

## Report of the 21st Polar Libraries Colloquy

ROME, 8–12 MAY, 2006

Silvia Sarti and Michela Cecconi

*La luce della scienza cerco e 'l beneficio* is inscribed above the stage in Congress Hall at the National Research Council in Rome, where the 21st Polar Libraries Colloquy was held 8–12 May 2006.

This famous sentence is by Galileo Galilei, Italian scientist and philosopher of the seventeenth century. The literal translation is: "I am looking for the light of knowledge and its advantage," and we think that these are very appropriate words to describe the aim and purpose of meeting. At Colloquy, we had this chance — to know and to share different experiences, and to compare common problems in order to find common solutions.

Seventy-four attendees met at Colloquy, coming from 11 different countries: Australia, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, Norway, Russia, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States. The conference theme, *Building Polar Networks: A Strategy for the Future*, offered the perfect venue to discuss networks for sharing resources, international projects, gateways, library consortia, cooperation in document delivery, interlibrary loan, cataloguing, reference services, networks for polar publishing, and for sharing special materials and collections.

During the Colloquy week, 28 papers were presented. In the first day's session, we had speeches on the history of polar information and special collections. The following day, we heard the experience of the Cold Regions Research Engineering Laboratory Library, the report from the Cold Regions Bibliography Project, and the Italian experience of developing *SnowTerm*, a thesaurus on snow and ice. Another session that day was entirely dedicated to the International Polar Year information and data management.



Congress Hall, National Research Council, Rome.

The third day gave us collected papers on user services, and presentations focused on digital archives and scientific and academic publishing. During Colloquy's fourth day, we heard about local experiences of cooperation among libraries, while the last session was dedicated to the presentation of specialized gateways.

This Colloquy also marked many relevant firsts. We participated in the first University of the Arctic Librarians' Open Forum. The first awarding of the William Mills Book Prize for non-fiction polar books was granted to Mark Nuttall, for *Encyclopedia of the Arctic* (New York, Routledge, 2005). Pierre Beaudreau, from the Indian and Northern Affairs Canada Departmental Library, presented the new PLC website and the PLC weblog. On Friday, at the end of Colloquy, we had a film session, in which were projected old and precious movies preserved in the collections of the Danish Polar Center, the British Antarctic Survey, and the Australian Antarctic Division libraries. There has been important progress in considering libraries as repositories not only of books but also of different kinds of media.



Society, and the American Academy. The Roman experience concluded at the banquet in Villa Aurelia, a wonderful building of the seventeenth century situated on the Janiculum, Rome's highest hill, with an amazing view of the Eternal City.

The evening was wonderful. We have amazing memories of food and wine and of the amusing auction, ably conducted by David Walton, and which brought in 740,50 Euros for 84 items.

Putting Colloquy together was a very hard job for us, since we are librarians and not events promoters! At the end of this experience, we have two special thanks. First of all, we would like to thank very much all of the Italian Antarctic Programme staff, who supported us during this long and hard job in organizing all of the scientific and logistic details of Colloquy.

Our second thank-you goes to all of the participants. Everyone who attended made contributions and the result was a compilation of the cumulative ideas of the world's experts in polar information. Thank you everyone!



*View of Rome from Villa Aurelia. (Photo by Nancy Liston)*

## Need Assistance To Attend the 2008 PLC?

Consider applying for the Hubert Wenger Award, which commemorates Hubert's truly outstanding contributions to polar libraries. The award covers the full cost of registration for one or more delegates and is funded through the proceeds of the Circumpolar Auction held at each Colloquy. Donations to the award are always welcome. For application information, contact PLC secretary, Betty Galbraith, at [bettyg@wsu.edu](mailto:bettyg@wsu.edu).



*PLC attendees at the Library of the Italian Geographical Society. (Photo by Marcel Brannemann)*



*Casa Rustica, at the American Academy's Mercedes and Sid R. Bass Garden. (Photo by Nancy Liston)*

## And the Winners Were....

The recipients of the 2006 Wenger Award were Irina Merkina of the Polar Research Institute of Marine Fisheries and Oceanography in Murmansk, Russia; and Ruth Duerr and Allaina Howard, both of the National Snow and Ice Data Center, University of Colorado Boulder, USA.



*David Walton during the Auction at the Friday Banquet. (Photo by Nancy Liston)*



## Meeting Minutes

**21st Polar Libraries Colloquy**  
Business Meeting, Wednesday, May 10, 2006  
Rome, Italy

Chair, Vibeke Sloth Jakobsen  
42 members present

1. Minutes of the last meeting were published in the *PLC Bulletin*, following the last Colloquy in 2004. There were no changes or comments to the minutes, so they were approved.
2. Treasurer's Report, presented by Treasurer David Walton. The current balance of the account is 13,237.87£, which is equivalent to just more than \$20,000. The balance is high due to a number of reasons including:
  - a. Recent receipt of two-year subscriptions.
  - b. Only two bulletins have been produced, rather than the anticipated four, so mailing costs have been lower.
  - c. We are now keeping dual accounts, one in the US and one in the UK, which eliminates the bank fees for money transfer.
  - d. Silvia was able to raise money for the Colloquy locally and did not have to ask the PLC for funds.

**Summary:** Income items are dues, sales of *Proceedings* volumes, and the Wenger Auction. Expenditures are the Wenger Awards and the newly established William Mills Book Prize.

3. Change of the PLC's Organizational Status, presented by Treasurer David Walton. The PLC's organizational structure has always been informal, and the intent was never to have the PLC carry over any money. However, over time the balance in the account has grown, and we continue to move money between the UK and the US. Without any formal legal basis, this could be construed as money laundering and presents us with some real concern. David suggested that it is time for the PLC to become an official legal entity.

The possible choices are:

- a. The PLC could become part of an existing organization.
- b. We could register as a non-profit in a particular country.
- c. We could register as an educational charity.

After much discussion on the subject, it was moved that David pursue the possibility of obtaining educational charity status in the UK, seconded and passed by vote. After further discussion the above motion was amended to "explore the possibility of registration in the US also." Moved, seconded, all in favor with none opposed.

Also in the context of this discussion was the recognition that the PLC needs a "Plan."

4. Membership Status, presented by David Walton. The pros and cons of institutional vs. personal membership were discussed. The steering committee at present would like to avoid institutional memberships. However, some institutional memberships have already been collected for the current two-year term. It was decided that this would be an item for discussion at the next meeting in 2008, again in context of the goals of the PLC and the "Plan."

5. New PLC Website. Thanks to all who were involved with this redesign. It was noted that the directory is not current. The following individuals have agreed to collect information for their country:

- a. Judie Triplehorn – USA
- b. Andie Smithies – Australia and New Zealand
- c. Marcel Brannemann – Germany
- d. Heather Lane – UK

Judie will contact other countries for volunteers. It was also suggested that webpage editors should be ex-officio members of the steering committee. Currently, our editors are Julia Finn and Liisa Kurppa.



**6.** *PLC Bulletin* is currently edited by Cathie Innes-Taylor and Nancy Lesh. Both are looking to step down from this job. It was decided by the group that now would be a good time to change to a digital format for the *Bulletin*. Juli Braund-Allen and Daria O. Carle have volunteered to take this over.

**7.** William Mills Book Prize Committee. Liz Dennett will continue as chair. Heather Lane would like to continue, Dennis Stephens would like to join, Betty Galbraith would like to continue, and Judy Triplehorn would also like to continue. The group agreed to raise the amount of the prize from \$100 to \$300.

**8.** University of the Arctic Membership. Vibeke is at present member of the UArctic Council in her capacity as chair of the PLC, while Sandy Campbell is the PLC representative at the UArctic Council meetings. Sandy will continue as our representative, whereas the alternate should be found amongst the members working in UArctic libraries. The new steering committee will select the alternate. It was agreed that the PLC will fund our representatives to attend the U of the Arctic meetings, if the person's own institution is unable to do so.

**9.** PLC Archives are housed at the U of Alaska Fairbanks. Susan Grigg will take responsibility for this. Hosts of previous Colloquies are encouraged to forward materials to Susan.

**10.** 21st PLC in Rome. Official numbers are 53 attending. Congratulations to Silvia and her staff for a job well done. Vibeke encouraged the group to make others aware of our organization and encourage membership. Dennis read the following resolution:

- a. Whereas organizing and hosting a PLC requires enormous energy, resources, and dedication by the host organization and staff over at least two full years of preparation;
- b. And, whereas attendees of this 21st PLC take away a wealth of inspiration, innovation, and human contacts, all especially critical at this time of increased research into polar matters;
- c. Now therefore be it resolved that we, the attendees of the 21st PLC in Rome, 8–12 May 2006, extend by acclamation our thanks to Silvia Sarti, Michela Cecconi, Andrea Marchitelli, and the PNRA for wonderfully fulfilling the PLC traditions of warm hospitality and thorough-going competence. Well done!

**11.** Other Business. Dennis requested that anyone currently present who was also present at PLC in 1986 should see him over the next few days.

**12.** 22nd PLC. Sandy Campbell presented an invitation and video for the 22nd PLC to be hosted by the University of Alberta, Edmonton, June 2–8, 2008.

**13.** Election of the new PLC Steering Committee.

- a. Judie Triplehorn will take over as chair.
- b. Betty Galbraith and David Walton continue as co-treasurers.
- c. Marcel Brannemann will continue.
- d. New members are Andie Smithies (Australia), Heather Lane (UK), and Laura Kissel (USA). Heather Lane is the chair-elect.
- e. Sandy Campbell, as organizing host for the 22nd PLC, is ex-officio.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Laura Kissel,  
Byrd Polar Research Center Archival Program,  
Columbus, Ohio, USA. May 18, 2006



*Cartography area, National Library, Rome.*



## Donations & Awards to SPRI

Heather Lane, MCLIP Librarian & Acting Keeper of Collections, Scott Polar Research Institute, writes:

SPRI has been awarded a £422,000 grant by the UK Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC) for the digitization of its collection of historic polar negatives. Under this initiative, around 20,000 rare and fragile negatives, including glass plates and early color images, will be captured and made publicly available via the project website. Full details of the Discovering the Poles project can be found at [http://www.jisc.ac.uk/whatwedo/programmes/programme\\_digitisation/polar.aspx](http://www.jisc.ac.uk/whatwedo/programmes/programme_digitisation/polar.aspx).

The grant includes funding for a fulltime Education Officer in the second year of the project, to assist in developing online learning packages on polar themes, and in using digital images from archival and copyright-free sources to provide context for groups of images covering the history of polar exploration and science from 1845–1960.

With the aid of generous funding from the Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation, SPRI is also undertaking a scoping study to assess the extent of data cleanup required in advance of migration from its existing

Muscat software to a new Library Management System. In brief, this study will examine and compile project documentation for:

- Development of Muscat to MARC21 field mapping to minimize human editorial intervention at the point of transfer to the new system
- Evaluation of software (including shareware) suitable for web delivery within the SPRI site
- Data editing
- Liaison with the University Library's IT Department to develop protocols for analytical records and to schedule migration procedures
- Management of the migration process and quality control
- Creation of a new web interface for the SPRI LIB catalogue

The project is envisaged to last for two years, starting spring 2007.

Feedback from any PLC members who have recently adopted a new system would be very gratefully received.



## SCAR Awards First Medals

Under a newly instituted program for recognizing exceptional service and achievement, the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research awarded one of three SCAR medals to David Walton on July 12, 2006, during its Open Science Conference in Hobart, Tasmania. David was honored with the SCAR Medal for International Scientific Coordination. Warmest congratulations to David!

## 2008 Polar Libraries Colloquy

Mark your calendars and make plans to head to Canada for the 22nd Polar Libraries Colloquy, which will be held June 2–6, 2008.

Jointly hosted by the Canadian Circumpolar Institute and the University of Alberta Libraries in Edmonton, Alberta, the 2008 Colloquy will also coincide with the 2008 meeting of the University of the Arctic Council. *Currents of Change—The Future of Polar Information*

is the theme of the upcoming Colloquy, and contributors are invited to submit abstracts of no more than 500 words for poster and presentation proposals by October 30, 2007. Registration for the conference will begin this fall.

More information is available at the PLC 2008 conference website at <http://www.library.ualberta.ca/ocs/index.php?cf=1>



## PLC 2006 Attendees Chime In

**Allaina M. Howard**, National Snow and Ice Data Center,  
University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, USA

Filled with firsts! My first trip to Rome. (I took about 1,000 photos!) My first PLC. My first professional presentation. It was quite a wonderful way to be initiated into the Polar Libraries community. I met some wonderful folks whom I'd only previously met via email. Great to be able to put faces with names! What wonderful food every day for lunch! Besides my nervousness at presenting, the food sticks out in my memory as well. I am glad to be a part of the PLC!

Thanks,  
Allaina

\*\*\*\*\*

**Berit Jakobsen**, University Centre in Svalbard (UNIS),  
Longyearbyen, Norway

As always, it was ever so nice meeting old and new members of PLC and to learn more about the world of polar resources.

The conference went very well, and I really enjoyed the many interesting talks. Many ideas presented during the Colloquy are put into action by now—for instance, it's very nice to see that the IPY publication database is up and running by now—and waiting for our professional input.

Silvia and Michela and their colleagues had the PLC program all under control, and their great hospitality and friendly support warmed the hearts of everyone from higher to lower latitudes.

This was my first visit to Rome, and the old city did impress me! To a naïve northerner, the security level was also quite impressive. Not to mention the traffic jam in Rome—I found it somehow exotic compared to the unbusy roads in Longyearbyen.

The very best greetings from the high latitudes,  
Berit

P.S. The only thing I was not relaxed about was the temperatures. I would have preferred a fridge-like temperature—I never really cope well in the warmer climates.

P.P.S. At present I'm enjoying the temperature of about minus 10 degrees C in Longyearbyen on the 21st of March—when day and night have the same length.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Nancy C. Liston**, Chief, Information & Knowledge Sciences  
Branch, Information Technology Laboratory, Hanover, NH,  
USA

As one of the now “senior” librarians of the PLC, having attended my first PLC in Paris in 1978, I found it interesting to reflect on the venues we have had and especially the banquet sites. I have traveled the world but never felt as elegant as our Rome PLC banquet. Our visit to the American Academy in Rome and the traditional banquet and Wenger Auction in the beautiful Villa Aurelia (which is situated high on Janiculum Hill and afforded one of the most spectacular views of the city of Rome)—I would have brought something more elegant to wear had I had any idea! Everyone always works so hard and I appreciate each Colloquy for the local culture that it brings to the program.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Andie Smithies**, Australian Antarctic Division, Tasmania,  
Australia

PLC in Rome was a very special experience for me. Not only was it the first full PLC I've attended, but it was by far the most relevant meeting I've participated in since becoming a polar librarian. Networking opportunities were ever-present and I felt privileged to be the only attendee from the Southern Hemisphere. Add to this some fascinating site visits, a great night out at the dinner, and the wonderful surroundings of Rome, and we had the recipe for a fabulous conference. Well done Silvia, Michela, and colleagues!

Cheers,  
Andie Smithies

\*\*\*\*\*

**Daria O. Carle**, UAA / APU Consortium Library, University of  
Alaska Anchorage, Anchorage, AK, USA

My impressions of the PLC conference in Rome? How about a fascinating and bustling city overflowing with history; an interesting and well-organized conference, with lots of ideas to take home; networking opportunities and good conversations with colleagues old and new; stimulating field trips to the Italian Geographical Society and the National Library; and tasty food in beautiful locales like the American Academy garden and the Villa Aurelia—what more could one ask? All in all, a wonderful and memorable experience. Very special thanks to Silvia and Michela and the staff at the PNRA for their gracious hospitality.



## From the Chair

Dear Polar Library Friends,

Welcome to the first electronic issue of the *Polar Libraries Bulletin*.

This issue will review many of the activities of the 21st Polar Libraries Colloquy. Held May 8–12, 2006, in Rome, its topic was *Building Polar Networks* and Silvia Sarti and Michela Cecconi, co-chairs for the meeting, did an outstanding job organizing it. The local arrangements were great, with the hotels and meetings at the National Research Council within easy walking distance. And there was a marvelous selection of food.... Silvia and Michela get gold stars for a great conference.

The Colloquy papers will be available in the proceedings so I will not discuss them here. There were lots of opportunities for networking among the participants, which I feel is an important aspect of the Colloquy. The fieldtrips to the National Library, the American Academy in Rome, and the Italian Geographical Society were a special treat. A new feature at this conference was a polar film session, which was well received and will probably be added to future meetings. It was a memorable conference.

Circle your calendars for the 22nd Polar Libraries Colloquy to be held in Edmonton, Canada, June 2–6, 2008, in conjunction with the University of the Arctic Council meeting. The Colloquy will be hosted jointly by the Canadian Circumpolar Institute and the University of Alberta Libraries. Planning is already advancing smoothly thanks to chair Sandy Campbell. For details check out the website at <http://www.library.ualberta.ca/ocs/index.php?cf=1>.

The International Polar Year 2007–2008 is here. Officially it started in March 2007. What is your library doing for IPY? Here at the Mather Library at the Geophysical Institute at the University of Alaska Fairbanks we have listed all of the IPY and IGY publications in the collection and put them on our website. Please send me a brief description of the IPY activities in your libraries, and I will compile the information and post it to the PLC website.



*Polar Libraries Colloquy  
- Rome*

Our membership needs to be a major focus this year, since numerous individuals have retired. Be alert for new librarians in your country who might be potential members. Please send me an email if you would like to work on a membership committee.

I look forward to receiving information on your library's IPY projects, as well as contact information you might have for prospective members.

Julia Triplehorn, chair, PLC Steering Committee  
Email: [gilibrary@gi.alaska.edu](mailto:gilibrary@gi.alaska.edu)

## Announcing NICOP

The 9th International Conference on Permafrost (NICOP) will be held June 29–July 3, 2008, at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, and will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the founding of the International Permafrost Association (IPA). As NICOP's website at [www.nicop.org](http://www.nicop.org) notes, 2008 is the 50th anniversary of the International Geophysical Year, the 125th anniversary of the first International Polar Year, and also honors The International Year of Planet Earth.

Jerry Brown, chair of the U.S. Planning Group for NICOP and president of IPA, is interested in knowing whether PLC would like to participate as a co-sponsor of the conference. He adds that there is room on the agenda for presentations from Colloquy members. For further information, contact him at [jerrybrown@igc.org](mailto:jerrybrown@igc.org).



## Legal Status of the Polar Libraries Colloquy

Many of you will realise that the Colloquy has been active for many years, going about its business in an informal and relaxed way that we have all seen as a key element of its success. In the process of development we have changed the name from Northern Libraries Colloquy to Polar Libraries Colloquy and have acquired both a Constitution and a set of Bylaws (thanks to Phil Crononwett) in 1994. Why then would we need to make any more changes?

Everyone must have noticed the paranoia over terrorism, fraud, money laundering, and identity theft that afflicts all our governments at present. One result of this has been changes in the banking rules in the UK and elsewhere that make it more difficult to set up accounts, especially ones dealing with currency transfers. The good news for us is that we already have established sterling and



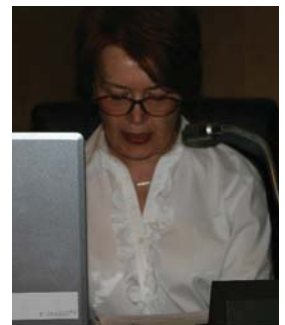
dollar accounts. A second change here has been an increased interest from the Inland Revenue in tax avoidance. These changes seem to have coincided with my handling all the money in the Colloquy accounts. As I explained at the last meeting, I have become concerned that we (and especially me!) are open to investigation by the authorities as we have no legal standing in any country, no audited accounts, and an ever-increasing bank balance made up from many international money transfers.

What do I mean by this lack of legal status? For any group of people with a specific common interest who pay for some services and have accounts that pay interest it is wise to register the association in some way to avoid possible prosecution for tax avoidance or, in our case, money laundering! In the UK the normal process would be to register as a company,

a charity, or both. That way you are put into the governance framework and should be able to avoid unjustified accusations. It was agreed at the 2006 PLC in Rome that I would investigate what we should do with lawyers in the UK, as that is currently where all of our funds are deposited.

Discussions with lawyers have so far provided few surprises. They confirm that, at present, I could be asked to pay tax (including back tax) on the interest we earn from the bank deposits, and I could be required to justify all subscription payments. As the only signatory on the accounts they confirm that I am personally liable! I was asked to whom the existing funds would be paid if the Colloquy ceased to be—and other leading questions like that!

They consider that our best course is to register as a company limited by guarantee and then to register the company as an educational charity with the Charity Commissioners. This has two benefits—the company registration can be drawn so as to limit liability to a nominal sum if anything goes wrong for the Colloquy whilst the charitable registration will allow us to avoid paying tax. The downside of all this is the cost of the legal fees (probably around £3000) and the need to file



Photos by  
Marcel Brannemann





accounts each year (which will be a further drain on finances). In addition, at present charities that do not have a regular income in excess of £1000 cannot be registered. With our new subscription levels we just about qualify but only by counting in the funds raised by the auction.

To move down this path we will need to satisfy the Charity Commissioners that we really do have educational objectives.

I believe that we can do so using the *Bulletin*, the website, the Wenger and William Mills awards, and the meetings themselves as well as our present efforts with the University of the Arctic. We may in

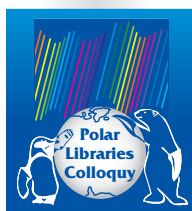
due course need to do more. In addition the Steering Committee will become a Board of Directors, and I will need to find an accountant, etc. This all seems terribly bureaucratic and formal, quite at odds with the way we have managed for many years. I am still in discussions to see if we can find another cheaper but equally effective way but have to admit that I am not hopeful given the present political climate.

Times change and we must adapt to them. More on this when the Steering Committee has come to a decision.

David Walton  
PLC Assistant Treasurer



2006



C o l l o q u y



Photos by Marcel Brannemann



## PLC Steering Committee, 2006

### Judie Triplehorn

Chair  
Keith B. Mather Library  
Geophysical Institute / International Arctic  
Research Center  
University of Alaska Fairbanks  
Fairbanks, AK, USA  
[gilibrary@gi.alaska.edu](mailto:gilibrary@gi.alaska.edu)

### Heather Lane

Chair-Elect  
Scott Polar Research Institute  
University of Cambridge  
Cambridge, UK  
[librarian@spri.cam.ac.uk](mailto:librarian@spri.cam.ac.uk)

### Betty Galbraith

Secretary-Treasurer  
Owen Science and Engineering Library  
Washington State University  
Pullman, WA, USA  
[bettyg@wsu.edu](mailto:bettyg@wsu.edu)

### David Walton

Assistant Treasurer  
British Antarctic Survey  
Cambridge, UK  
[d.walton@bas.ac.uk](mailto:d.walton@bas.ac.uk)

### Members at Large

#### Marcel Brannemann

Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine  
Research  
Bremerhaven, Germany  
[mbrannemann@awi-bremerhaven.de](mailto:mbrannemann@awi-bremerhaven.de)

#### Andie Smithies

Australian Antarctic Division  
Kingston, Australia  
[andie.smithies@aad.gov.au](mailto:andie.smithies@aad.gov.au)

### Laura Kissel

Byrd Polar Research Center Archival Program  
Ohio State University  
Columbus, OH, USA  
[kissel.4@osu.edu](mailto:kissel.4@osu.edu)

### Ex-Officio members

#### Juli Braund-Allen

Bulletin Editor (Senior Editor)  
UAA / APU Consortium Library / ARLIS  
University of Alaska Anchorage  
Anchorage, AK, USA  
[anjb1@uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:anjb1@uaa.alaska.edu)

#### Daria O. Carle

Bulletin Editor  
UAA / APU Consortium Library  
University of Alaska Anchorage  
Anchorage, AK, USA  
[afdoc@uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:afdoc@uaa.alaska.edu)

#### Julia Finn

PLC Webmaster  
Departmental Library  
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada  
Hull, Quebec, Canada  
[finnj@ainc-inac.gc.ca](mailto:finnj@ainc-inac.gc.ca)

#### Sandy Campbell

Coordinator, 2008 Colloquy  
Science and Technology Library  
University of Alberta  
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada  
[sandy.campbell@ualberta.ca](mailto:sandy.campbell@ualberta.ca)

### *Thanks to our outgoing editors, Cathie and Nancy!*

We would like to express our sincere thanks to Cathie Innes-Taylor and Nancy Lesh for so capably shepherding the editorship of the *Bulletin* since 2000. A big thank-you also goes to Loretta Andress for assisting Cathie and Nancy with layout and production. As incoming editors, we are quickly learning that editing this publication is no small undertaking. On behalf of all Colloquy members, thank you for your great work on the *Bulletin* and for your commitment to PLC.



## Bulletin Back in Action

Dear Colleagues,

I'm pleased to let you know that Daria Carle and I became the new editors of the *Polar Libraries Bulletin* just this past year, and we're delighted to be serving you in this capacity. As you know, it has been a little while since an issue has been published (the last was no. 57, summer 2005). Thank you so much for bearing with us during this transition.

We plan to continue to publish the *Bulletin* twice yearly, with a fall and spring issue. This issue, spring 2007, focuses on reports and photos of the 2006 Colloquy in Rome, as well as on updates and announcements. The fall 2007 issue will center on the International Polar Year.

The *Bulletin* will be sent out electronically beginning with this issue. I anticipate it may take some effort to make sure this process works smoothly for everyone. Your editors have the mailing list though, so we're off to a good start! We will continue to mail a paper copy to those of you unable to receive email delivery.

Please let us know if you have any suggestions for or

concerns about the *Bulletin*, perhaps some ideas for improvement, items you'd like to see appear regularly, or topics, libraries, resources, or people you'd like to see featured. If you'd be interested in becoming a guest columnist or contributor we'd like to hear that too! We also would like to know your thoughts on the role of the *Bulletin*, especially now since the PLC Weblog is active.

Please send ideas, articles, photographs, informational items, and whatever else you might like to contribute to me, Juli Braund-Allen, at [anjb1@uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:anjb1@uaa.alaska.edu) or to Daria Carle at [afdoc@uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:afdoc@uaa.alaska.edu). Thanks again, and we look forward to hearing from you.

— Juli and Daria



Villa Aurelia, Rome. (Photo by Nancy Liston)



**Polar Libraries Bulletin**  
**Spring 2007**  
**Issue 58**

Formerly entitled *Northern Libraries Bulletin*, this *Bulletin* reflects the name change of the Northern Libraries Colloquy to the Polar Libraries Colloquy, as approved at the June 1988 biennial meeting.

The *Bulletin* is published twice yearly in the Fall and Spring. Members of the Polar Libraries Colloquy receive the *Bulletin* as part of their membership. Personal dues are £20 or US \$35 for a two-year period. Institutional dues are the same. Please send dues to David Walton, Emeritus Fellow, Environment and Information Division, British Antarctic Survey, High Cross, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0ET, United Kingdom.

Editors: Juli Braund-Allen and Daria O. Carle

Please send submissions to Juli ([anjb1@uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:anjb1@uaa.alaska.edu), phone 907-786-7666) or to Daria ([afdoc@uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:afdoc@uaa.alaska.edu), phone 907-786-1869), both c/o UAA / APU Consortium Library, University of Alaska Anchorage, 3211 Providence Drive, Anchorage, AK 99508.

PLC Homepage: <http://arcticcentre.ulapland.fi/polarweb/plc/default.asp>

PLC Weblog: <http://www.plcblog.blogspot.com/>

Polar Web: <http://arcticcentre.ulapland.fi/polarweb/>



University of Alaska Anchorage  
3211 Providence Drive, Anchorage, AK 99508