

Iowa Association of School Librarians, a subdivision of the Iowa Library Association

Teacher Librarian Updates

- See Page 7 for Events!
- **Reminder: IASL dues are due January 1 each year.** As part of ILA, we now go by the calendar year for membership.
- **Challenged book** in your library? Contact Marcia Jensen, Intellectual Freedom Chair, jensenm@davenportschools.org for assistance.

WE'RE BACK!

Teacher-Librarians Reinstated in the Iowa Code!



We do indeed live in exciting times! As you have probably heard, a brand new law requires every Iowa school district to employ a certified teacher librarian as of July 1, 2006. As part of the law, districts are allowed to apply for a waiver for one year, plus a second year. Non-certified persons now serving in the role of teacher librarian are grandfathered into the law. This legislation will have the greatest impact on those districts that do not currently have a qualified teacher librarian.

Larger districts that currently assign a TL to more than one building are not affected by this law, since the requirement is one TL per district. TLs were removed from the Iowa Code several years ago, and the reinstatement is a huge victory for ILA, IASL, and all advocates of literacy. The students of Iowa are the biggest beneficiaries of this new law.

We have many, many folks to sincerely thank. And so much to celebrate. This would not have been possible without the support of Governor and Mrs. Vilsack, Director of the Dept. of Education Judy Jeffrey, our legislators, the combined efforts of the ILA organization and its subdivisions including IASL, Duncan Stewart ILA GAC Chair, ILA Lobbyists Amy Campbell and Craig Patterson, and all those who lobbied for this legislation.

IASL members also have a great deal of work facing us. We have been given a tremendous opportunity to make a significant difference in the educational environments of schools across Iowa and in the academic lives of our students. We need to move quickly to make the most of this opportunity. If librarians don't make a real difference in their schools, and show teachers, administrators, students, and the public how they make that difference fairly soon, we could, once again, find ourselves no longer "required."

So please- take the time to write a thank-you note to those who you can think of played a part in getting this law passed. Volunteer to serve on IASL committees. Our organization needs all of us to play an active role in advocating for librarians and libraries. It is likely that a task force will soon be formed to help implement this law and make it work- your help is needed. Contact IASL President [Kristin Steingreaber](#) to help make a difference for Iowa kids.

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Nominate by June 1st!

IASL VISION AWARD

Teacher Librarian who is making a difference in schools!

IASL DISTINGUISHED ADVOCATE AWARD

Recognize the influential role of friends of the school library!

Criteria and Nomination Form are available on the
IASL

Awards website

<http://www.iasl-ia.org/awards.php>

Mail your nominations to

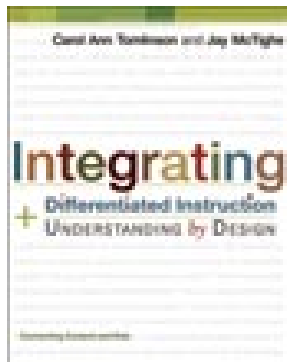
[Sarah Latcham](#), IASL Awards Chair

215 Fairview Drive

P.O. Box 283

Wellman, IA 52356

**INTEGRATING: DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION + UNDERSTANDING BY DESIGN:
CONNECTING CONTENT AND KIDS, ASCD, 2006, Tomlinson, Carol Ann and Jay McTighe**



Two authors who have devoted years of work focused on improving schools have united their areas of study to pack a powerful punch in a book that belongs in every Professional Collection K-12 and beyond. It works and it works well, because it integrates ways to address the issues of our time: too much curriculum, "a mile wide and an inch deep", and too many students with diverse needs. How can we work for success for all with such enormous expectations? One way is to put some energy into good planning. Begin with the end in mind and consider the integrity of the content as well as the individuality of learners. This

book is practical, friendly and rich with tables, charts, rubrics and concrete examples. It is an ideal text to use for professional development, small book discussion groups, or for departments grappling with too much content. It is definitely a perfect book for teacher librarians because it covers the responsibilities of our roles: teaching and learning, collaboration, curriculum and assessment. We all could take a good look at improving our teaching. If all students are not learning, we have not yet taught it well enough. Here you will find guidance and great structure and flexibility to connect content and kids in meaningful ways.

- Barbara Stein, Iowa City

iPoetry: Interpreting Poetry Through Sound and Image

by Susie Corbin-Muir Teacher-Librarian, Northwest Junior High, Iowa City Community Schools

For the past two years, students in Meg Corbin's 8th grade language arts class have come to own a poem. That wasn't the first objective we had but it definitely was one of the most powerful things that came out of this multimedia project. When Meg and I designed this project, we wanted our students to learn to interpret a poem and share that poem's meaning and mood with their classmates. After we completed the project for the first time, we realized that the students had read the poem so many times that most of them had it memorized and had thought about it in a much more profound way than we could have hoped for.

The project took place over the course of three weeks. The final project was to be an iMovie of their poem that would combine still images, instrumental music, and the students' voices to help their audience understand the interpretation. The project began with the analysis of one poem by all students. They were asked to work in groups to complete the following tasks: Read the poem aloud twice by two different people; define any words that they don't know; sketch major images that the poem brings to mind and share them with their group; discuss the mood of the poem; tell what they think the author meant by the poem; and prepare a group reading of the poem that will express its meaning.

To model what an iPoem was Meg and I shared iPoems that we had created using the poem "Crossing Kansas by Train" by Donald Justice. We each created our own iPoem for this poem independently. We also shared the thought process behind our final projects.

The students then spent four days browsing through a variety of poetry books that we had gathered from our library. Their goal was to find the poem that they wanted to use for this project. They had to read the poem aloud to one of us and then com-

plete a brief analysis of the poem by responding to these questions and prompts. What story does the poem tell? Think of one word that describes the message of this poem. About what does this poem make you think? What was the mood or tone of the poem?

We then introduced the students to schools.clipart.com at the Iowa AEA Online services. This contains both clipart and photos. We asked them to find four to six images that would help people understand their poems. We also introduced the students to the Freeplay Music website <<http://www.freeplaymusic.com>>. Here they looked for music to set the tone of their iPoem. Once these tasks were complete, the students created a story board for their movie. Each movie needed to include a title page, a credits page, a minimum of six clips, a voice over of the student reading the poem, transitions between clips, and a soundtrack.

During the next six days, students were taught how to use the iMovie application, each day focusing on a specific set of skills: importing images and using the Ken Burns effect, importing music, creating title and credit screens, extracting audio for their voiceovers, and creating transitions. When the students had completed their movies we exported them to digital video and then shared them with the classes. Right now they are being shared with the entire school through our morning announcements.

The ownership that the students felt for their poems and the desire to "get it right" was overwhelming. They felt a duty to tell the poem's story accurately. They are proud of their final products. Meg and I think that this project may have a profound impact on how these students will approach poems in the future.

TEACHER LIBRARIANS WELL-REPRESENTED IN LEADERSHIP GROUP

Nine teacher librarians are among a total of 25 ILA members chosen to attend the ILA Leadership Institute to be held at Central College in Pella August 1-4. The Institute will be facilitated by Maureen Sullivan.

Teacher librarians and AEA media people who have been selected are Diane Brown, Cheryl Carruthers, Renee Choe-Winter, Dorothy DeGroot, Debra Dorzweiler, Judy Havlik, Rebecca Quinn, Denise Rehmke, and Kristin Steingreaber.

The goals of the Leadership Initiative are that participants will:

- Recognize themselves as leaders and develop confidence to become change agents in their institu-

tions as well as in the larger community.

- Assess their personal leadership style and develop the skills to use that style for effective decision-making to implement change in their libraries and communities;
- Expand their perception of the "big picture" and seek creative solutions to shape the future of ILA and library service in Iowa;
- Make connections and develop relationships to ensure the success of their libraries.

- Mary Jo Langhorne

AEA 9 Media Academy Invites YOU

Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency will offer its highly successful Media Specialists' Academy again in 2006-07. This popular professional development opportunity is in its fifth year, and for the first time is open to any teacher librarian who would like to attend. The theme of next year's Academy is "Rigor and Relevance in the Media Center: Learning in the Digital Age."

The purpose of the Media Specialists' Academy is to provide quality leadership and professional development that will enable teacher librarians to provide effective programs that improve student achievement.

Each Academy session features a combination of theory, demonstration, coaching, practice, and feedback on topics relevant to CSIP goals in reading, math and science.

The 2006-07 Academy areas of focus include:

- Rigorous and relevant information literacy programs
- Information resources and technology for digital learning

- Content Area Reading and Literature
- Collaborative partnerships to meet student needs
- Advocacy
- Leadership

The Academy dates are September 26, December 5, February 13, and April 5. All sessions will be held at the Mississippi Bend AEA Learning Center, 729-21st St., Bettendorf, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Specific session topics and registration instructions will be announced in late May via email. Registration will open in early June, and the deadline for signing up will be September 15. The registration fee is \$20.00.

For more information, contact Becky Mather, bmather@aea9.k12.ia.us, 563-344-6526.



Teacher Librarians participating in the AEA 9 Media Specialists' Academy.

ONLINE CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR TEACHER LIBRARIANS

The *University of Wisconsin-Stout* offers an opportunity to earn graduate credits via online courses that support your professional development goals for licensure renewal and advanced certification. Upcoming classes offered for teacher librarians include *Children's and Young Adult Literature, Classroom Collaborations, Teaching Information Literacy and Emerging Issues for Media Specialists*. All of these classes begin in June. Course descriptions and registration information are available at <http://www.uwstout.edu/soe/profdev/courses.shtml>.

These are all graduate-level classes. You may take individual classes without going through admissions procedures. If you are interested in a degree program, application information is also available at the URL listed above.

You may also be interested in subscribing to UW-Stout *InfoBytes* newsletter, which is available either as a free email subscription or online at: <http://www.uwstout.edu/soe/profdev/news/>. This newsletter offers a quick way to update your knowledge on a variety of topics from podcasting and digital editing tools

to the best K-12 literature website and designing effective rubrics.

The *University of Northern Iowa School Library Media Studies Division* also offers classes via the ICN that may be taken for continuing education credit. These are listed on their website at

<http://www.uni.edu/coe/ci/slms/index.htm>. They will also do individualized readings on topics where people have an interest or a need for further study. Contact Dr. Barbara Safford for details barbara.safford@uni.edu.

The *University of Iowa School of Library and Information Science* is offering several classes this summer which may be of interest including *User Education: Multimedia, Web Search Engines, Online Information Systems and School Library Media Center Administration* (ICN). Information on these courses is available at <http://www.uiowa.edu/%7Elibsci/semesters/summer2006.htm>. Contact Becky Thoms becky-thoms@UIOWA.EDU for registration information

Christie Vilsack Presents *The Pickle Patch Bathtub* to Kindergarteners

First Lady Christie Vilsack recently completed her annual Stories 2000 program for Iowa's kindergarten students. This is year four of this book distribution program. Kindergarteners received a copy of the *Pickle Patch Bathtub* by Frances Kennedy, a retired 6th grade teacher from Dubuque.; a bookmark; a map of Iowa's counties and attractions; a box of soy crayons; and information for parents.



Mrs. Vilsack personally distributed the packets to one school in every AEA. She told the children the story of the bathtub, and pointed out certain things in the illustrations to look for. Volunteers were asked to sort stuffed "cucumbers" with a sorting board similar to the one in the story. In Muscatine, volunteers donned her special garden hat and tasted sweet and dill pickles provided by the Heinz Company.



By Becky Mather, AEA 9

ILA/ACRL /IASL Conference Draws Large Crowd

By Denise Rehmke, Iowa City West High School

High School to Higher Ed: Helping Learners Make the Leap was the theme of the ILA/ACRL Spring Conference held on Friday, April 21, 2006 at the University of Iowa. The conference was co-sponsored by the Iowa Association of School Librarians. The 190 registrants included 58 school librarians.

The keynote speaker was Dr. David T. Conley, Director of the Center for Educational Policy Research at the University of Oregon. Conley is the author of *College Knowledge: What It Really Takes for Students to Succeed and What We Can Do to Help*, a book that identifies the knowledge and skills necessary for students to succeed in their entry-level college courses. In his presentation, Dr. Conley addressed the gap that exists between high school education and the preparedness of first-year college students.

Participants were able to attend 3 concurrent sessions on a variety of topics of interest to academic and librarians. Some of the session titles were:

- Napoleon Dynamite Goes to College: Alternative Routes to

the Library for First-Year Students

- Subjects Matter: Content Reading in the High School
- What Beginning College Students Say About High School Library Research Experiences
- Who's Watching?: USA Patriot Act in Iowa Academic Libraries
- First-Year Students: Are They Ready for Research
- Beyond Google Tips & Tricks: Teaching Web Search Strategies to the Digital Natives
- Access, Evaluate, and Use: Information Literacy in High School

Handouts from many of these sessions are available from the ILA/ACRL website.

<http://www.iren.net/acrl/conference/2006/materials.html>

Information Literacy Forum Will Feature Carol Kuhlthau

By Denise Rehmke, Iowa City West High School

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, June 14, and register to attend **Learning Through the Inquiry Process: Vital Roles for Librarians**. This 3rd Annual Information Literacy Forum is sponsored by the Des Moines Area Community College, and the one-day workshop will be held on the Ankeny Campus of DMACC. The keynote speaker is Dr. Carol Collier Kuhlthau. Dr. Kuhlthau is recognized for her ground-breaking research on the information search process. Her presentation is entitled "Information Search Process: Strategic Guidance at Critical Points." Participants will engage in her ideas in work groups. A variety of concurrent sessions will also be available for participants to attend. Space is limited, so register early!

Staff development and/or graduate credit for school librarians and teachers may be available. Please check with Susan Schrader, Heartland AEA, after the first of May for additional information. (sschrader@aea11.k12.ia.us)

Also—school librarians are invited to submit proposals for concurrent sessions. The deadline for submitting proposals is May 12, 2006.

Registration forms, Call for Proposals, Directions, etc. are online at

<http://www.library.dmacc.edu/PublicPages/Information%20Literacy%20Forum.htm>

IASL Professional Development Opportunities

Here are some upcoming Professional Development opportunities. Check out the [IASL website](#) for updates and more offerings!

- Karen Lampe
IASL Professional Dev.
Chair

JUNE 8

Harvey Daniels, author of *Subjects Matter*, at Southern Prairie AEA 15. Daniels spoke at the IRA Conference in Chicago in May. Take advantage of this opportunity—register online <http://www.aea15.k12.ia.us/media/daniels.php>

JUNE 14

3rd Annual DMACC Information Literacy Forum at the Ankeny campus. Keynote speaker: Carol Kuhlthau. <http://www.iasl-ia.org/professional.php>

JUNE 22

Enhancing Instruction with Technology Conference at AEA 9, Bettendorf

JULY 11-12 or JULY 11-14

Children's Literature Update at UNI in Cedar Falls. Instructors are Dr. Jeanne Harms and Lucille Lettow. One-three graduate credits are available. For more information or to register, visit <http://www.uni.edu/continuinged/programs/courses/childlit/>.

AUGUST 1-4

2006 ILA Leadership Institute at Central College in Pella. Maureen Sullivan will be the facilitator. For more information visit <http://www.uni.edu/continuinged/programs/courses/childlit/>. and click on the 2006 Leadership Institute link.

AUGUST 3-4

NILC Conference: Bridges out of Poverty--Library Connections NIACC campus, Mason City. For more information, visit <http://www.nclsa.lib.ia.us/>.

SEPTEMBER– APRIL 2006-07

Media Specialists' Academy, AEA 9 in Bettendorf. See page 4 for details.

OCTOBER 11-13 (Plan now to attend!)

ILA Fall Conference in Council Bluffs with the theme "Libraries, Literacy & Learning in the 21st Century". More information will be posted as it becomes available on the ILA website at <http://www.iowalibraryassociation.org> and click on 2006 Annual Conference.

OCTOBER 13-15

AASL Fall Forum in Warwick, Rhode Island: Assessing Student Learning

OCTOBER 21

Festival of Books for Young People, Iowa City including Candace Fleming, Deborah Hopkinson, Alexandria LaFaye

<http://www.uiowa.edu/%7Elibsci/festival>

Contact Kit Austin: caroline-austin@uiowa.edu or 319.335.5709

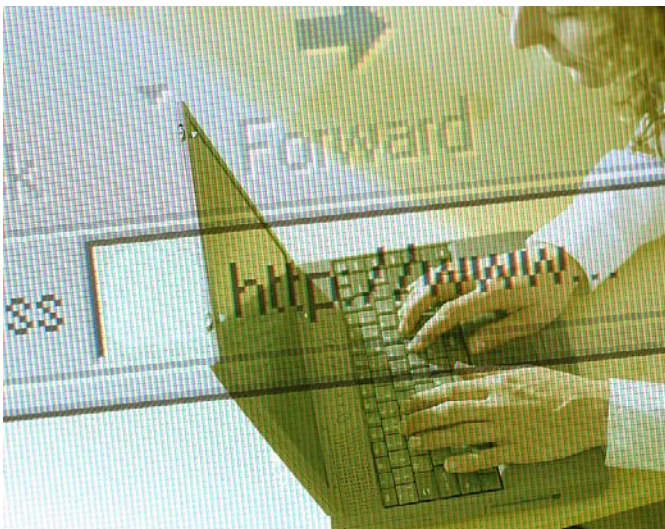


Image from <http://schools.clipart.com>