NCLR Newsletter for Presidents

For the executive administrators of community colleges

Baccalaureate Library Services at St. Petersburg College

Dr. Thomas E. Furlong, Jr., Senior Vice President
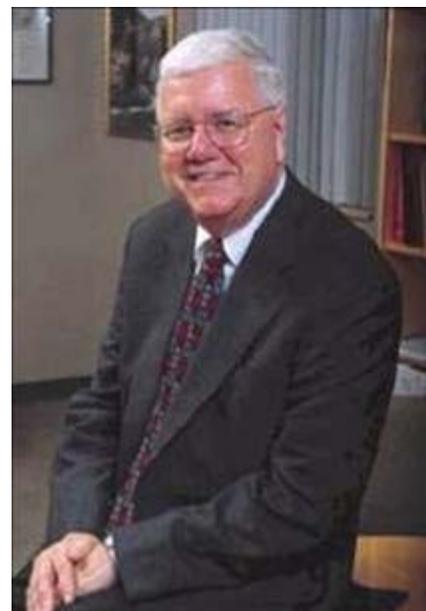*Baccalaureate Programs and University Partnerships, St. Petersburg College, Florida*

In 2002, St. Petersburg College began offering Bachelor's degrees in professional areas where there were particular shortages in the state of Florida. This included degrees in Education (with majors in Elementary Education, Exceptional Student Education, Secondary Math, and Secondary Science), Nursing, and Technology Management. By 2004 Dental Hygiene and Veterinary Science were added as distance delivery programs. This year Public Safety Administration, Orthotics and Prosthetics, and International Business degrees are being offered along with 2 additional majors for Education (Technology Education and Business Technology Education). Most of the Bachelor's degree programs are offered on one or more of the SPC campuses.

It was recognized early in development that library resources and services were essential to a student's course of study and the advancement of the four-year programs. It was also clear that the needs of four-year students and programs would be more discipline-specific and advanced, and would require strong distance delivery options. Special allocations beyond the existing budget were provided to the library for Bachelor's programs' collections and services. In 2001, library director Dr. Susan Anderson worked with acquisitions librarians to identify and purchase resources for the start-up of the programs.

In 2002, two full-time librarians were added to represent four-year Bachelor's programs' services on the various campuses where programs are offered. Both librarians have Master's degrees in Library and Information Science. Donna Kelly brought expertise in Web site development and distance services. Betty Jo Gaston had a background in business management, public speaking, and community involvement.

There is a broad range of job responsibilities to support the Bachelor's programs. These duties include liaison work, subject-specific collection building, library research instruction, online services, accreditation participation, planning, and administration. Program librarians work closely with library administration and on-site librarians and faculty to provide services.

Dr. Thomas E. Furlong, Jr.
SPC Senior Vice President

Liaison Work

Because Bachelor's degree programs are offered on several SPC campuses, liaison work with faculty and deans is vital. Librarians help faculty and deans identify resources that assist them in course and program building. As programs develop, program librarians work out of campuses or travel to attend program meetings, meet with faculty, and work with campus library staff.

Library Collections

Resource collections are important for course development, student support, and accreditation. New faculty and accreditation teams bring high expectations for more advanced or discipline-specific materials.

Collections include:

- Book, periodical, and AV collections in subject areas.
- Special collections such as the College of Education Curriculum Materials Collection (standards, lesson plans, software, manipulatives, games, etc.).
- Online collections of discipline-specific databases, e-journals, and e-books.

Services

As part of a four-year college, the library is also expected to offer more advanced services similar to those offered at larger institutions.

Among these services:

- E-reserve services.
- Copyright permission services.
- Assessment instruments such as online student surveys, faculty library request forms, and databases, etc.

Distance & Web-Based Services

Because several of the programs are exclusively distance delivery, online services are crucial. Library and accreditation standards call for the same level of service for distance students as is provided for traditional.

Expanded services include:

- Large collections of online databases, e-books, and e-journals.
- Librarians working within the online course Learning Management Systems (WebCT and Angel) to provide library Web pages, Student Commons participation, chat instructions, and other services.
- Online library instruction, tutorials, PowerPoint presentations, and orientations.
- Enhanced connectivity and access between online resources via link-out, periodical management systems, etc.

Research Instruction

Because the research needs of Bachelor's programs are more subject-intensive, library research instruction becomes imperative. In addition, because the programs are turning out future professionals, there is a need for students to know the literature of their various fields.

Instruction methods include:

- Traditional classroom instruction.
- Online research instruction delivery. Chat instruction, Camtasia, and Web-based tutorials were introduced to deliver this service.
- In-service instruction for library staff. Librarians share library instruction lesson plans and assignments with other library staff across the campuses.

Accreditations, Program Planning, and Administration

Program accreditations require in-depth preparation and representation from the library, with planning and administrative responsibilities. In the first years, SPC went through several accreditations including SACS, Florida Department of Education, and the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC). The library director, program librarians, and campus staff work closely together to prepare for team visits. Librarians help prepare initial reports as part of the application procedure. They identify and plan for resources and services required for meeting criteria in each discipline area. They collect and prepare additional data for reports for accreditation visits. During accreditation visits, the library director and

librarians conduct demonstrations, answer questions, and gather any new data requested. Coming up, St. Petersburg College will have at least one major program accreditation visit each year including SACS, Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), Florida Department of Education, and National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC).

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Total Library Department Commitment

The co-operation and dedication of the entire library staff has been essential to success. Library director Dr. Anderson has supported the efforts of meeting Bachelor's students' needs from the first point of discussion. Library administrative and processing staff co-operate in immediate purchase and processing of orders for faculty needs and accreditations. Librarians and staff assist faculty and students to make the most of the resources.

As the Bachelor's programs at St. Petersburg College continue to grow, additional library resources, services, and staffing will be added. Special allo-

cations beyond the existing budget continue to be provided for Bachelor's students' library needs. The college's transformation from a junior to a four-year college creates new expectations for more extensive collections and services from accrediting agencies, new faculty, students, and administrators. It is an exciting time and the library and college are well prepared to take on future challenges.

Did you know...

NCLR is on the Web

http://ol.scc.spokane.edu/nclr/

Included on the site:

- Contact information for officers
- Membership information and forms
- Announcements
- Award winners
- Newsletter archives
- Bylaws
- and more!

Announcements

- The American Association of Community Colleges 2006 Annual Convention is approaching. It will be held April 22-25 in Long Beach, California. See http://www.aacc.nche.edu/Convention for details. At the convention, the 2006 NCLR Administrative Leadership Award will be presented to a community college administrator who has created a significant positive impact for a learning resources program.

- This issue of the NCLR Newsletter comes after a three-year hiatus from publication. Leslie Anne Navarro of Austin Community College is the new editor. Please contact her if you have an article or other item to submit for future newsletters:

  Leslie Anne Navarro, Ph.D.
  Austin Community College
  Pinnacle Campus Library
  7748 Hwy 290 W
  Austin, Texas 78736
  lnavarro@austincc.edu
  Phone 512-223-8114
  Fax 512-223-8222

Upcoming Meetings & Events

January 20-25, 2006	**American Library Association** - ALA 2006 Midwinter Meeting, San Antonio, TX. See http://www.ala.org/midwinter for details.
April 22-25, 2006	**American Association of Community Colleges** - AACC 2006 Annual Convention, Long Beach, CA. See http://www.aacc.nche.edu/Convention for details.
June 22-28, 2006	**American Library Association** - ALA 2006 Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA. See http://www.ala.org/annual for details.
October 22-25, 2006	**League for Innovation in the Community College** - 2006 Annual Conference on Information Technology (CIT), Charlotte, NC. See http://www.league.org/2006cit/index.html for details.
March 29 - April 1, 2007	**Association of College and Research Libraries** - ACRL 13th National Conference, "Sailing into the Future - Charting Our Destiny," Baltimore, MD. See http://www.acrl.org/ala/acrl/acrlevents/baltimore/baltimore.htm for details.