Another major achievement was the American Sociological Association’s endorsement of the Draft Information Literacy Standards for Anthropology and Sociology Students. This would not have been possible without the support of Carla Howery and Ed Kain of the ASA and the hard work of the Standards Project Group of ANSS Instruction and Information Literacy Committee (Patti Caravello, Triveni Kuchi and Susan Macicak). Patti will be representing the committee at the American Anthropological Association (AAA) meeting in November where she hopes to lay the groundwork for similar success. With funding from the ACRL Action Plan, three teaching faculty (Drs. Kathy Carlin, Carla Howery and Ed Kain) joined us in New Orleans to work on the draft standards. The librarian-teaching faculty collaboration that has developed around this project has already contributed to a richer understanding of our respective contributions to research and education that extends well beyond the standards.

And that’s just the tip of the iceberg! For more details on the activities of your ANSS colleagues, see the discussion group and committee reports in this newsletter. Hopefully, reading these reports will inspire you to join in and contribute to the section’s activities. If you are interested in serving on a committee or leading a discussion group, please see volunteer form at end of the newsletter. I also encourage you to subscribe to our listserv, ANSS-L, if you haven’t already done so (see http://www.lib.odu.edu/anss/anss-l.html).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ANSS Instruction and Information Literacy
Committee Susan Macicak & Triveni Kuchi, Chairs

The ANSS Instruction and Information Literacy Committee’s Standards task group gained endorsement by the American Sociological Association in August of its draft Information Literacy Standards for Anthropology and Sociology Students. Teaching faculty continue to offer suggestions and revisions and the standards will remain posted under News and Announcements on
the ASA website <http://www.asanet.org/> until the September 30, 2006 deadline. The group expects to have completed a revision of the document prior to Midwinter 2007.

Patti Caravello will be attending the AAA Annual Meeting in November to discuss the draft standards. Committee co-chairs Susan Macicak and Triveni Kuchi have contacted a number of committee and section presidents in order to gain entree at AAA and they have widely distributed the draft to anthropology, archaeology, and sociology groups. Anthropologist input is still being solicited, as is endorsement from the AAA.

If you as an ANSS member or any of your faculty would like to read and comment on the draft, please go to http://www2.lib.udel.edu/subj/soc/anssiilstandardsdraft.doc and send comments by email to Susan Macicak macicak@mail.utexas.edu or Triveni Kuchi kuchi@rci.rutgers.edu.

The following additional projects are currently being planned and task groups assembled: 1) Provide access to instruction materials in support of practical application of the information literacy standards; Develop and deliver a workshop at ASA, 2007, on understanding and applying the standards; and Explore possible topics to propose to the ANSS discussion group conveners for Midwinter, and discuss the possibilities of developing a 2008 Annual program.

Bibliography Committee
Randy Hertzler, Chair

The main agenda item was a thorough critical read-through of the final draft of Rui Wang’s review of GenderWatch. The finalized review will appear in this edition of ANSS Currents. Bonnie Ryan is preparing the next review of Alt-Press Watch.

There was continuing discussion on alternate methods of editing, alternate outlets for publication and the application of the “Guidelines for Analyzing Bibliographic Resources for ANSS Currents.”

Conference Program Planning Committee 2006
Terry Epperson, Chair

The ANSS 2006 program “Drug Foods, Fast Foods, and Feasts: The Social Science of Eating” featured a panel of four speakers who addressed the topic of food from diverse historical, sociological, and public health perspectives. After a meet-and-greet continental breakfast provided by our friends at CSA, the program chair introduced the four speakers:

Wendy Woloson, curator of printed books at Library Company of Philadelphia and author of Refined Tastes: Sugar, Confectionery, and Consumers in Nineteenth-Century America, examined the changing cultural conceptions of sugar during the 19th century.

Susan Tucker, Curator of Books and Records at the Newcomb Archives and Vohriff Library at Tulane University and author of Telling Memories Among Southern Women, discussed the value of the Newcomb collection for research in culinary culture and history. She also presented video clips from the ongoing New Orleans culinary oral history project.

Gerald Patout, Jr., Head Librarian at the Williams Research Center /Historic New Orleans Collection, used rare books from the collection to discuss his ongoing research in culinary history, including a forthcoming bibliography of New Orleans cookbooks.

The final speaker was Jason Block, MD, MPH, a physician at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston, MA, who discussed public health issues arising from obesity and excessive sugar consumption. Dr. Block highlighted his own research about the spatial correlations between obesity, fast-food restaurants, and poverty in New Orleans.

The program website can be found at: http://www.lib.msu.edu/nicho147/staff/ANSS/ANSS_2006_Program.html

Conference Program Planning Committee 2007
Liz Cooper, Chair

The theme for the 2007 ANSS program at the ALA Annual Meeting in Washington DC is "Native Americans in the Nation’s Capital: Representation, Repatriation, and Resilience". As the program will take place near the Smithsonian Institution’s new National Museum of the American Indian, the ANSS program addresses the conservation, exhibition, representation, and repatriation of Native American objects, documents and languages, with a focus on the cultural institutions in the nation’s capital. It will be led by an interdisciplinary panel of scholars, curators, archivists and librarians and will explore issues surrounding the preservation and revitalization of Native American heritage, cultures and languages. In conjunction with the program, ANSS will also be sponsoring a tour of the new National Museum of the American Indian the afternoon of Monday, June 25.
Liaison Committee
Lisa Yuro, Chair

The main agenda item was the discussion of the article, “Stranger in a Promising Land: An ACRL Liaison at Work,” by Larry Hardesty, C&RL News, June 2006, Vol. 67, No. 6. The discussion of this article led to suggestions from committee members for upcoming liaison activities including: 1) Polling organizations who receive Currents for their format preference, i.e. PDF, paper or not at all; 2) Continuing to post a calendar of upcoming “professional meetings of interest” on ANSS-L; 3) Requesting ANSS members to report via ANSS-L on meetings they attend of other professional organizations, focusing on opportunities for collaboration; and 4) Contacting the chairs of other ACRL Liaison Committees (DLS, RBMS and ULS) to gather information about their liaison activities.

Membership Committee
Susan Bennett White and Elizabeth Cooper, Chairs

The ANSS Social at ALA Annual Conference was held Philip Chan’s Asian Cajun Bistro and drew 20 members. We are working on finding an interesting local restaurant for Seattle. We also will see that the ANSS Social is included in the Conference Program Book as are the Socials of other sections. At the Membership Committee meeting, we decided to ask for brief testimonials to include in the new ANSS Brochure and on the ANSS web. Liz Cooper will publicize the Buddy System for the Seattle Conference. We plan to send out reminders to the Discussion Group Conveners and to Program Chairs, to have them circulate sign-in sheets at their events, which come back to Membership for follow-up to invite non-members to join. We continue to work on ways to ask those ANSS members who are not now on our section listserv, ANSS-L, if they would like to subscribe, and we send letters to new members. We reconsidered the practice--used by other ACRL sections--of sending letters to dropped members as well. Adam Burling is our new staff contact in the ACRL office.

Publications Committee
JoAnn Jacoby, Chair

The Committee welcomes Stephen Fowlkes and David Tyler as a new members and Erin Daix as incoming chair. Thanks to Thomas Mann for his service as ANSS Currents co-editor over the last two years, and best wishes for a happy retirement. Stephen Fowlkes and Susan Metcalf have agreed to serve as the new co-editors.

With much gratitude to Old Dominion University for hosting ANSSWeb, the co-editors have recommended moving to the ALA system.

Our new brochure will be ready for production by the ACRL Conference. Thanks to everyone who submitted quotes and testimonials for use in the brochure and ANSSWeb. We are also looking for photos and images that are evocative of anthropology, sociology and related subjects. Please send suggestions to Erin (daix@udel.edu) or JoAnn jacoby@uiuc.edu.

Review and Planning Committee
Wade Kotter, Chair

The Committee began a review of the ANSS committee structure in comparison to the structure of other ACRL sections. Several preliminary ideas were discussed but no substantive recommendations were developed. This review will continue and ANSS members are invited to provide input on this matter to Shawn Nicholson, chair for 2006-2007. The committee also reviewed the ANSS Manual and recommended a few minor changes to the Liaison Committee charge; these recommendations were approved by the Executive Committee at its second meeting in New Orleans. The committee also noted that there is no checklist in the ANSS Manual for members-at-large and recommends that one be developed.

Subject and Bibliographic Access Committee
Isabel del Carmen Quintana, Chair

The committee met in New Orleans and came up with a list of questions to develop and present in future ANSS-L postings. Some postings will deal with the Library of Congress decision to not use uniform titles for series anymore, and how that will affect access to monographs in series; and to its decision to investigate the use of Library of Congress Subject Headings with a goal towards removing long subject heading strings. The committee also discussed other ways of helping the anthropology/sociology librarians’ community by informing them of current issues in cataloging. It was decided that it might be helpful to have an additional monthly posting to ANSS-L of the new subject headings available in the fields of anthropology/sociology. We would take the subject headings from the weekly list of new subject terms available in LCSH. We will begin these new postings in the summer of 2006 and see what the response is from the community.
DISCUSSION GROUP REPORTS

Anthropology Librarians Discussion Group
Eliz Breakstone, Convener

Myra Appel, co-convener of the AAA Scholarly Communications Interest Group and head of the UC-Davis Library's Humanities and Social Sciences Department, led a discussion about issues of scholarly communication within Anthropology. This conversation focused on basics of copyright, why Anthropologists should care about copyright and what we, as librarians, can and should do in terms of outreach and education on this issue. Because this conversation easily ran over time, we’ve decided to continue it at Midwinter. The AAA Scholarly Communication Interest Group is offering a workshop at AAA conference this fall for faculty. Myra will report back on the workshop and we’ll talk about specific outreach strategies. Even though Midwinter’s discussion is a result of Annual’s, it’s not necessary to have attended Annual in order to get something out of the Midwinter talk.

Criminal Justice/Criminology Librarians Discussion Group
David Bickford, Convener

Convener David Bickford and guest facilitator Sally Wilson Weimer led a discussion focused on the needs of beginning librarians in this subject specialty. Weimer provided several handouts listing appropriate resources for librarians without prior experience in this field. The discussion then turned to various topics suggested by participants and then concluded with an exploration of possible topics for the Midwinter discussion in Seattle.

Sociology Librarians Discussion Group
Judy Carol Bell

There was a wide-ranging discussion on the following topics: Effective Liaison Endeavors, Library Staffing and Bureaucracy Issues, Collection Development/Liaison, Institutional Assessment as a Motivator, Statistics and Survey Instruments: Teaching and Searching, Teaching Methods and Impacts on students. The discussants offered tips, tricks and advice. Connect with faculty and offer services and expertise. Know the tools.

At the conclusion of the session, future co-conveners were named. They are J. Christine (Chris) Smith of Boston University and Judy Carol (Carol) Bell of Louisiana State University. Possible topics for midwinter: core software (IM, podcasting); how to learn datasets; qualitative research; building connections with department and faculty and with the invisible college; collection development education; conference proceedings and occasional papers.

NEWS

Announcement from Membership Committee:
Social Provides Great Chances to Network

The ANSS Social, held on Friday night before the opening of both Midwinter and Annual Conference of ALA, gives ANSS current and prospective members an opportunity to catch up with colleagues from across the country. It is held in an interesting local restaurant, chosen for a convivial atmosphere, good food and drink, and a comfortable space for everyone to sit and talk – where we can even be heard.

We are planning for the ANSS Social in Seattle at the upcoming midwinter meeting. Details will be announced on the ANSS-L, and all are welcome to come and join us there. By the way – if you have a favorite place in Seattle to suggest, please let me know.

American Sociological Association Annual Meeting à Montréal
Adrian K. Ho, University of Houston Libraries

(PHOTO OF PALAIS DES CONGRÈS DE MONTRÉAL)

I attended the American Sociological Association (ASA) 101th Annual Meeting in Montreal in August. Thanks to the variety of topics covered and the vibrant city life of Montreal, I enjoyed my first Sociology conference.

With the theme being “Great Divides: Transgressing Boundaries,” the Annual Meeting was an occasion for the attendees to “consider the complex processes and institutional underpinnings that create boundaries—for good, for ill, and perhaps for no purpose at all” (Meeting’s final program, p. 1). There were three plenary sessions in which noted speakers
addressed human rights, sex segregation, as well as gender and race issues. Dozens of thematic and special sessions were organized to examine specific topics. In addition, ASA partnered with its Canadian counterparts to develop Canada/Quebec-focused “Regional Spotlight” sessions. Teeming with presentation sessions, discussion roundtables, poster sessions, seminars, workshops, and film/video screenings, the Annual Meeting kept the attendees intellectually engaged for four days.

The sessions I attended reinforced my perception that sociological studies were often cross-disciplinary. For example, in a session about identity in the digital age, the presenters’ research interests spanned Sociology, New Media Studies, Psychology, and Library Science. I think this characteristic of sociological research presents a challenge to collection development on the one hand, but also opens up possible collaborative opportunities among subject librarians on the other.

Presenters sometimes enriched their presentations by showing research data that were in the format of graphics or video clips. In fact, it seemed that the utilization of multimedia materials for data collection had become rather common (especially among faculty who pursued qualitative research methods). As the academic library community increasingly discusses the significance of institutional repositories and the open access to datasets and research outcomes, we can contemplate how to approach and convince those researchers to deposit their datasets and analyses in institutional repositories for the purposes of preservation and timely scholarly communication. That will not only result in enhanced accessibility of the researchers’ works, but also highlight the role of libraries in the advancement of scholarship.

Two ANSS members, Sally Weimer and Pauline Manaka, were among the presenters in a workshop about student plagiarism. They pointed out the importance of information literacy, shared strategies to prevent plagiarism, and distributed a bibliography of relevant articles. They also directed the attendees’ attention to a citation management product embedded in a Sociology database.

The exhibits offered major vendors of databases and book, plus a few research organizations. Here are some showcased Internet resources:

- National Longitudinal Surveys: http://www.bls.gov/nls/
- Social Explorer: http://www.socialeplorer.com/

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REVIEW

GenderWatch

Reviewed by Rui Wang, Central Michigan University, wang1r@cmich.edu, reviewed January 2006 and submitted September 2006.

Publisher: ProQuest Information & Learning, 200 N Zeeb Rd., P.O.Box 1346, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-1346
Tel: 800-521-0600. Fax: 800-864-0019.
EMAIL: info@proquest.com WEB: http://www.il.proquest.com/products/pt-product-genderwatch.shtml

Pricing is based on FTE; contact ProQuest.

Introduction

GenderWatch (GW) was originally launched in the summer of 1996 as a CD-ROM product called Women R’. SoftLine, an information technology company, was prompted to create Women R’ at the suggestion of the Collection Development Committee of the ACRL’s Women’s Studies Section. In the summer of 1998 the name Women R’ was changed to GenderWatch to expand the scope, coverage and appeal of the database by having the name fall in line with that of SoftLine’s other products, Ethnic NewsWatch, Alt-HealthWatch, and now Alt-PressWatch. After ProQuest acquired SoftLine in 2001, GW became ProQuest’s product along with Ethnic NewsWatch (ENW) and Alt-Press Watch. The three databases together are marketed as ProQuest’s “Diversity Suite.”

GW is a full-text database (with the exception of Haworth Press titles). Drawing its content from non-mainstream publications, the database explores both female and male perspectives on issues relating to family, parenting, divorce, health, gender equity in the workplace, careers, economics, politics, domestic violence and sexual abuse, feminism, masculinity, religion and spirituality, and sexual orientation. Its main focus is on gender studies, women’s studies, and gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (GLBT) studies.

Scope, Coverage, and Currency

GW is a repository of an important perspective on the evolution of the women’s movement and the
changes in gender roles and understandings covering the last 30 years. The majority of publications are archival material dating back to 1970. GW is updated monthly, and as of July 2005, contained over 110,269 articles from more than 208 publications, ranging from scholarly analysis to popular opinion. These publications include academic, grey, and popular literature and support gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (GLBT) studies, family studies, gender studies, and women's studies on wide-ranging topics, such as sexuality, religion, societal roles, feminism, eating disorders, fatherhood, day care, and the workplace with an interdisciplinary approach from the both male and female perspectives.

The reviewer compared the content coverage between GW and Sociological Abstracts, published by Cambridge Scientific Abstracts (CSA), in January of 2006, by conducting the following searches on selected topics:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Search terms</th>
<th># Documents: GenderWatch search (citation and document text)</th>
<th># Documents: Sociological Abstracts (CSA) search (anywhere)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>transgender</td>
<td>1168</td>
<td>265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>domestic violence and male victims</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>homosexuality</td>
<td>7739</td>
<td>4609</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>same sex marriage</td>
<td>1659</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The dramatic differences in the results between the two databases confirm GW’s focus on gender roles with both genders’ perspectives from non-mainstream publications, such as Advocate, Divorce Magazine, Practice About Men as Fathers, Sister Namibia, Gay and Lesbian Review, etc. As Gail M. Golderman and Bruce Connolly (2004) summarized, GenderWatch, the full text of “an elusive body of literature” from “hard-to-come-by material,” serves academic and public libraries on gender studies and diverse populations (p. 28).

GW’s collection includes more than 200 titles of scholarly journals, magazines, newspapers, newsletters, regional publications, books, booklets and pamphlets, conference proceedings, and reports of government and non-governmental organization. According to ProQuest, GW content includes 29% magazines, 28% journals, 21% newsletters, 10% books, 7% reports, 3% newspapers, and 1% conference papers. Most of the publications on the title list are full text, except the Haworth Press’s 16 titles, which offer only abstracts. Eighty-nine of these titles have ceased publication and the remainder are current.

The GW homepage provides a summary of the collection’s content, highlights “What’s New” in the database, and gives access to the database’s subject headings (thesaurus). Thus, the homepage provides easy access to information about the content organization. The Publications Search page provides the titles list. Each publication title is hyperlinked to brief information about it, and an individual search page for that publication. Users can quickly glance over the information for an individual publication and search its content exclusively if they wish.

**Language Features**

GenderWatch (GW) is searchable in many different languages. ProQuest offers 14 interface languages: ~Chinese (Simplified) ~Chinese (Traditional) ~German ~English ~Spanish ~French ~Japanese ~Korean ~Portuguese ~Turkish ~Italian ~Russian ~Polish ~Norwegian

Subscribers can set up a custom login link to access a specific language, as well as use the language selection dropdown box available in the interface. Searching and indexing remain in English, so a user typing in Chinese search terms will not find these terms indexed.

The interface languages can function not only on the search pages, but also on the “Document Review” page. This means that article translation is done at the article level. This translation is not done by humans, and is limited to 7,500 words or less. The following twelve languages can be selected:

~Spanish ~Portuguese ~French ~German ~Italian ~Russian ~Polish ~Japanese ~Korean ~Turkish ~Chinese (Simplified) ~Chinese (Traditional)

The database user guides are also available in Chinese (Simplified), Chinese (Traditional), German, English, Spanish, French, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Turkish, Italian, Russian, Polish, and Norwegian. With the feature of interface languages, the “Help” screen also switches to whatever language is selected. Unlike auto-translated articles
retrieved at the “Document Review” page, the user guides are translated well by humans.

Indexing and Subject Access

Before ProQuest assumed responsibility for GW, the SoftLine subject headings were used. After ProQuest acquired Diversity Suite, the SoftLine subject headings were mapped to the ProQuest controlled vocabulary. Some terms are no longer treated as subjects, but have been switched to either geography or company/organization index terms. A table on the GW home page displays how SoftLine subjects are mapped into the corresponding ProQuest vocabulary. For example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Original SoftLine Term</th>
<th>Equivalent ProQuest Terms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AIDS/HIV (CHILDREN)</td>
<td>Children &amp; youth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Acquired immune deficiency syndrome--AIDS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIDS/HIV (COLLEGE STUDENTS)</td>
<td>College students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Acquired immune deficiency syndrome—AIDS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIDS/HIV (CONFERENCES)</td>
<td>Conferences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Acquired immune deficiency syndrome—AIDS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIDS/HIV (COSTS)</td>
<td>Costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Acquired immune deficiency syndrome—AIDS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are five search interface choices: “Basic,” “Advanced,” “Topics,” “Publications,” and “My Research.” Unlike the convention of keyword/subject search in most major databases, the “Topics” search is a supplementary approach to keyword and subject searching. On the “Topics” search page, users can choose to look up topics by entering keywords. The results offers a browsing list of suggested topics, from which the user can view all documents that fall under that topic, or choose to narrow the topic further. A second choice—“Look Up Topics A-Z”—leads to a browsing list of topics that are either subject terms, companies/organizations, people, or locations. Moreover, “Suggested Topics” appears on every search page, so that users can switch their search directions quickly, if the suggested topic more closely describes their own research subject. The default “Advanced” search is executed in the records’ “Citations and document text.” Users can also limit combination searches by ten other fields, such as “Document title,” “Document type,” or “Publication title.” An unusual field is “Location,” which searches geographic place by country, state, or metropolitan area, and allows easy searching of international content. More rows of search boxes can be added as needed for increasingly complex searches.

Users can also limit their searches by date range, full text, scholarly journals (including peer reviewed), and biographical publications. “More Search Options” provides more choices, including “Document type” (biography, editorial, interview, commentary, etc.) and “Publication types” (scholarly journals, magazines, newspapers, and reference/reports).

Relevancy of Search Results

Relevancy is determined by the frequency of search words appearing in citations, abstracts, and documents. The default order of results lists is “Most relevant first.” The other two choices to sort results in the drop-down menu are “Most recent first” and “Oldest (historical) first.” By searching “homo” (citation and document text) AND “china” (location), 54 documents are retrieved. The documents at the end of the result list include Asian or East Asian countries rather than exclusively focusing on China, as with the records at the top of list. Another search, “wom?n and president” (citation and document text) AND “united states” (location), retrieved 110 documents. The first one of these, “Of What is that Glass Ceiling Made?: A Study of Attitudes about Women and the Oval Office,” is the only document that targeted the issue of women presidents in the United States with results ranked by relevancy.

Important Benefits and Suggestions for Improvement

GenderWatch indexes non-mainstream publications focused on gender roles related to a wide range of social issues and presents alternative voice in current debates ranging from same-sex marriage to affirmative action. Indeed, the GW collection is useful not only for specific gender-related academic programs, but also for general academic disciplines and subject areas such as arts; media and popular culture; health; business, employment and careers; education; travel and leisure; history; journalism; political science and government; family, childcare and domestic issues; and social science disciplines such as sociology, anthropology, social work, psychology, and political science. Cont. on pg. 8.
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**VOLUNTEER TO SERVE ON AN ANSS COMMITTEE!**
ANSS is now seeking volunteers for committee assignments.

Please fill out the volunteer form at:
http://www.lib.odu.edu/anss/volunteer.html
For descriptions of committees, go to:
http://www.lib.odu.edu/anss/committ.html

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Cont. from page 7

The “Interface Languages” feature is useful for retrieving GW’s international contents and for users who desire results in other languages. This technology is more advanced than other products, since translations are available from the levels of search page to the full-text documents themselves, while FirstSearch and CSA’s databases cannot translate text at the article level. However, since the translation of articles is done by automation, odd grammar and sentence structures are seen frequently. Nevertheless, it is better than nothing, and can serve to give users a good sense of the content in otherwise inaccessible foreign language documents. While the technology is not mature, the utilization of “Interface Languages” is a welcome challenge to the domination of the English language in global information dissemination. GenderWatch’s “hard-to-get,” non-mainstream collection holds great potential to be reached by diversified international groups across language and national boundaries, which should help to develop a more dynamic readership.

**Bibliography**

Golderman, Gail and Bruce Connolly (2004) We’re Here, We’re Queer. Library Journal 129(Summer):22-30.