

Editorials



By Jacqueline Snider
Book Review Editor &
Author Liaison

Let me begin by expressing my utmost appreciation and gratitude to several people. No, this is not the Academy Awards. I will not thank my family, although I probably should.

Lesley Farmer dedicated the last three years to editing *Education Libraries*. My co-editor, Cybèle Werts, and I take off our collective/collaborative hats, and applaud Lesley for a fantastic job. Lesley took on this position with zeal, grace, and omni-competence. She set the bar at a very high level.

I am so pleased to co-edit the journal with Cybèle Elaine Werts. While new to the Division, Cybèle brings a ton of editing and writing experience (she writes a column in *Information Outlook*), and jumps right in. Due to her expertise and interests, this issue contains a plethora of graphics, photos, and visual content. When I took educational psychology classes, I learned that dual coding, the combination of graphics and text, helped students and readers retain information. *Education Libraries* is now our dual coding laboratory!

Much goes on behind the scenes of *Education Libraries*. The Editorial Review Board members, past and present, spend a great deal of time, energy, and commitment reading submissions, and offering advice. As with most committees, changes occur, and people leave while new ones join. I want to thank Joanne Locke, a long-time Editorial Board member from Concordia University in Montreal, for all of her help, advice, and support during the last decade. Joanne was acting co-editor in 2000.

Gladys Dratch, former Chair of the Education Division, co-author of *New and Forthcoming at Reference*, and unofficial historian of the Division recently retired from the editorial board. Gladys was and as far as I am concerned, will always be my mentor. I cannot think of a better role-model. We wish Gladys and Joanne all the best.

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By Cybèle Elaine Werts
Article & Layout Editor

I didn't really start my career until I was about 30. Sounds late I know, but I guess I was fooling around in graduate school (educational technology) as well as owning my own small business through my twenties. It was only when

I moved to Vermont that I got my first *real* job as a training coordinator at a computer center. What followed for the next seven years or so was a long series of jobs, never more than a year and quite a few far less. It's a little embarrassing really, and for the life of me I couldn't figure out what was wrong with me. I never got fired for doing a rotten job, and in fact, I never really got fired at all. Sometimes I was eased out under peculiar circumstances, a few times the company went under or was restructured, and other times there was just the sensibility that it would be good thing to leave sooner rather than later. Eventually by a long and circuitous route I came to be an Information and Technology Specialist at a national non-profit educational company, and have been one nearly nine years.

You might wonder then, have I changed? No, not really. Is the work I'm doing changed? No, not much. Is it my charm and good looks? Well, maybe! In fact, the difference came to me two years in when I hadn't yet

been let go, restructured, or otherwise disenfranchised. The difference was that I had finally found a corporate culture where I fit in. The corporate culture of education is one that values education first. Seems obvious, but the kind of people who choose to work in this area do tend to be more like me – for better or for worse. A fair number of us are female, white, upper middle class educated liberal intellectuals. Not all of course, but there you are. In this corporate culture my eccentricities are tolerated and my creative spirit is encouraged.

Two Pages →

Jacqueline's Editorial Continued

Please welcome Karen McQuillen from the Educational Testing Service, Lesley Farmer from California State University Long Beach, and Sharon Weiner from the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, who join Debbie Bogenschutz from Cincinnati State Technical and Community College, and M. Suzanne Brown from the University of Florida to form our new board.

Our first issue in 2008 presents the wonderful world of children's resources. As you can see from these articles, the authors examine children's literature from a variety of perspectives. The first article: *Is "E" for Everybody? Picture Books for Older Readers in Public Libraries* focuses on how to manage picture books that contain mature themes, and *"You Have Kids' Books?!" Promoting Children's Literature in an Academic Library* describes children's collections in a non-public library context. Bibliotherapy also represents an important use of children's materials and we've included two articles on this important subject. The first of this short series is *Making a Place for Bibliotherapy on the Shelves of a Curriculum Materials Center: The Case for Helping Pre-service Teachers Use Developmental Bibliotherapy in the Classroom*, and the second: *Understanding (dis)Abilities through Children's Literature*.

The second section of this Childrens Resources issue has to do with librarianship and technology, which play a growing role in providing information for children and young adults. *The article, An Online Course in Multicultural Materials for LIS Graduate Students at the University of South Florida*, combines children's literature and e-learning by showing how an online course teaches graduate students in Library and Information Science to collect and utilize multicultural resources targeted for children and young adults. *Digital Literacy Practices Among Youth Populations: A Review of the Literature* looks at young people's efforts to express themselves online. Finally, *4Kids.org: Topical, Searchable, and Safe Web-based Resource for Children and Youth*, and *Developing a Website Directory for Young People: A Case Study Using Graduate Students in Library and Information Science* explore issues arising around different types of youth websites.



I have a soft spot for children's services and resources since I began my career as a children's librarian. My claim to fame was playing the Troll in the "Three Billy Goats Gruff" puppet shows. I loved to hear the delighted squeals (I hope) of the audience when I roared. Enough said.

This issue includes our regular features *Resources on the Net* by Chris Bober, and *New and Forthcoming in Education* by Lori Mestre. We've also added a *Books in Brief* section to our collection of book reviews. Thank you to the authors of our regular columns, and to the book reviewers for their contributions.

On a final note, I encourage you to send us comments and suggestions. Please consider submitting articles, and let me know if you are willing to write book reviews. *Education Libraries* offers opportunities for you to share your research, read review copies, contribute reviews, and develop those writing skills. Courtesy of our Web Master, Erin Lanham, back issues from 2004-2006 are posted on the Education Division webpage (http://units.sla.org/division/ded/education_libraries.html).

Cybèle and I will be at the SLA Conference in Seattle. You will find us at the Education Division breakfast on Monday, June 16, and at most other Education Division events. We hope to have a chance to meet lots of past, current, and future authors.

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Cybèle's Editorial Continued

I warm to this feeling because my parents also tolerated my eccentricities and encouraged my creative spirit. My mother felt so strongly about the value of education that she chose where we would live by the quality of the schools, and my father left money for me on his passing specifically for college; something I will always remember. And so for the children who we have promised to educate, just as my father promised to educate me even if he wasn't there to do it himself, my co-editor Jacqueline and I dedicate our first issue of *Education Libraries* to children's resources. These are not just books. which we all think of when we think of education, but of all kinds of resources, including assistive technology devices that allow students with disabilities to learn alongside their non-disabled peers.

To reflect this bright new future of children's education in 2008, you will notice some visual changes in *Education Libraries*, including updated color banners, as well as photos and biographies of our authors. We don't want you to just read our words, we want you to see our faces and know who we are. We want your thoughts and feedback on what we write. As I've settled in as Co-Editor of *Education Libraries*, I've found that the corporate culture here too is the kind that believes in education as the foundation of a just and self-determining society. If we can make a contribution to the minds and hearts of our colleagues through this one publication, then even if my charm and good looks fade, well, I'll know that I've have made a contribution that the children of our future can depend on, even if I'm not there to see it.



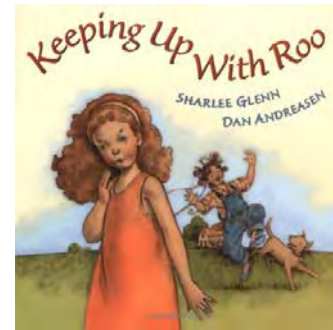
Corrections for Last Issue:

Please note: Gladys Dratch is not the author of the book review, *What Works Well*, which appeared in *Education Libraries*, Volume 26, No. 2, (Winter 2003), p. 41-42. We would like to correct the attribution of authorship, so please send me at Jacqueline-snider@uiowa.edu. Thank you.

Officers of the Education Division, SLA for 2008-2009:

Chair: Lesley Farmer; Past Chairs: Sharon Weiner, Susan Couch; Secretary-Treasurer: Debbie Bogenschutz

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What is the Dolly Gray Award for Children's Literature in Developmental Disabilities?

http://www.dddcec.org/dolly_gray_award.htm

The Dolly Gray Award (mentioned several times in this issue) is sponsored by The Council for Exceptional Children's Division on Developmental Disabilities and Special Needs Project. It was initiated in 2000 to recognize authors, illustrators, and publishers of high quality fictional children's books that appropriately portray individuals with developmental disabilities.

The award is a collaborative work by members of the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) and Special Needs Project (a distributor of books related to disability issues). Every even year, an award is presented to an author and illustrator (if appropriate) of a children's picture book and/or a juvenile/young adult chapter book that includes appropriate portrayals of individuals with developmental disabilities.

2006 Award Winners

Keeping up with Roo

by Sharlee Glenn (Dan Andreason)
(focus on Mental Retardation)

So B. It

Sarah Weeks
(focus on Mental Retardation)

