

The Basement Blotter



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Congratulations on Accreditation!

Rebecca Marrall, Editor



Congratulations to the Library & Information Science Program on receiving a full six-year accreditation from the American Library Association! Department Chair Andrew Wertheimer and Associate Chair Violet Harada announced the wonderful news on January 28th, by distributing an e-mail through the LIS listserv.

To receive a six year accreditation from the American Library Association means that the school curricula has met the established standards in all areas. Needless to say, not all schools enjoy this success. If any students are interested in reviewing the report written by the ALA Committee of Accreditation, you can follow this link: <http://www.hawaii.edu/lis/about.php?page=accreditation>.

Again, congratulations to the Library & Information Science students, staff, and faculty who have worked so hard to receive accreditation!

Disaster Response & Recovery: Why It's Important to LIS

Rebecca Marrall, Editor

Does it seem that floods and other water-related disasters saturate the Library & Information Science Program here in Manoa? The department had to relocate to Bilger and POST after the 2004 Flood. Now, with yet another water-related “mishap” that occurred during the 2008-2009 Winter Break, LIS classes are held in many buildings – with faculty and students valiantly trying to adapt to the circumstances.

Since the Library & Information Science Program has experienced its fair share of natural disasters, I thought it would be appropriate to discuss what disaster planning and recovery means for a library setting.

In November 2008, I had the opportunity to listen to Kyle Hamada, Christine Takata, Deborah Dunn, and Lynn Davis discuss the aftermath of the October 30, 2004 flood in the Hamilton Library basement, the former residence of the Library & Information Science Program. The four preservationists, comprising much of the Preservation Department, presented a panel on Disaster Response Preparation for Professor Dunn's Preservation Management course. The panel presented their personal and professional response to the flood. In addition, the preservationists discussed where they are now as a department.

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ALA-SC

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Many documents are still awaiting repairs and treatment, stored within the on-campus freezers. Repairing the damaged documents is a long-term goal that can only be addressed by continual, committed work. But one of the greatest lessons yielded from the flood, and one of the current priorities, is the importance of a Disaster Response Plan.

A Disaster Response Plan is a predetermined course of action that goes into effect should a disaster occur. The plan is an organizational asset, designed to decrease confusion during the chaos of a disaster and reduce the total adverse impact on the affected collection. First, the plan assigns response duties to qualified individuals. The plan should also establish the immediate response, and then designate long-term goals to repair the damage caused by a disaster.

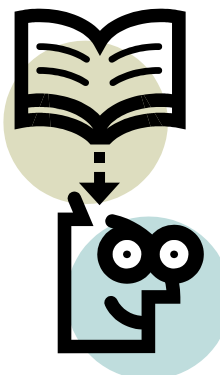
While the Preservation Department operated on a Disaster Response plan in 2004 – which was responsible for saving many documents and texts – preservation librarian Lynn Davis admitted that the Preservation team wanted to expand their response ability for future catastrophes. Since the 2004 flood, the Preservation Department has embraced disaster response preparation training, and focused on how to improve their skills.

Much of disaster response training is awareness. Many departments do not know a disaster plan exists, or who is responsible for taking action. Therefore, awareness and inter-departmental communication is very important. In addition, staff and employees need to have the opportunity to practice the disaster response plan. Simply knowing the disaster response plan is not sufficient – the staff needs to practice to improve their skills. Training and awareness can reduce the impact of even a large disaster by ensuring a more smooth operation.

Lynn Davis offers a positive and unique perspective: “We’re lucky that we have so many disasters [at Manoa] – we get to practice.”

Want to Write for *The Basement Blotter*?

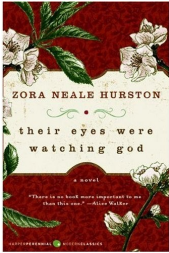
Rebecca Marrall, Editor



Hey, fellow students and future librarians: Want to get involved in the Library & Information Science program? And have even *more* fun? Become a *Basement Blotter* contributor! Join a lively community to share your ideas and library-related experiences. If you are interested, please e-mail rmarrall@hawaii.edu for more information!

Celebrate Black History Month!

February is Black History Month! To celebrate African-American authors, here is a short list of classics that have revolutionized and transformed the literary realm. You can find (and enjoy!) these titles at your local libraries.

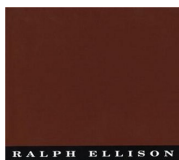
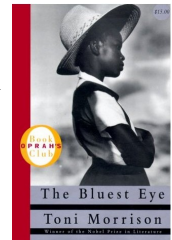


Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston

Written during the Harlem Renaissance era, *Their Eyes Were Watching God* is both a beloved and controversial novel for Hurston's depiction of African-American culture.

The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison

A Pulitzer Prize winner and Toni Morrison's debut work, this 1973 classic is a groundbreaking novel.

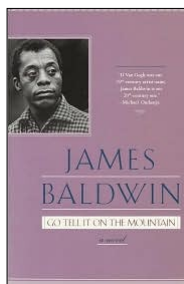
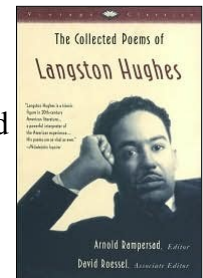


Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison

This novel, a classic since its debut in 1952, is about an unnamed African-American man who struggles to define his personal and cultural identity.

Invisible
Man

The Collected Poems of Langston Hughes by Langston Hughes & Arnold Rampersad
Poet, novelist, playwright and much more, Hughes helped personify the Harlem Renaissance. This volume has attempted to collect all of Hughes' poetry, with an introduction and brief biography.



Go Tell It On the Mountain by James Baldwin

A short but powerful novel, Baldwin's semi-autobiographical work examines Christianity and race in African-American culture.

Happy Birthday Abraham Lincoln!
We celebrate our 16th president's
bicentennial birthday on February 12.



An Index to Love: A Valentine's Day Catalogue

Rebecca Marrall, Editor



Just in time for Valentine's Day, the Librarian's Internet Index prepared a directory of great websites that offer ideas on how to make V-Day even more special – librarian-style. The Librarian's Internet Index is a publicly funded website that sends out a weekly newsletter to its subscribers. Their purpose is to index quality Internet sites by subject, and they've risen to the challenge for Valentine's Day.

Discover how to say "I Love You" in sixty languages, or learn about the history of Valentine's Day. Prefer a little tartness with your sweet nothings? Go the Comic Valentines site, a collection of Victorian valentines that offer a dark side to the holiday. The site is quite fun for librarians and "civilians" (i.e., non-librarians) alike. Here is the link: <http://lii.org/pub/subtopic/5239>.

Enjoy, and Happy Valentine's Day to all!

Hawaii's Children Read for Nene

Shelley Shimoda

You may be familiar with the Newbery, Caldecott, and Printz Awards, but have you heard of the Nene Award? Each year 4th-6th graders in Hawaii R.E.A.D (Read, Enjoy, Analyze, Discuss) fiction books and vote for their favorite. The winning author is invited to visit Hawaii and meet with the children who participated in the voting.

This award is special because it was created by and designed for children. In 1959 the third graders at University Elementary Lab School wanted to start a book award and chose the Nene goose, Hawaii's state bird, as the mascot. They selected Beth Lewis' *The Blue Mountain* as the inaugural Nene Award winner. The first state-wide award was presented in 1964 to Scott O'Dell for *Island of the Blue Dolphins*. Last year the award was given to author Rick Riordan for his book *The Lightning Thief*. He thanks the students of Hawaii in his blog: http://rickriordan.blogspot.com/2008/11/aloha-and-thanks_23.html.



The deadline to vote for the 2009 Nene Award is March 11. The winner will be announced in May.

This award is supported by the Hawaii Association of School Librarians, the Hawaii Library Association, and the Friends of the Library of Hawaii. Please encourage your students, relatives, and friends to participate in this local selection process!

Check out some of the past winners and this year's suggested reading list at <http://nene.k12.hi.us/index.html>.