



NETWORKING & GETTING INVOLVED PROFESSIONALLY

06.09.2011

Starr Hoffman

UNT Libraries | Career Development Group

Finding Your Niche

First consider: *What are your goals?*
What do you want to learn?
What do you want to share?

□ **Organizational scope**

- International (IFLA), national (ALA), state (TLA), regional (NORDOCs)
- Divisions, round tables, interest groups

□ **Library type**

- Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL; ALA division)
- Depository Library Council (DLC) Meetings
- Special Library Association

□ **Subject**

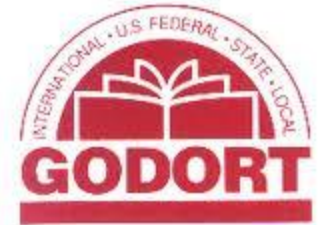
- Art Libraries Society of North America (ARLIS/NA)
- Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE)



My Memberships

- **ALA (American Library Association)**
 - ACRL (Association of College & Research Libraries)
 - GODORT (Government Documents Round Table)
 - Webmaster (on 3 committees; chair 1)
 - formerly LITA
- **TLA (TX Library Association)**
 - GODORT (Government Documents Round Table)
 - Webmaster (on 1 committee)
 - Alternate Councilor
 - Distributed/E-Learning Learning Round Table
 - CULD (College and University Libraries Division)
- **Depository Library Council (DLC) Meetings**
 - Conference presenter
 - Attend educational sessions & training
- **North Texas Documents Group (NORDOCs)**
 - Arrange & attend meetings, training
 - Moderate list-serv
- **Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE)**
 - Conference presenter
 - Reviewed conference paper proposals
- **American Association of Law Librarians (AALL)**
 - Joined for conference members rate (educational sessions)
- **International Federal of Library Associations & Institutions (IFLA)**
 - Conference presenter

ALA American Library Association



ASHE Association for the Study of Higher Education



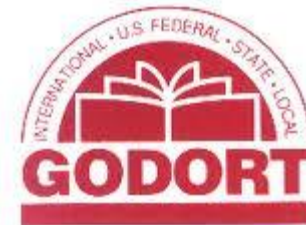
American Association of Law Librarians
MAXIMIZING THE POWER OF THE LAW LIBRARY COMMUNITY SINCE 1906



International Federation of
Library Associations and Institutions

Advantages of Smaller Org.'s

- Smaller conferences
 - ▣ meet more people directly
 - ▣ faster, more effective networking
 - ▣ fewer tracks = larger “full conference” experience
- Closer peers
 - ▣ people who do what you do
- More opportunities to contribute/volunteer
 - ▣ need volunteers



How to Get Involved

□ Find Opportunities

■ Directory

- Nominating committee
- Committee on committees
- Group secretary
- Specific committees

■ Group Chair

- Ask about opportunities

■ Group list-serv

2010-11 Directory

Contents [show]

2010-11 Directory

Steering Committee

GODORT Elected Officers

Chair
Geoffrey Swindells (2012)
Head, Government and Geographic Information and Data Services
Northwestern University Library
1970 Campus Drive
Evanston, IL 60208-2300
phone: (847) 491-2927
g.swindells@northwestern.edu

Assistant Chair/Chair-Elect
Kirsten Clark (2013)
Government Information & Regional Depository Librarian
10 Wilson Library
University of Minnesota
309 19th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55455-0414
phone: (612) 626-7520
fax: 612-626-9353
clark881@umn.edu

Secretary
Jill Monearty (2011)
Associate Librarian
San Jose State University
San Jose, CA 95198
phone: (408) 938-2020
Susan.Kerrall@sjsu.edu

Nominating Committee

Co-Chair:
Jill Monearty (2011)
General Reference
Marriott Library
University of Utah
295 South 1500 East
Salt Lake City, Utah 84112-0860
phone: (801) 581-7703
fax: (801) 585-3464
jill.monearty@utah.edu

Co-Chair:
Jill Vassilakos-Long (2011)
Government Information Librarian
Head of Technical Services
Pflau Library, CSU San Bernardino
5500 University Parkway
San Bernardino, CA 92407
phone (office): (909) 537-7541
cell: (909) 649-1310
jvlong@csusb.edu

Sonnet Ireland (2012)
Head of Federal Documents
Subject Specialist, Earth & Environmental Sciences, Legal Research, Philosophy, Political Science
Library
University of New Orleans
200 Lakeshore Drive
New Orleans, LA 70148

COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

Contacts from Conferences



- Contacting Speakers
 - ▣ Ask questions
 - ▣ Before/after sessions
 - ▣ Can you contribute?
 - Constructive criticism
 - Relevant citations
 - Helpful sources
 - Related research
 - ▣ Exchange cards
- Other Contacts
 - ▣ Repeat attendees
 - ▣ Lunch
 - ▣ Elevators, hallways, etc.



Networking Go-To's



Making Business Cards Work

□ Business Card Notes

- Specialty
- Research interests
- Distinctive qualities
- Specific follow-up

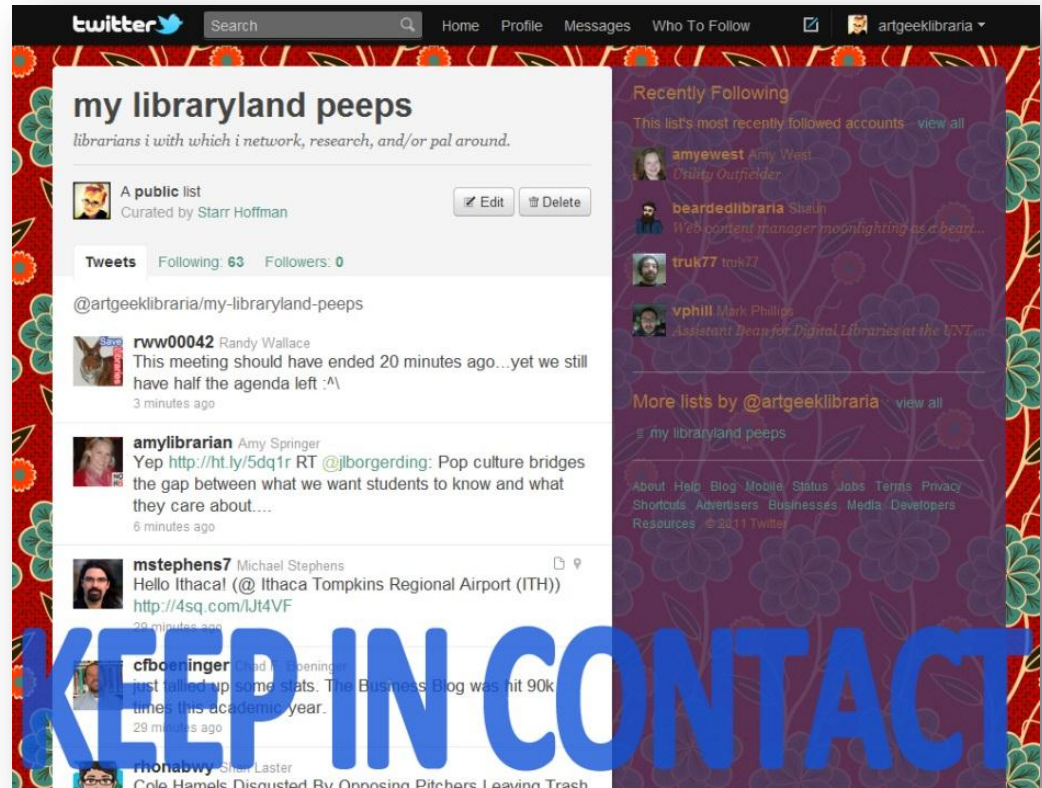
□ Example: (Jane Doe)

- met at ALA 2010
- likes baseball
- catalogs science info for TWU
- email her article about RDA
- ask about collaborating on science librarianship article



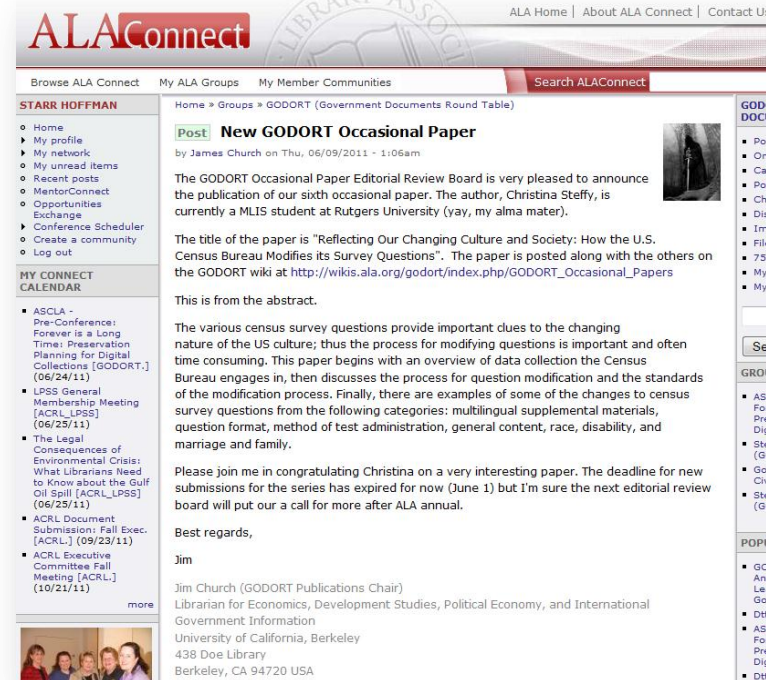
Between Conferences...

- Contact annually
 - ▣ Email / twitter / FB
 - ▣ Refer Q's (librarians)
 - ▣ Review drafts
 - ▣ Offer to collaborate
- No contacts yet?
 - ▣ Email authors



Virtual Networking Opportunities

- ALA Connect
 - Virtual committee work
- Virtual conferences / webinars
- Streaming content from remote conferences
 - Live-tweets or live-blogs (follow Twitter hashtags)
 - Archived conference material
- Other opportunities for involvement
 - Reviewing conference proposals
 - Reviewing/editing journal submissions
 - Contact group's Secretary for more virtual opportunities



Giving Back to Your Network

- Organizations
 - Skills you'd like to use more
 - organize events
 - administer surveys
 - wordsmith docs
 - technological skills
 - photography
 - ...more!
 - Experience, knowledge, or unique perspective
 - Change you'd like to see made



Giving Back to Your Network



□ Individuals

- Use those business cards!
- Pass along relevant info
- Learning community
 - Types of LC's
 - Research group
 - Writing group
 - Online or local
 - Getting Started:
 - Email & ask
 - Post to list-serv
 - FB/blog/tweet it

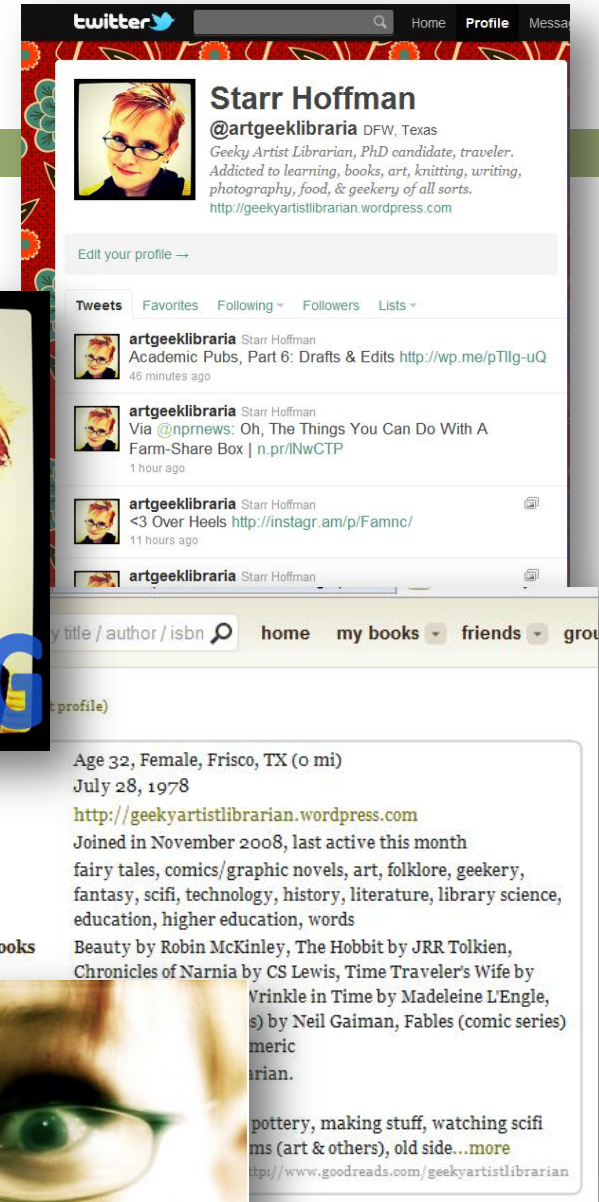
...What About You?

- When meeting new professional contacts, consider:
 - What do you want people to **remember** about you?
 - What's the **most notable** thing about your position?
 - How do your **research interests** align with theirs?
 - How could you **help** this person?
 - What aspects of your personal life are **relevant** or **memorable**?



Your Online Presence

- Image & Branding
 - ▣ Not artificial
 - ▣ Should feel “right”
 - ▣ Find what works
 - ▣ Contribute back
 - ▣ Don't sweat it!



Your Online Presence

HOME BLOG EDUCATION EXPERIENCE PUBS & PRESOS ACTIVITIES

geeky artist librarian

Starr Hoffman, geeky artist librarian

I'm Starr, your resident geeky artist librarian! This website hosts both [my blog](#) and [my ePortfolio](#) (where you can view my [experience](#), [education](#), [professional development](#), and [other activities](#)). You can read more about me at the right, or look at [my contact info](#).

About Starr

I'm a [librarian](#) by trade, a [student](#) by passion, [geek](#) by choice, and [artist](#) by nature.

By day, I manage the Government Documents Dept. at the UNT Libraries; by night, I work toward my PhD in Higher Education. The bits in-between are filled with things I don't quite have time for: writing, travel, photography, diving, knitting, painting, reading, & discovering new hobbies with my husband.

Research Interests

- Academic Library Administration
- Distance Learning
- Digitization & Digital Collections Europe
- Civic Engagement & Depositories
- Design in Libraries
- Graphic Novels & Comics
- Art History (late medieval Europe)
- Religious History

Information is the currency of democracy. ~ Thomas Jefferson

Career Goals & Interests

- academic library dean
- senior-level university administrator
- researcher in higher education

Starr on Twitter

- so true. i yell at characters. "JUST TALK TO EACH OTHER ALREADY." RT @kaintnolan: Middle Books of Trilogies: Ponderings <http://nblo.gs/fCz6> 1 hour ago

Recent Posts

- *cough, cough*
- The Allure of Sequential Art, Part II
- May the 4th (be with you)

Blog Archives

Select Month

Blog Categories/Tags

Select Category

Subscribe!

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[Sign me up!](#)

Starr's Vita / Resume

- Starr's CV, 2011 (Word doc)
- Starr's CV, 2011 (PDF)

Starr's Flickr

- e-Portfolios
 - More than a business card
 - Some options:
 - About.me
 - WordPress.com
 - Pbworks.com (wiki)
 - UNT Faculty Profiles
 - Your online hub
 - Copy of your CV
 - Link in email signature

Overwhelmed?

- Don't overdo it
 - start *small*
 - use only what works
 - the “spaghetti method”
 - relax
 - if it's stressing you out, it's not working; drop something
 - **have fun!**



Networking Resources



- ❑ Lists of library associations:
 - <http://www.librarysites.info/library-associations.htm>
 - http://www.itcompany.com/inforetriever/assn_us.htm
 - http://www.itcompany.com/inforetriever/assn_oth.htm

- ❑ Agre, P. (2003). *Networking on the Network: A Guide to Professional Skills for PhD Students*.
<http://telecom.inescporto.pt/~rcampos/PhDNetworking.pdf>

- ❑ Wiehardt, G. *Finding Writers for Your Writing Group*.
<http://fictionwriting.about.com/od/writingexercises/qt/writinggroups.htm>

- ❑ Why ALA? <http://www.ala.org/ala/membership/whyala/index.cfm>

- ❑ ALA Divisions & Round Tables.
<http://www.ala.org/ala/membership/whataladoes/divandrt/index.cfm>

- ❑ Join TLA. <http://www.txla.org/join>

- ❑ TLA Volunteer Interest Form. <http://www.txla.org/Volunteer-TLA>