“An American Day”
Background and overview of the USA Internship programme
February – May 2011

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Friday, 22 July 2011
Introduction

“Tell me and I'll forget; show me and I may remember; involve me and I'll understand “
Chinese Proverb
Overview

• The Carnegie Corporation of New York grant
• The US Internship and programme
• Visits to US Academic Libraries
• Background on US academic libraries and Higher Education
• Conclusion
The South African research environment

- Emerging researchers are often not autonomous information users
- They need physical location with appropriate support
- They need librarians with subject domain expertise
- Many SA librarians have LIS training but no formal subject training or qualifications
- Researchers need support in the use of all types of resources
The Research Libraries Consortium

Funded by
The Carnegie Corporation of New York

Focus:
The SA research environment
Focus on existing library staff.

RESEARCH PORTAL (access to digital content)

not LIS training

Focus on gaps in education

Gateway to digital resources

Making resources more accessible

RESEARCH COMMONS (physical space)

Designated space in library

refurbished & equipped with technology

support to researchers by specially trained librarians

Africana

Making resources more accessible

Research Libraries Consortium
Member institutions

- University of Cape Town
- University of the Witwatersrand
- University of KwaZulu-Natal
- University of Pretoria
- Stellenbosch University
- Rhodes University
Research librarians
US Internship

- Mortenson Programme (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign)
- Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL) Conference, Philadelphia
- New York meeting
- 6 Weeks at host institutions
Mortenson Centre Programme
University of Illinois, Urbana Champagne
ACRL Conference in Philadelphia
Meeting at the Carnegie Foundation, New York
Host Institutions

University of Washington
Purdue University
Duke University
North Carolina State University
Texas A & M University
University of Arizona
Case Western Reserve University
University of Kansas
University of California Davis
Visits to other university libraries

- University of Illinois, Urbana – Champagne
- Residence Library, University of Illinois, Urbana – Champagne
- Ames Library, Illinois Wesleyan University
- Purdue University in Indiana
- Loyola University, Chicago
- Northwestern University, Chicago
- Columbia University, New York
- University of California, San Francisco
- University of California, Merced
- American Library Association (ALA)
- Library of Congress (Sunette)
- California Digital Library (CDL)
- Arthur Public Library
- New York Public Library
University of Illinois,
Urbana – Champagne

Main Library
Veterinary Library
Residence Library

Undergraduate Library
Engineering Library
Residence Dining room
Ames Library, Illinois Wesleyan University
Purdue University in Indiana
Northwestern University, Chicago
Columbia University, New York
University of California, San Francisco
University of California, Merced
American Library Association (ALA)
Arthur Public Library

Your History Is Arthur's History...
Preserve the Past for the Future...
Share your History with Our Digital Project.

Local History Group is Forming Committees:
Join the Project
- Property/Improvements: Focus on the history of the building and its transformation over time.
- Photographs: Gather photos that document the library's history.
- Oral History: Collect oral histories from former librarians, patrons, and community members.
- Scanning: Scan historical documents and records.
- Digital Historian: Assist in the digitization of records and documents.

3rd Thursday of the Month
6:30 p.m.
New York Public Library
Background on the USA academic libraries and Higher Education

- Differences between the US & SA Higher Education systems
- Differences in Library schools, training of librarians and the library profession
The US Education System

[Diagram showing the structure of the US education system, including levels from kindergarten to post-doctoral study.]
Community college

Pathways to a 4-Year Degree

For example:

High School (4 years) + Community College Associate Degree (2 years) + University (2 years) = Four Year University Bachelor’s Degree
Library training

Library Assistants and Technicians (Staff)
- High school degree
- Library technician certificate or associate's degree

Librarians
- Four-year undergraduate degree in any field
- Master of library science degree (MLS)
- MLS degree from an American Library Association (ALA)-accredited school
- ALA-accredited MLS degree plus a teaching certificate
- or an ALA-accredited MLS plus a second masters degree, e.g., a law degree
Tenure and Promotion

Assistant Professor
- Earned master's degree from an ALA-accredited program in library science/information science.
- Evidence of potential ability in librarianship, scholarship/creative activities, and service.
- Evidence of collegiality and professional integrity.

Associate Professor
- Earned master's degree from an ALA-accredited program in library science/information science.
- Minimum of five years' appropriate professional experience in librarianship.
- Documented evidence of substantive accomplishments in librarianship, scholarship/creative activity, and service, leading to national recognition.
- Evidence of collegiality and professional integrity.

Professor
- Earned master's degree from an ALA-accredited program in library science/information science.
- Minimum of ten years' appropriate professional experience in librarianship.
- Documented evidence of substantive accomplishments in librarianship, scholarship/creative activity, and service.
- Documented evidence of sustained high quality professional productivity and national recognition in librarianship.
- Evidence of collegiality and professional integrity.
Review criteria

• Professional Responsibilities within the University Libraries
• Engagement with the Profession
  – Research, Scholarly, and Creative Achievements
  – Professional Contributions
• University Activities
Conclusion
A library implies an act of faith which generations still in darkness hid a sign in their night in witness of the dawn.

— Victor Hugo

Thank you