

Skip Prichard Named CEO and President of OCLC

David “Skip” Prichard (pictured) has been named the next president and CEO of OCLC, effective July 1. (In the meantime, he will serve as president-elect, effective June 3.) Prichard will succeed Jay Jordan, who will retire June 30, after 15 years as OCLC president and CEO.



Prichard most recently served as president and CEO of Ingram Content Group, a position he left just shy of a year ago, saying he'd met the goals he came to achieve. Previously, he was president and CEO of ProQuest Information and Learning, a position he vacated after the business was sold to Cambridge Information Group in 2007.

“I’ve always admired OCLC from afar,” Prichard told *Hotline*. “This is my first time with a nonprofit, and I am looking forward to that.”

CHALLENGES AHEAD

Though he spoke of the challenges facing libraries today—the usual suspects of mobile, massive open online

courses (MOOCs), social networking, and the ever-present budget pressure, among others—and OCLC’s mission to help libraries overcome them, Prichard was clear that he does not come with any fixed road map. “There’s nothing in terms of an agenda to change the current path,” he said. He plans to “listen to the member libraries, to see what they have to say in terms of the services that we currently provide. How they feel we’re doing, where can we improve, what we need to do accelerate.”

Prichard told *Hotline* that he and his family are relocating to Columbus, OH; the company is headquartered in Dublin, OH. He also plans to attend the upcoming major conferences, including, of course, the American Library Association (ALA) annual conference in Chicago. He shared on his blog his personal reasons for choosing the position, including a supportive board, an industry in transition but a stable and respected company, and a chance to make a difference.

This is the second time that OCLC has announced Jordan’s retirement and a would-be successor. Jordan ex-

pected to retire in June 2012, to be succeeded by Jack Blount, the former president and CEO of Dynix Corporation, who helped implement the company’s merger with Sirsi in 2005 to form SirsiDynix. But just 12 days later, OCLC reversed its decision, saying that Jordan would remain at the helm. No explanation for the about-face has ever been provided.

SECOND TIME AROUND

Prichard told *Hotline* he was not part of that initial search round. But though this second attempt has produced, in some ways, a very different candidate—one who has spent much of his working career in the library world, rather than briefly intersecting with it, and one whose résumé indicates he may be more of a turn-around expert for established companies than a “serial entrepreneur”—Cathy De Rosa, OCLC vice president for the Americas and global vice president of marketing, told *Hotline* that the search process itself, including due diligence, was very similar.

The search was led in both cases by Sandy Yee, chair of the OCLC Board of Trustees and dean, Wayne State University Libraries and School of Library and Information Science, Detroit. Said Yee, “[Prichard] has guided leading library services organizations through eras of significant

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Interview

Margaux DelGuidice & Rose Luna

2013 *Library Journal* Movers & Shakers Margaux DelGuidice (r.) and Rose Luna serve as part-time librarians at the Freeport Memorial Library on Long Island, NY, and full-time librarians in the Freeport School District. Since they met in 2004, the two have become close collaborators in advocating for libraries.



Tell us more about your webinars?

MD & RL: After presenting at national conferences and state and local library associations on how to successfully advocate for your library position and program, we recognized that there was a need to reach even more librarians. We worked with the team at EasyBib [and] Follett Software to give webinars on advocacy and the Common Core and with other local BOCES organizations. We also know how important it is to reach those who are in a leadership position as administrators in school buildings and districts across the country. We have plans to bring these advocacy webinars on the link between certified school librarians and student achievement directly to those key decision-makers.

What are the big issues for youth services?

MD & RL: We are frustrated by the pervasive amount of [computer] filtering that happens in schools, along with the policies in many school districts that do not allow students to use mobile devices for learning in the classroom. As librarians, we are always looking to work with administrators to find feasible ways to rectify these situations.

change, from print to electronic and from local to global. His experience and commitment to libraries will help us continue our work to move library services and cooperation forward—in the cloud, on mobile devices, and through the collaborative work of libraries and partners around the world.”

Cengage May Declare Bankruptcy

Major academic content, software, and services company Cengage Learning is considering filing for bankruptcy relief, the company’s CEO, Michael Hansen, said on a call reporting third-quarter financial results. Those results state bluntly:

On March 20, 2013, we borrowed \$430 million, virtually the entire remaining available amount under our revolving credit facilities.... If we are unable to refinance or extend our 2013 revolving credit facility, we may not have sufficient liquidity to repay such indebtedness. In addition, we may determine not to repay such indebtedness at its maturity to ensure that we have sufficient liquidity to fund our operations.... There can be no assurance that any of our attempts to refinance our indebtedness will be successful... any of the forgoing alternatives may individually, or in aggregate, have material adverse effects on our business and therefore raises substantial doubt about the Company’s ability to continue as a going concern.

While the company was in compliance with all its covenants as of March 31, it expects to be out of compliance by June 30.

Cengage is attempting to negotiate an out-of-court restructuring or, failing that, a prenegotiated bankruptcy. “The Chapter 11 process can be an effective way of achieving

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a fast and efficient debt restructuring with minimal disruption to the business, particularly where agreement is reached with key financial stakeholders on a plan—on the outlines of a plan—prior to the filing,” Hansen said, according to *BusinessWeek*. However, he added that no decision has been made yet.

NEW STRATEGY

Hansen, who joined the company less than a year ago, said in his prepared remarks (available in full on infoDOCKET.com) that the company’s strategy for recovery includes increasing product innovation, driving incremental growth in global research and English-language teaching, and emphasizing “go to market excellence” (including customer care and consultative selling) and targeted cost reductions. This joins the company’s existing goals of improving the performance of existing products, re-focusing and accelerating MindTap (a digital learning suite) product development, refining its digital road map, and implementing key performance indicators across the organization.

The company’s recent endeavors include a deal with the Smithsonian Institution, expanding its partnership with OCLC, unifying its digital humanities content into a single platform called Artemis, and participating in a pilot project with MOOC (massive open online course) provider Coursera.

“In light of our ongoing review of potential restructuring options, we will not be conducting media interviews on the subject at this time,” Cengage spokesperson Kristina Mas-sari told *Hotline*. “Per CEO Michael Hansen’s prepared remarks, we are confident that whatever path we take with respect to our capital structure, it will not impact the quality and reliability of our product offerings and our high level of service.”

Nebraska Teens Host Life-Size “Arkham Horror” Game

The La Vista Public Library (LPL), NE, teen advisory board (TAB), under the guidance of youth librarian and advisor Lindsey Tomsu, a 2013 *Library Journal* Mover & Shaker, turned its 2012 Teen Read Week into a massive celebration of the works of H.P. Lovecraft, complete with crafts, workshops, and a life-sized version of the complex, cooperative Arkham Horror board game based on the Cthulhu mythos. The event was so successful and engaging that the teens hope to repeat it every year.

They were first introduced to the game by Tomsu’s fiancé, Gordon Wyant—himself a youth librarian at the Bellevue Public Library, NE—at an overnight lock-in for her teen advisory board that the couple chaperoned together. “[Gordon] later told me he thought, ‘Okay, after 15 minutes they’ll give up because it’s too hard.’ My TAB surprised him and really got into it and were still playing it at 3 a.m.,” Tomsu said.

That enthusiasm led Tomsu to apply for a Nebraska Library Commission Youth Excellence grant, which awarded Tomsu and LPL \$800 to start an Arkham Horror gaming club. Tomsu used her funds to purchase three copies of the original board game, its four expansion packs, a card-based version with a shorter play time, a spin-off game, and plastic containers to hold the various cards and tokens.

Tomsu also purchased print editions of Lovecraft’s stories and novels for LPL’s teen collection. “I made sure I got [the Del Rey] editions because I knew they’d get attention just for the covers,” she said. “I like that my teens can have fun playing the game and, if interested in the source material, can read the original stories or the cool, game-based Arkham Horror series of paperbacks by [game creator] Fantasy Flight to connect the game with reading.”

With a meager budget for programming, Tomsu called an emergency TAB meeting and asked the group: Could we put together a grant proposal for something amazing for Teen Read Week? TAB member Sarah Kreber came up with the idea for a life-size game, and YALSA/Dollar General granted La Vista \$1,000 to make those dreams a reality.

Including a lot of details and potential programming specifics in her second grant application was key to being awarded the funds, Tomsu said. She used this additional grant money to purchase props for the life-size game, plus prizes and extra game copies.

Activities included Lovecraft-inspired crafting, a character creation workshop, and the extensive preparations for the life-size game, which involved painting sets, creating costumes, and assembling props. Teens brought in donated items, and Tomsu sought cheap supplies at dollar stores, Walmart, and Nobbies, she said.

Her TAB then took a week to create physical representations of Lovecraft’s monsters out of dolls and plush toys, key set pieces like paper towel-tube sticks of dynamite, murals of the game’s various portals to alternate dimensions, and costumes, while Tomsu and library staff volunteers created oversized, laminated game cards and tokens.

The club hopes to host the game in September this year, on a weekend when representatives from Fantasy Flight can attend. (They missed the inaugural game last year owing to a scheduling conflict but sent \$300 worth of merchandise with their regrets.)



Tomsu gets into character as Arkham’s William Yorick, gravedigger.

Cengage was acquired from Thomson Reuters in 2007 for \$7.75 billion by a private equity group led by Apax Partners LLP. Apax bought about \$800 million of the company's debt over the past year at a discount, according to a Dow Jones report. Being one of the company's largest creditors would give Apax greater influence over the restructuring. According to the *Wall Street Journal*, other investment firms that have bought Cengage debt include Avenue Capital Group LLC and Apollo Global Management LLC.

Alleged Defamation Worth \$1 Billion

Here we go again: another academic librarian received a letter threatening legal action concerning criticism of a publisher's practices on a personal blog. But it's not Edwin Mellen Press that's the plaintiff this time; Jeffrey Beall, University of Colorado Denver librarian, author of the Scholarly Open Access blog, and longtime *Library Journal* reviewer, received the letter from OMICS Pub-

lishing Group, an open access (OA) publisher based in India (with an office in Los Angeles).

The posts OMICS objected to said that OMICS has been:

- Using the names of scientists without their permission to invite participants to meetings, giving their meetings names that are deceptively similar to other well-established meetings, and refusing to refund registration fees even if meetings are canceled
- Soliciting articles, accepting them for publication, and only after a DOI [digital object identifier] is assigned, informing authors that they owe a fee for publication.

Beall also included OMICS on his list of "Potential, possible, or probable" predatory open access publishers.

The full text of the six-page letter is embedded on infoDOCKET.com. Among the highlights are that criminal, as well as civil, charges are threatened, in both India and the United States.

HUGE REQUEST

Perhaps most notable is the remedy requested: in addition to taking down the offending posts, promising not to make any more, and emailing *Nature* and the *New York Times*, both of which had cited Beall in articles of their own, OMICS asked Beall to pay them \$1 billion, plus \$10,000 "for the cost of issuing this notice."

Beall told *Hotline*, "They try to make me answer a bunch of questions to justify [the posts]. Which I find ridiculous, because if they're the ones bringing the action, they're the ones with the burden of proof, not me. So I'm not going to answer the letter they sent. It is more like an extortion letter, in my opinion, than anything else."

Beall's list is not without its critics in the library field; Karen Coyle felt that some of the criteria make First World assumptions that aren't val-

People

Gerald Beasley was promoted to Vice Provost and Chief Librarian at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, effective July 1. He has been a Librarian at the university since 2008.

Kara Gilbert was named the new Children's Librarian for Henry Carter Hull Library, Clinton, CT. She previously held the same position at the Shaler North Hills Library, Glenshaw, PA.

Marjorie Hassen was appointed Library Director of Bowdoin College, Brunswick, ME, effective July 29. She is currently Director of Teaching, Research, and Library Services at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

James Hilton was named Dean of Libraries, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, effective September 1. He is currently CIO for the University of Virginia, Charlottesville.

Michael Lorenzen was named Dean of University Libraries at Western Illinois University, Macomb, effective July 15, following the retirement of **Phyllis Self**. He is currently Associate Dean for Public Services at Western Washington University, Bellingham.

Dick Murphy will retire as Director of the Prince William Public Library System, Woodbridge, VA, effective June 30. He has served in the field for more than 27 years.

Christopher Reggio was named General

Manager for I-5 Publishing LLC's book division, I-5 Press. He previously headed TFH Publishing's Central Garden and Pet division.

Karen Williams was elected Vice President/President-Elect of the Association of College & Research Libraries. She is currently Associate Librarian for Research and Learning at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

The Seattle Public Library made two new hires: **Stephen Halsey**, former Managing Director at Strategic Edge Partners, is now Director of Marketing and Online Services, and **Ludwig Marz**, former HR Director for Human Capital Consultants, was named Director of Employee Relations.

The National Museum and Library Services Board appointed five new members: **Althemese Pemberton Barnes**, Executive Director, John G. Riley Museum, Tallahassee, FL; **Vishakha Desai**, Professor of Practice at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs, New York; **Tammie Kahn**, Executive Director of the Children's Museum of Houston; **George Kerscher**, Secretary General of the DAISY Consortium; and **Jacquelyn K. Sundstrand**, Associate Professor, University of Nevada, Reno, and the Manuscripts and Archives Librarian in the university libraries' Special Collections Department.

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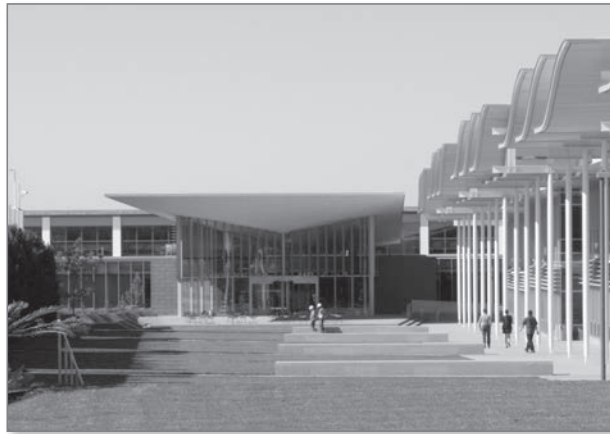
id worldwide, for instance, and Kevin Smith questioned why it is limited to OA publishers. However, in the case of OMICS at least, Beall's beef is substantiated by another authority: the U.S. government itself just last week went after the publisher for misusing the names of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the agency's employees in promotional material.

The *Chronicle of Higher Education* quoted Jonathan Bloom, a lawyer with Weil, Gotshal & Manges, New York, as saying that the effectiveness of the suit would differ depending on whether it was filed in the United States or India. If the suit was filed in a U.S. court, Beall would probably win if his statements were true. If it was filed in India, the outcome would be less clear, because India's Information Technology Act makes it illegal to use a computer to publish "any information that is grossly offensive or has menacing character," not just false information. However, according to the *Chronicle*, allegations of misuse prompted the Indian government to tighten the rules last November, so that such a complaint must first be approved by a police deputy commissioner or inspector general.

Settlement Expands UC Berkeley Library Access

Rarely are defendants in a dispute settled out of court enthusiastic about the remedies they're required to supply. But Elizabeth Dupuis, University of California (UC) Berkeley associate university librarian and director, Doe/Moffitt Libraries, told *Hotline* that the library is excited by the prospect of unprecedented access: "all the books that had been in print on our shelves and not in an electronic format—it basically makes that available, which [they] never had been before."

But then, this isn't exactly your standard adversarial legal case. Print-



Newport Beach, CA, welcomed the end to a mammoth, three-year construction effort in May, under construction manager C.W. Driver. The 117,000 square foot, \$110 million project (pictured) involved an 88,000 square foot office building, a 450-space parking facility, a new city hall, a 14-acre park, and a 17,000 square foot addition to the two-story, 54,000 square foot **Newport Beach Central Library**. The library build, which began in early 2011 and finished up in April 2013, was designed by architects Bohlin Cywinski Jackson. It involves a second entrance and a bridge that links the library to city hall and the park. The bridge also includes indoor and outdoor seating and a café. The addition features as well a media suite, a children's program space, expanded reading areas, individual study rooms with power, and Wi-Fi access throughout the building.

More news from Prince Georges County Memorial Library System (see *Library Hotline*, 5/20/13). Renovations to the 9,466 square foot **Hillcrest Heights Library**, Temple Hills, MD, were completed in early April following a design

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disabled Berkeley students David Jaulus, Brandon King, and Tabitha Mancini, represented by Disability Rights Advocates (DRA), had entered into structured negotiations—a collaborative problem-solving alternative to litigation—with the university over their inability to access materials.

effort led by Gant Brunnett Architects. The \$700,000 renovation includes Americans with Disabilities Act upgrades to the restroom and the entrance, the addition of a group study room, a wireless laptop section, a circus-themed children's area with interactive early literacy computers, and a state-of-the-art teen space, plus new windows, paint, and carpet. The library now provides patrons 61 public access computers.

Construction for the new **Central Library** of Austin Public Library, TX, is set to commence with a groundbreaking on May 30. The limestone and glass structure, encompassing 200,000 square feet over six stories, will feature an atrium, a street-level café, and a number of spaces for folks to gather, per the *Austin American-Statesman*. The library will replace the 34-year-old John Henry Faulk Central Library, which will become display space for the Austin History Center. The new library will be able to accommodate 530,000 items and will feature dedicated youth and teen sections. There will also be a rooftop garden, meeting rooms, an outdoor amphitheater, solar panels, a 350-seat event space, and underground parking for 200 vehicles. The \$120 million project is designed by Lake/Flato Architects and funded mostly through a 2006 bond measure, with the remainder from the city and the proceeds from the sale of a city-owned downtown property. It is expected to be completed in 2016.

Over the course of a year, the parties "engaged joint experts to evaluate existing policies and conditions and convened focus groups for print-disabled students to voice their concerns," arriving at a settlement announced last week, according to a fact sheet from the nonprofit legal center.

Student King said in a statement, "Having access to library materials for the first time in a format where I can enjoy the reading at a decent pace is priceless." Mancini, agreed: "It has al-

ways been a dream of mine to have full access to the campus library system so that I can do research, and I'm very happy this will now be a reality for all UC-Berkeley students."

The agreement covers two aspects of materials at Berkeley: assigned readings, which are handled by the disabled students office, and library holdings, which the library handles in-house. Previously, the library had no scanning service for its 11 million-volume print collection. Now, however, students can identify a topic and the books they want, prioritize the titles, and the library will do a page-by-page scan in an accessible format, posting the results to a site the student can access with screen-reading software and/or enlargement. The library aims for a five-day turnaround. (The library also now houses do-it-yourself scanners, but these, librarian Dupuis said, are more practical for students who need a small portion of a work than a whole book.)

Though the settlement was just inked, the library actually began testing the process last fall, as a pilot. According to Dupuis, the library scanned eight full-length books in fall 2012 and 28 during the spring semester 2013 and is now serving some 70 print-disabled students. The second phase of the project, piloting this semester, is for items in reference, reserve, or special collections.

The parties hired independent consultant Jim Thatcher to evaluate the library's website and catalog with accessibility in mind, identifying both issues under the library's own control and those that involve its third-party vendors, including OCLC and Innovative Interfaces. Thatcher concluded, "The issues...should be easy to fix."

Dupuis said the library's biggest challenge in implementing the program was working out procedures, training all the staff and student workers across its two dozen locations, and figuring out "how this will go into the systems" so people know it's not available [while it is being scanned], and keeping it linked to that user so they know when it's ready but then later purge that information."

News in Brief

Ten libraries received advocacy training as part of **United for Libraries'** Citizens-Save-Libraries program: **Clarkston Independence District Library**, MI; **Eisner Memorial Library**, Red Bank, NJ; **Friends of the Dallas Public Library**; **Friends of the Long Beach Public Library**, CA; **Gladstone Public Library**, OR; **Gilmanton Year-Round Library**, NH; **Josephine Community Libraries**, Grants Pass, OR; **Pomona Public Library**, CA; **Salem-South Lyon District Library**, MI; and **Winona Public Library**, MN.

The **Free Library of Philadelphia** launched "Check Us Out," an ad campaign that encourages Philadelphians to get a library card and raises general library awareness. The campaign was the first fully integrated pro bono effort by ADLOOP, an extension of the **American Association of Advertising Agencies**, and will serve as a template for future projects dedicated to helping viable local nonprofits.

Newspaper Direct, a newspaper and magazine content distributor, recently made its PressReader app available to library users. PressReader can be used with iOS, Android, Windows 8, BlackBerry Playbook, or BlackBerry 10 devices. Patrons at participating libraries will then be able to access content for free, without having to register or log in, while they're in the library building.

Frisco Public Library, TX, adopted **SirsiDynix's** eResource Central, an electronic management and delivery system. Patrons can search, check availability, and download e-content from the eight SirsiDynix provider partners: **OverDrive**, **Baker & Taylor**, **Recorded Books**, **3M**, **EBSCO Ebooks**, **Askews & Holt**, **Project Gutenberg**, and **Open Library**.

The **Federal Library and Information Network (FEDLINK)** honored the winners of its national awards for federal librarianship at the 2013 FEDLINK Spring Exposition on May 22. Recipients were chosen for innovation in fulfilling the information demands of government as well as the business and scholarly communities. The winners include Research Library, Board of Governors of the **Federal Reserve System**, in the Large Library/Information Center category; **RAF Alconbury Base Library**, 423rd Force Support Squadron, U.S. Air Force, Huntingdon, England, in the Small Library/Information Center category; **Joyce C. Greene**, George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, as 2012 Federal Librarian of the Year; and **Tiffany Hughey**, U.S. Army Garrison Kaiserslautern Library, Landstuhl, Germany, as 2012 Federal Library Technician of the Year.

Pierce County Library System, Tacoma, received a regional community leadership award from Region 111 of the Washington Association of School Administrators for its "Card in Every Hand" program, which issued a library card to every student in the Franklin Pierce School District.

Credo launched five new Subject and Publisher Collections: **CQ Press Collection**, **CRC Press Collection**, **Economics Collection**, **Philosophy Collection**, and **Leadership Collection**. Additionally, it updated seven of its existing collections, including **Focus Medica Health Animation Collection** and **Omnigraphics Health Reference Series**.

The **Knight Foundation** awarded the **Internet Archive** a two-year grant to expand its TV News Search and Borrow service. Through closed captioning, users will have access to search 400,000 news programs.

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