

10-1-2001

From the Editor

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Recommended Citation

Allen, Frank R. (2001) "From the Editor," *The Southeastern Librarian*: Vol. 49: Iss. 3, Article 3.

Available at: <http://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/seln/vol49/iss3/3>

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From the Editor

With this issue *The Southeastern Librarian* is pleased to announce that Catherine Lee and Phyllis Ruscella have joined the editorial board. Both will be assisting with manuscript review, copyediting and layout, and helping chart the future course of our journal. Of course the most important voices we need to hear are those of our members and subscribers. Please feel free to email me with your comments, suggestions, manuscripts and news submissions.

We are pleased to offer a varied slate of informative articles with this issue. In an excellent example of research with practical application, Bede Mitchell and co-authors share results of student testing of library web sites, employing a process called “user centered usability testing”. Web sites are increasingly being viewed as the gateway to our collections and services, thus making interpretation of our sites of great importance. Alice McCanless provides an informative overview of legal resources accessible through the web. The depth of information now publicly available via the Web is astounding. It also helps to know which ones are authoritative, hence the value of this article. Margo Smith and Melissa Laning share the results of a process improvement study at the University of Louisville on library stacks shelving. In spite of increasing expenditures for digital content, dollars spent for print materials still far outweigh that for electronic resources, giving credence to the often-overlooked issue of stacks maintenance. Lastly, Bryan Carson provides a brief history of library privacy laws in the Southeast. What better timing for this topic given the recent events of September 11, and the subsequent stepped-up investigative efforts of state and national law enforcement agencies.

I have received several invitations in recent weeks to review recently published monograph titles of regional interest. The editorial staff of *The Southeastern Librarian* is interested in resuming this practice as an integral part of the journal, and we need your help. If you would like to serve as a book reviewer for the journal please contact me and include your subject areas of interest.

Happy New Year to our members of the Southeastern Library Association and best wishes for a rewarding year in 2002.

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