index.html).

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# News from the Library Binding Institute

## LBI Member Survey

At the recent LBI fall conference, there was some discussion about the need for a trade association whose primary focus would be on demand binding. The association would be independent of LBI but share some administrative and meeting expenses. In order to give all LBI members an opportunity to weigh in on this, a brief survey has been developed. The purpose of the survey is to get a general sense of the need for such an association and the niche it would fill. You should have received your survey on or about October 20. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey by October 31.

## LBI Members Encouraged to Submit Names for *ShelfLife*

Complimentary issues of *ShelfLife* (formerly *The New Library Scene*) will be sent to potential members and subscribers with the goal of broadening the publication's audience. Members are encouraged to submit at least 5, if not more, names with contact information to Debbie Nolan, [dnolan@libinders.org](mailto:dnolan@libinders.org). An invitation to join or subscribe will be sent with the complimentary issues.

## LBI Office Closed October 23 – 31

Please note the LBI office will be closed October 23 – 31, 2006.

## Library Association News

### ALA Midwinter Meeting

January 19 - 24, 2007 • Seattle, Washington

You can now register and book housing reservations for the ALA Midwinter meeting to be held January 19 – 24, 2007, in Seattle, Washington. The deadline for advance registration is December 8. For more information, click on the following links:

#### General Meeting Information

[www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2007/home.htm](http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2007/home.htm)

#### Meeting Registration

[www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2007/registration.htm](http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2007/registration.htm)

#### Housing Information and Reservations

[www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2007/travel.htm#hotel](http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2007/travel.htm#hotel)

#### Midwinter Meeting Wiki

Check out the ALA Midwinter Meeting Wiki which is open to attendees and exhibitors. Everyone is invited to exchange information about Midwinter events, committee work, the exhibit and trade show, and about the city of Seattle. Planning, discussions, networking, and post-meeting recapping are encouraged.

[www.wikis.ala.org/midwinter2007/index.php/Main\\_Page](http://www.wikis.ala.org/midwinter2007/index.php/Main_Page)

### “Definitely Digital” Is the Opening Event in the ALCTS 50th Anniversary Celebration

The Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS) is pleased to announce “Definitely Digital: An Exploration of the Future of Knowledge on the Occasion of the 50th Anniversary of ALCTS” as its 2007 Midwinter Symposium on Friday, January 19, 2007 in Seattle. “Definitely Digital” is supported by Amazon.com.

“Definitely Digital” examines significant changes in scholarly communication, library services, collections and staffing created by the digital environment. The symposium speakers will discuss scholarship in the digital age, new communication models, the future of cooperative technical services and enabling technologies, and the training and education of staff working with digital collections. Statements, intentionally controversial, and intended to evoke discussion from the panelists and stimulate audience participation will be the subject of a blog in the near future. Check the ALCTS website for details: [www.ala.org/alcts](http://www.ala.org/alcts).

The keynote speaker Dr. James Hilton, vice president and chief information officer, University of Virginia, will explore “Scholarship in the Digital Age: Opportunities and Challenges.”

Featured speakers include: Lorcan Dempsey, vice president and chief strategist, OCLC on “Moving to the Network Level: Networks Change Structures”; Meg Bellinger, associate university librarian

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for integrated library systems and technical services, Yale University, on "Library Collections and Technical Services in the Digital Age: Perspectives and Predictions for the Profession at the Half-Century Mark"; and Greg Tananbaum, author, consultant, and former president, Berkeley Electronic Press, on "Scholarly Communication 2.0: New Models of Publishing and Library Services."

Brian Schottlaender, University of California-San Diego, will lead a panel in a discussion of the challenge statements. Panelists include Tom Claesson, program director for New Initiatives, PALINET; David Nuzzo, head acquisitions, SUNY-Buffalo Library; Oliver Pesch, chief strategist of electronic resources, EBSCO Information Services; and Robert Wolven, director of library systems and bibliographic control, Columbia University Library.

Registration for this all day symposium is handled through the ALA Midwinter registration form. Link to <http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferences/midwinter/2007/home.htm> and choose "Registration."

## 2005 Academic Library Trends and Statistics Published by ACRL

The Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) has published the 2005 Academic Library Trends and Statistics series, available both online and in print. This survey includes comprehensive data from 1,100 academic libraries in all Carnegie classifications. It covers collections, expenditures, electronic expenditures, personnel and public services (including Ph.D.s granted, number of faculty, undergraduate and graduate enrollment).

The 2005 survey also measures the use of electronic resources by academic libraries. The data cover electronic journals, reference sources, books, networked resources and services, and digitization activities.

"These data are especially useful for libraries seeking to benchmark their effectiveness in relation to their peer institutions as recommended in the ACRL Standards for Libraries in Higher Education," said Shawn P. Calhoun, chair of the ACRL Statistics Committee.

The three-volume survey is arranged by Carnegie classification including one volume with Associate of Arts degree-granting institutions, one with those in the combined Carnegie classifications of Master's Colleges and Universities, and Baccalaureate Colleges, and one with Research/Doctoral-granting institutions. The data also are available in an electronic version, with capabilities for searching and comparing select criteria. Ordering information for both versions can be found on the ACRL Web site, [www.ala.org/acrl](http://www.ala.org/acrl) (Click on Publications/Academic Library Statistics).

ACRL is a division of the American Library Association (ALA), representing more than 13,000 academic and research librarians



and interested individuals. ACRL is the only individual membership organization in North America that develops programs, products and services to meet the unique needs of academic and research librarians. Its initiatives enable the higher education community to understand the role that academic libraries play in the teaching, learning and research environments.

## The American Association of School Librarians and Dollar General Present 20 Beyond Words Grants

The American Association of School Librarians (AASL), a division of the American Library Association (ALA), Dollar General and the National Education Association (NEA), have awarded the second batch of Beyond Words grants to 20 school libraries affected by disasters. This fall, nearly \$175,000 will be dispensed to hurricane-damaged schools in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas; the funds will be used to replenish school library media centers with much-needed books and educational materials.

The Beyond Words grant, sponsored by national discount retailer Dollar General, targets public school libraries nationwide who have suffered materials losses through a disaster, such as floods, hurricanes, fires, etc. The funds are for purchasing books, media, and /or library equipment that support learning in a school library environment.

"We congratulate the newest grant recipients and hope the funds help revitalize their schools through the library media centers. AASL is proud to be involved in this effort to provide these much needed dollars to school libraries in need," said AASL President Cyndi Phillip. "Dollar General provided \$800,000 for the first year of the program and we have passed the halfway mark. With individual library awards ranging from \$5,000 to \$15,000, the program is in full force and we invite more schools around the country to apply."

To date, over \$400,000 in disaster relief funding has been distributed through the program. Since the launch of the initiative in April 2006, 52 schools have received funding to replace their library media materials following losses due to a natural disaster. Most grants have been to schools damaged by last year's hurricanes in the Gulf Coast states.

Detailed information about the Beyond Words grant program, including the complete list of winning schools, is available on the AASL Web site <http://www.ala.org/aasl/disasterrelief>.

# Technical Director's Report

## Some Pro's and Con's for Using PUR in Library Binding

For some time, I have been discussing the potential use of PUR adhesives in library binding. PUR's (polyurethane reactive) adhesives provide a much stronger binding and best of all, these bindings are usually more flexible than if bound with standard hotmelts. PUR adhesives cure by creating a chemical reaction with moisture, which includes water in the paper and humidity in the air. The more moisture, the quicker it will begin its cross-linking process. The use of PUR adhesives has been most successful in the production of softcover bound products, especially fancy catalogs printed on high-gloss, coated paper stocks with solid ink coverage into the spine. PUR's are non-migratory and prevent problems as experienced with hotmelts and insidious inks. The problem is, PUR's take, like PVA's, a long time to dry or cure. Six to ten hours are no exception. This may be the primary reason why we do not see in-line PUR hardcover bindings. This could change soon. According to reports out of Germany, Henkel Adhesives has created a new generation of PUR's called Purmelt DC3111. After applied, Purmelt is cross-linked by UV radiation, resulting in 80 percent of its ultimate strength, within a mere 3 minutes! PVA's usually take 20 hours to achieve 80 percent of its strength!

Most trade binders now offer PUR bindings. So we must ask ourselves, why are library binders not using it? This is a valid question. The answer may be two-fold. First, there is no binding equipment available suitable for individual, library books. We did cover the SRS binder designed for short-run jobs. We need a binder which is capable of self-adjusting for each text block and, most of all, it must have a feature where the spine imprint is automatically centered. As seen at Lightning Source, we must be able to handle a single job without change-over procedures. That color-printed and laminated cover is the only one we have and we simply cannot afford to waste a second cover. It must fit perfect the first time through! I have encouraged our machinery suppliers to develop such a perfect binder. Recently, I received some encouraging news in this regard from Germany. As soon as information is available, I will pass it on.

The second problem with PUR is the high maintenance. It is not an easy adhesive to apply. The price of PUR is another chapter. Sure, we need less but an inconsistent application could be an expensive endeavor. The best solution for a dependable application system may be extrusion through a self-adjusting nozzle. Recently, Muller Martini introduced its VPN (Volumetric PUR Nozzle), a closed application system. Nordson offers a similar system like VPN. I deliberately avoid burdening you with the technical descriptions. In short, figure about \$100,000- for a

PUR application system. This is sometimes more than the cost for a single clamp adhesive binder.

Now there is another consideration. Is a PUR adhesive justified for all jobs when there are less expensive and simpler alternatives? I believe the PVA adhesives we library binders use are sufficient. Our dedicated suppliers have come forward with excellent combinations which secure almost all difficult to bind papers. What I still would like to see is our machinery suppliers coming forward with an efficient binder, as described, but instead of using EVA hotmelts, concentrate on PVA applications. No not double fanning. A straight application with an exceptionally good spine preparation tool should be sufficient for most non-standard works. On-Demand soft and hardcover bindings bound with PVA's are superior, in my opinion. Such bindings offer ultimate flexibility, strength and exceptional openability. In short, your bindings will create a new market for themselves. Johnson Printing in Dallas, TX, did it with a Planax Binder. Bob Johnson could not believe their success. Jobs came from everywhere. Customers were willing to pay a higher price for a superior, quality product.

The drying process with PVA bound products can be accelerated with a heated delivery system, a factor our machinery suppliers should note. Down the road, as we move into increased color works and the need to bind more difficult to bind papers, we can still consider PUR. In the meantime, such difficult works are being side-sewn. Just talk to John Jacobson Jr. of ODM. He is all over North-America and Europe installing such machinery. It is high time we library binder offer additional binding services with a difference.

## Book Publishing – U.S. vs. Great Britain

According to Bowker reports, the U.S. lost, for the first time, against Great Britain in the amount of annual book titles published. Preliminary reports stated that the 2004, the U.S. published approx. 190,000 titles, an all-time record. In 2005, there was a downturn of approximately 18,000 titles to 172,000. Great Britain, considered the world's per capita leader in the publications of books in any language, now replaces the United States as the publisher of most new books in English – 206,000 new titles in 2005! This is an increase of 45,000 titles from 2004.

## Textbook Sales

Book Industry Trends reports that 600,000 fewer college text books were sold in 2005. Why? An increased popularity of used text books which accounted for \$1.7 billion of sales last year. Does rebinding of text books by library binders contribute to those lost sales?

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## Folding Machines, Printing Presses Built in China by Heidelberg

Looks like nothing is sacred anymore. This year, Heidelberg opened a new factory in Shanghai to build small printing presses and folding machines. A spokesman for the world's largest supplier of sheet-fed printing presses said, that for the time being, the machines built in China are only for Chinese markets. The folding machines were previously known as Stahl Folders. The question for us is, can other machines for binding books be far behind?

## Hans Mueller Celebrates His 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday

Hans Mueller is an outstanding bindery equipment engineer. Sixty years ago, after working for the Swiss bookbinding machinery supplier Hunkeler, he started his own factory just down the street in Zofingen, Switzerland. Library binders may



not be so familiar with Grapha / Hans Mueller Maschinenfabrik which then became Muller-Martini after an acquisition in the late 1960's of Martini Maschinenfabrik. It is now by far the world's largest supplier of print-finishing equipment which includes saddle-stitch systems, perfect binders, book sewing, hard-cover binding, three-knife trimmers, on-demand binding, material handling systems, mailing room equipment, newspaper distribution, and small web-printing presses. Twenty-five years ago, Hans Muller was kind enough to give me a personal tour through his sophisticated manufacturing facilities in Zofingen. One of his sons and present CEO, Rudolf Mueller, graduated from the Rochester Institute of Technology.

## Executive Director's Report

by Debra Nolan

In less than one week, I am embarking on an adventure of sorts - a "Wine Heritage Cruise Along the Danube" from Passau (Germany) to Budapest (Hungary). Although I have traveled previously throughout some of Europe (England, Ireland, France, and Italy), this part of the world will be new to me. I am looking forward to learning more about a culture (and wine!) with which I am not all that familiar. Books from my college European literature classes will accompany me along with my dad whose 75<sup>th</sup> birthday we



will be celebrating. Thanks to Werner and others who have shared some helpful tips including German phrases. Unfortunately, I won't have access to a U.S. phone or my email from October 22 - 31, however, you can expect at least one good photo in November's *Endpaper*! In the meantime, be sure to complete the LBI member survey so that your insights about an on demand binding association can be gathered. Cheers! Auf in die wohlverdienten Ferien. Bis Bald im naechsten Monat!

## Something to Think About

"I don't think one can accurately measure the historical effectiveness of a poem; but one does know, of course, that books influence individuals; and individuals, although they are part of large economic and social processes, influence history. Every mass is after all made up of millions of individuals."

— Denise Levertov