It is hard to believe we are nearing the year’s end. The year has been exciting in many ways. I think first and foremost is the excitement and hard work we’ve all been involved in with the implementation of SIRSI, the new automated system we’ve all been learning and becoming familiar with. I know that here at La. Tech we are preparing to close the old system and begin our work in the new one. Many libraries have already migrated to the new system and are experiencing many learning pains, but there has been much positive feedback.

Secondly, I think we had a most successful joint Association of College and Research Libraries—Louisiana (ACRL/LA) and the LOUIS Users Conference (LUC) last October at Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond. The theme “2001: An Information Odyssey” was one that prompted much debate and interest. Thank you Karen and Laverne for your work with this program.

We also had a successful LLA conference in Baton Rouge in March. The programs ranged from stress management and handling stress at the reference desk to electronic resources for Louisiana agriculture and the disposition of unused books and how it can affect libraries. I know a lot of discussion has been generated from these conference programs.

I hope you will make plans to attend ACRL/LA—LUC this fall. The location has not been determined due to the elections in progress. I also hope you will plan to attend LLA in March 2003. This conference will be at the Lamar Dixon Expo Center in Gonzales.

It has been my pleasure to serve as your Academic Chair this year. A special thank you goes (Continued on page 2)
Section News

Academic Section Officers Elected

Vice Chair/Chair Elect
Van Viator, Nicholls State University

Secretary
Anne Frohlich, McNeese State University

LALINC News
Preservation & Disaster Preparedness

Would you like some help in preparing for and/or responding to a disaster in your facility? If so, then look at the website: www.latech.edu/disaster/.

This site provides links to a great deal of information on problems such as preparing for a hurricane, or dealing with water damage caused by a broken water pipe, or eradicating mold, or identifying potential building problems which could lead to disasters. If your institution does not have a disaster plan, this site will lead you to models which could be adapted to your needs.

The site is sponsored by the LALINC Disaster and Preservation Preparedness Committee. Several members of the committee are working on a list of suppliers and service providers in Louisiana (and some of the best known national companies) who could be called upon to help in disaster response. This will be placed on the website in the near future. The website also contains responses to a survey which was sent to academic libraries in Louisiana concerning their preparedness for disasters. If you have suggestions about the website or have particular concerns you would like to see the committee address, please contact Bruce Turner at Dupré Library, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, bturner@louisiana.edu.

Chair’s Corner, continued

(Continued from page 1)

to Lea Wade, our vice-chair/chair-elect for the outstanding job she did planning our conference programs at LLA. I know she will serve you well as chair in the coming year.
Library News

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

The Summer 2002 issue of Civil War Book Review is now available. In this edition, Harold Holzer examines William Lee Miller’s *Lincoln’s Virtues: An Ethical Biography*, James M. McPherson expounds upon the consequences of Antietam in an exclusive interview, Herman Hattaway uncovers the effects of the war on the northern home front, Lonnie Speer liberates the history of a notorious prison, and Stephen D. Engle sketches the portrait of a legend in his review of *Blood Image: Turner Ashby in the Civil War and Southern Mind*. In a special section of this edition of Civil War Book Review, film director Ron Maxwell and novelist Jeff Shaara discuss transforming the Civil War from print to the silver screen as they prepare to release the film *Gods and Generals*.

Civil War Book Review is the journal of record for new or newly reprinted books about the antebellum, Civil War, and Reconstruction eras. Civil War Book Review is a project of the United States Civil War Center and LSU Libraries Special Collections. The journal will have a new editor soon. Colleen Fava, a new graduate student in the English MFA program, will begin work in June 2002.

Maureen Olle, reference librarian of Documents/Microforms, has been elected secretary of the Federal Documents Task Force.

Linda Griffin has been tenured and promoted to associate librarian. She is now the head of the Cataloging Department.

Norma H. Martin, staff development librarian, will retire May 31, 2002 after working for LSU Libraries for 32 years.

Anne Stanton began working at the LSU Libraries on September 1, 1969. Her retirement date was March 30, so she was five months short of having 33 years of service. She began in Reclassification and retired as head of cataloging, so her entire career was spent as a cataloger.

MCNEESE STATE UNIVERSITY

Joe McNeill, system administrator, attended the Unicorn Users Group International (UUGI) Conference in Huntsville, Alabama, from April 30-May 4.

Kathie Bordelon and Ryan Semmes, Archives and Special Collections, provided materials and assistance for the following projects:

- Photographs from the Rosa Hart/Lake Charles Little Theater Collection, featured in the June 14, 1948 issue of *Life* magazine, were displayed in the library during Spring 2002.
- “Selected Photographs of Early Lake Charles,” an exhibit featuring local architectural styles from the late 1800’s and early 1900’s, was displayed at Lake Charles Central School during June 2002, in conjunc-

*(Continued on page 4)*
Library News, continued

(Continued from page 3)

tion with the Louisiana Preservation Alliance Conference.

Alan Harms, collection management librarian, has also assumed duties as assistant director.

Mary Jane Bloomquist has joined the library faculty as circulation department head.

Jerome Cummings is now interlibrary loan/distance education librarian.

Kenneth Awagain, former head of reference, has assumed duties as library services coordinator.

OUR LADY OF HOLY CROSS COLLEGE

The Friends of the Library at Our Lady of Holy Cross hosted a successful book presentation/book signing on April 7. Dan Gill presented and signed his two books, Louisiana Gardener’s Guide and Month by Month Gardening in Louisiana. The presentation was very informative with helpful answers to many questions from the audience. Approximately seventy-five people were in attendance.

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

Chris Rogers, media librarian, has accepted the position of director of technology. Rogers received his MLS from the LSU School of Library and Information Science and has worked at the John B. Cade Library for 11 years.

Elizabeth Scalia recently joined the faculty as a reference librarian. Scalia had worked at the State Library of Louisiana since 1999 as a reference librarian. She received her MLS from the LSU School of Library and Information Science and her undergraduate degree in Pharmacy from the University of Louisiana at Monroe.

Ledell Smith, archivist, passed away April 9, 2002 at M.D. Anderson Hospital in Houston. Smith had worked at the library for over two decades. She received her MLS from the LSU School of Library Science.

TULANE UNIVERSITY

Jean-Paul Orgeron, head, Center for Library User Education, and Kate Montgomery, head, Digital Services, received a grant of $52,550 from the Lallage Feazel Wall Fund for implementing information literacy initiatives through the development of interactive multimedia software. The project, "Achieving Information Literacy: Freshman Writing and Staff Development," draws on the collaborative efforts of Howard-Tilton’s Center for Library User Education and Digital Services Department, the Innovative Learning Center, the English Department, and the Center for Workforce Effectiveness.

Paul Bary, reference librarian in the Latin American Library presented a guest lecture, “Resources in Latin American and World Literatures for Reference and Collection Development: Lessons from the Tulane Latin American

(Continued on page 5)
Stephen Fowlkes, reference librarian & social science bibliographer, coordinated a Book Donation Program for Tulane’s Cuban Studies Institute, in which over 600 academic books were acquired and donated to 8 research institutions in Havana, Cuba in the Spring of 2002.

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE

The Friends of the Library sponsored a lecture, “The Houma Indians: Art, Culture & History,” on Friday, March 22. Dr. Ray Brassieur, assistant professor of Anthropology at UL Lafayette, spoke on the history of this French-speaking Native American tribe of Louisiana. This was followed by Earl Robicheaux, co-curator of the Houma exhibit, and his discussion of the oral history project that led to the recording of interviews with members of the Houma tribe. During the lecture, the audience got to witness first-hand how Houma Indian artist Ivy Billiot works his craft at woodcarving.

The Southwestern Archives and Manuscripts Collection has obtained a letter written 3 November 1755, by Major General John Winslow at Grand Pre, Acadia. The letter describes General Winslow’s actions as he was removing Acadians from their homes.

The library hosted a grants writing workshop in March. The workshop was funded by a grant awarded to Denise Goetting, head of cataloging, and Beate Kukainis, head of technical services. Jane Kleiner, associate dean for Collection Services at LSU, conducted the all day instruction presentation.

In May, Jean Kiesel, Louisiana Room librarian, presented a workshop at the annual meeting of the American Society of Indexers in Galveston on “Indexing Solutions: The Bayou State Periodical Index.”

Bruce Turner, archivist, has received the Friends of the Library/BORSF Endowed Professorship and Jean Kiesel was chosen to receive the Gloria S. and Robert W. Cline/BORSF endowed professorship.


XAVIER UNIVERSITY

Marilyn Lee, a recent graduate of University of Southern Mississippi, joined the Technical Services Division as monographic cataloger.

Robert Skinner, director, visited the United States Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, to deliver the annual American Studies lecture.
The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.

The first order of business was the ARCL business meeting which was conducted by Karen Leesburg, President of the ARCL/LA chapter.

Fred Hamilton opened the Academic Section meeting after the ACRL meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as posted in Notes & Tracings. He then thanked Lea Wade, vice chair, for her work this year as program chair. Lea was ill and not present. Fred also thanked Jim Evans who served as secretary this year. New officers were announced. Van Viator - vice chair/chair elect, and Anne Frohlich - secretary. Also thanked were Ginger Bryan, Wendy Johnson and Eric Johnson for serving on the Outstanding Academic Librarian Award Committee, Dr. Beth Paskoff, Dr. Joy Lowe and Morgan Bryan for serving on the Thorpe Academic Section Grassroots Award Committee. The winners for both were announced with Ralph Boe winning the Outstanding Academic Librarian Award and Jana Morris winning the Thorpe Academic Section Grassroots Award.

Fred reported on the executive committee meeting held the previous day. As of Monday over 650 had registered for conference with over 125 exhibitors. 75 sessions are planned, an Internet café is being set-up and a placement center will be available. Also this year there will be massage therapists in the exhibits area. Fred requested any feedback about the conference this year and encouraged everyone to fill out the questionnaire at the end of conference. People were encouraged to attend the president’s program Thursday night. A request for articles for Louisiana Libraries was made.

There was no old business to be discussed.

There was no new business.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 a.m.