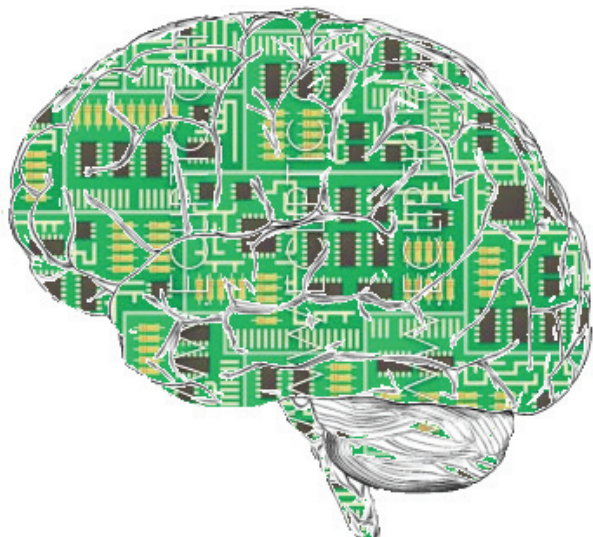


LearningExchange

March 2010

"School ends, but education doesn't."

Volume 26, Number 3



"Artificial Fiction Brain" used under a GNU Free Documentation License

Brainstorming in Boston

By Sharon Morris

Learning Round Table events at Midwinter 2010 were rich with ideas, conversation, and planning. Besides the board meetings, the Learning Round Table hosted a Meet and Greet on Friday, January 15 and a CE discussion on Monday, January 18.

The Meet and Greet was facilitated by Janie Hermann with members of the Board, members of the Learning Round Table and other interested folks. We used this as an opportunity to determine some priorities for the Learning Round Table upcoming events such as preconferences, webinars, and projects for the Emerging leaders.

Brainstorm conference sessions:

- People continue to be captivated by the 23 Things model. Many people reported creating their own 23 Things modules for staff training. Several examples were given. We thought this might be of interest as a pre-conference session. Perhaps, how the concept started, how it has been implemented differently, and hands-

Continued Brainstorm on Page 6



The Learning Round Table's new logo is an abstract design featuring bright colors. (see web version for full color)

Announcing a New Logo

In February we asked for your input on a new logo for the Learning Round Table. Dozens of members commented on the February 5th post to give input on the two logo choices. Your voices were heard, and last week we unveiled the new logo on the ALA Learning Web site <http://ala-learning.org>.

The new logo contains a vibrant palette of colors including purple, blue, orange and green. The abstract design has many different meanings and we're asking members to comment on the ALA Learning site and describe what the design represents to them.

The Learning Round Table board voted on the two logos and the abstract design won over the traditional tree design by one vote. Board members Lori Reed, Stacy Schrank, Jay Tuner and Sandra Smith provided input on the final color scheme.

The logo was designed by Jennifer Palmer a graphic designer and illustrator based in northern California. Palmer, a former senior production designer for American Libraries Magazine and Booklist publications, said, "I designed the logo to convey a feeling of professionalism, diversity, quality, and forward thinking while embracing the fun and welcoming spirit of the Learning Round Table members and leadership." To learn more about logo designer Jennifer Palmer, visit <http://wondergus.com>.

The **LearningExchange** is the official publication of the Learning Round Table (LearnRT) of the American Library Association.

It is distributed free to members of LearnRT and is published quarterly in September, December, March and June.

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GENERAL questions about LearnRT should be sent to:
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Notes from the President

Pat Carterette, (pcarterette@georgialibraries.org)

ALA Midwinter may be behind us but there's no time to slack off - there's lots of work to do! Thanks to a slew of dedicated, energetic, smart and creative round table folks, we're forging ahead with some really exciting projects this year.

The Marketing and Communication Committee (Lori Reed, Chair) is continuing to develop and expand the alalearning.org blog - now with 12 bloggers and over 1000 viewings per post! Lori is also coordinating our logo redesign project which is garnering lots of interest. The Program Committee (Beth Gutsche, Chair) is coordinating round table programs at both PLA Portland and ALA Washington. The 2010 Training Showcase is in the very capable hands of Louise Whitaker this year. The Nominations Committee (Stacy Schrank, Chair) has put together a marvelous slate of candidates for round table board positions - be on the lookout for your ballot. And, the Membership Committee (Shelley Walchak and Sandra Smith) are taking it upon themselves to ensure that all new round table members are welcomed with a personal letter. We're sponsoring our first Emerging Leader this year - Jennifer Spriggs. And, we're sponsoring two Emerging Leader projects - a Staff Day Success e-publication and a webinar learning series. I'm sure I left some things



LearnRT President Pat Carterette is the Director of Continuing Education, Georgia Public Library Service

out, but you get the idea - we're on the move! Learn more about some of these projects in this issue of the Learning Exchange, on ALA Connect and at our monthly virtual meetings.

The Learning Round Table is the premier staff training and development resource within ALA and I'm proud and honored to be part of the leadership of this small but mighty round table. Thank you for your continued support of the Learning Round Table... as members, as active participants and as fellow passengers on the lifelong learning journey!

Member News

Tom Taylor, Continuing Education Coordinator for the South Central Kansas Library System (SCKLS) in South Hutchinson, Kansas has been selected to attend the Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) Leadership Institute April 25-30, 2010 in Estes Park, Colorado. Taylor is one of only thirty attendees selected from a twelve state region

email your member news to editor@alalearning.org

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Member Profile: Jennifer Spriggs

Jennifer Spriggs, Administrative Service Coordinator for the Allegany County Library System in Maryland, is the first ever Learning Round Table sponsored Emerging Leader. Of the emerging leader program so far Jennifer says, "I was truly energized by meeting the other Emerging Leader participants during our one day face-to-face in

Boston. I thoroughly enjoyed the day, especially the segment where consultant Maureen Sullivan spoke to us about the changing nature of leadership. One quote that she mentioned struck me in particular: "The

leader's job, after all, is not to provide energy but to release it from others." Frances Hesselbein I've been turning this over in my mind since I've returned from Boston and attempting to implement it in my own work." Jennifer's Emerging Leaders team is conducting a survey that will guide them in planning a series of LearningRT webinars. The survey is available at:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/YK9YFV6>

She was also a participant in the 2009 Emerging Leader program through the Maryland Library Association.

Jennifer graduated with her MLIS from Louisiana State University. She has worked with CSA (now Proquest) and in her past position at the Western Maryland Regional Library, primarily in training. Her favorite training exercise is personality assessments because, "Most of the attendees have thoroughly enjoyed those sessions while learning more about themselves at the same time. Who doesn't enjoy talking about themselves and finding out more about how they relate to others - be it co-workers, friends, or family? Observing these sessions was also quite revealing and valuable to me in my role as a trainer."

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*Jennifer Spriggs
2009-2010 emerging leader sponsored by
LearnRT
jspriggs@allconet.org*

At the Western Maryland Regional Library Jennifer was responsible for administrative work supporting staff development across the region, including coordination of grants and tracking continuing education credits for the certification requirements of staff, as well as maintaining a regional training management database among other things. Late in 2009 she accepted her current position. While still dealing with staff development her favorite part about her job is, "Hands-down, the people. The staff of the Allegany

County Library System is a remarkable and resilient group. I admire them for their honest dedication to provide the highest level of service to library patrons and for their willingness to go above and beyond for continuing education. Many of them have taken online courses from their home kitchens or come in on their own time to work on self-paced courses."

Coming up in April, Jennifer will be presenting, "Computer Quick Tips and Tricks" at the Maryland Library Association's 2010 conference in Ocean City, MD. She would be happy to see all the LearnRT members from Maryland there.

Aside from her work in libraries Jennifer is married to Roman Spriggs, and has a 14 month old son named, Alex.



Become a fan of
LearnRT on Facebook
<http://tinyurl.com/LearnRT>

A Quick Guide to Portland

by Dawn Lowe-Wincentsen

For those of you that will be attending the Public Library Association Meeting this month, Portland is a great place to come visit, there is a lot to see in the city and much more to see around the city. Here are some suggestions and tips for your stay.

First, on getting around: Portland is a very walkable city, and it has great public transportation. If you are flying in to town you can catch a red line train (also known as the MAX) at the airport. It goes straight past the convention center to downtown. Once you have settled in you can take the trains and street cars all around the convention center and downtown area in the free rail zone, from Lloyd center to SW 10th Avenue. For when you are off the train or trying to get around other ways, the Willamette river runs through the center of town bisecting East from West. North and South are divided by Burnside Rd.

Coffee and Brews: Portland, among other things is known for local coffee and breweries. For the coffee drinkers try finding places that serve Stump town coffee. For the beer drinkers look for local breweries and pubs. The servers at restaurants are great places to get suggestions.

Eating:* Old Town Pizza 226 NW Davis in Old Town and China Town, eat pizza then wander about and learn about getting shanghaied to Astoria

Voodoo doughnuts – 22 SW 3rd ave, a variety of your average and some very not average doughnuts available 24 hours a day.

Marrakesh Moroccan Restaurant – 1201 NW 21st Ave, This is an experience best shared with friends, sit on the floor and eat with your fingers. Sweet Basil Thai- 3135 NE Broadway, just North East of the Convention center area is Broadway with cute shops and restaurants. This one is quite



The Burnside Bridge and the convention center in the background

tasty and has good adult beverages if you like.

Seeing: Powells city of books on SW 10th and Burnside – if you haven't gotten you fill of books yet this is a whole city block full of them. Multnomah County Library Central Branch – this is at the west end of the free rail zone, even if you are done with libraries for the day the building is beautiful.

Portland Art Museum – 1219 SW Park Ave. Go between 5 and 8pm on Friday March 26th and get free admission (4th Friday of each month)

Museum of Contemporary Craft – 724 NW Davis St Check out the Gestures of Resistance exhibit.

Washington Square Gardens – See the zoo, forestry museum, Arboretum, Rose gardens, and Japanese gardens along with beautiful views of the city. Chinese garden – NW 3rd and Everett, Beautiful gardens and a formal tea house.

OMSI – There is a shuttle that runs between the Max and OMSI along side the Convention center. Catch it for the science museum and Imax theater.

*The author has personally been to all of these restaurants and would go back to them.

Dawn is co-editor of the learning exchange and is the Portland Operations Librarian for the Oregon Institute of Technology. Email her if you are looking for something to do while in town dawn.lowe.win@gmail.com

New ideas to share?

Send your articles to the editors at
editor@alalearning.org

Emerging Leader Teams working on Learning Roundtable Projects



left to right: M. Alan McGinley, Faith Mulberry, Kirby McCurtis, Jenna Boles, Tina Rawhouser

Working with a CLENERT (LearnRT) past president and long-time board member, the EL group will research best practices for planning and implementing all-staff development days in libraries of all sizes. The group will identify and gather planning and budgeting tools, templates, assessments and evaluations, practical and affordable program ideas, digital media and case studies that demonstrate “staff day success,” events that are valuable to and valued by library employees at all levels. The resources will be compiled and edited as an online publication, Staff Day Success. Distribution for this online publication may be free to members of the Learning RT, and at a reasonable cost to others.

The Learning Round Table has successfully partnered with WebJunction in the last year to deliver two webinars - Learning for Learning Professionals and Libraries as Learning Organizations. Under the guidance of experienced webinar producers, the project team will design and plan a series of webinars on topics of interest to trainers and managers/coordinators of training and staff development. Project participants will be involved in determining topics, finding presenters, creating a schedule, marketing and overseeing the project. The Emerging Leader group assigned to this project will have the opportunity to present in at least one of these webinars.



left to right: Sonnet Brown, Natalie Clewell, Angela Nolet, Jennifer Spriggs

LearnRT Membership Benefit

All LearnRT members are entitled to AMA “member only” benefits

- Exclusive discounts and special offers
- Preferred pricing on all AMA seminars
- Unlimited access to Members-only Website
- 50% discounts on seminar “Last-Minute Seats”
- Access to special track on HR/Training issues
- Access and benefit from case studies
- Use of interactive self-assessments



Visit the AMA website at <http://www.amanet.org/>

Contact Dawn Lowe-Wincentsen for LearnRT “member only” website access information
dawn.lowe.win@gmail.com

Brainstorming Continued from Page 1

on development during session. Another idea was to have a 23 Things of Staff Development which would take the model of the 23 modules but make them about better training and/or presentations. Another angle is to find ways of tweaking the 23 Things model for the public.

- Program Assessment was another big topic of discussion. Trainers are feeling the need to have more methods to justify continuing education during the budget cuts in libraries. We wondered if others needed strategies to prove the value of continuing education for staff and public. We talked about a possible pre-conference or program on return on investment, measuring for results, qualitative and quantitative analysis for training, and for the cost of software, planning, etc.
- Along with program assessment, we talked about how trainers can help staff and managers

with setting goals for staff development both with regard to individual learning plans and overall for the organization. This topic, creating a learning environment/organization, would also make a great pre-conference or program session.

- A nuts and bolts topic for improving presentations would be a session on data visualization or how to present your data effectively.
- We also had the suggestion that a pre-conference on the practical presentation techniques of body languages of a trainer, speaking and voice techniques would be very helpful.
- One final area of interest for many is how to repackage in-person training into webinars. This was also discussed at the Monday CE discussion.

If you have other topics you would like to suggest for upcoming programs, please submit them to the Connect site or contact morris_s@cde.state.co.us

Twenty people attended the Learning Round Table Discussion including members, potential members, trainers, and three Emerging Leaders. The conversation started with a round robin of what people were doing that they were excited about. Below are some resources which were highlighted or recommended in this discussion.

Synchronous training using WebX <http://www.webex.com/> – Remote, recorded sessions, tutorials online. Works well for Oklahoma libraries.

Implementing Learning Management System (LMS) to track online learning, attendance, 23 Things and geolearning. Using Moodle <http://moodle.org> which is open source

Colorado has created a version of 23 Things called Colorado Libraries 2.0 <http://web20.cocoforum.org/> which organizes the 2.0 technologies based on function: communications, collaboration, etc. as well as breaking up each tool by explaining what it is, why libraries are using it, how to use it, and more resources. Many others are doing 23 Things type programs. Is there a place to compile all of them?

Idaho Library Commission is establishing “Libraries as Learning Organizations” <http://libraries.>

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Attending PLA This Month?

Checkout these Learning Round Table Programs

Busting out of the 4 Walls! Whats New in Library Staff Training? Presented by Shelley Walchak and Sandra Smith Friday, March 26 4pm in the Oregon Convention Center A 108-109

and

Staff Day Success: Creating an Event Valued by All Employees Moderated by Mary Ross with Nancy Schitz, Stacy Schrank and Pat Carter-ette Thursday, March 25 8:30am at the Oregon Convention Center, Portland Ballroom #255

Brainstorming Continued from Prev.

idaho.gov/page/libraries-learning-organizations including online conferences. Helps staff identify where they are and how they fit within the library organization. Focus on group learning.

Pat Wagner <http://www.pattern.com> is doing LAMA Leadership workshops as well as portfolio workshops for LE@D <http://www.leadonline.info/>. She is also doing support for online learners including tips for success. New Jersey is developing a TEDX event. <http://www.ted.com/pages/view?id=343>

Great source for online learning proficiency is InSync Training <http://www.insynctraining.com/> also Simmons Online Training Class: <http://www.simmons.edu/gslis/careers/continuing-education/workshops/>

[simmons.edu/gslis/careers/continuing-education/workshops/](http://www.simmons.edu/gslis/careers/continuing-education/workshops/)

WebJunction will be offering Technology Essentials Conference – Free Webinar on Feb 9-10, 2010 <http://www.webjunction.org/conferences/-/articles/content/86891033> See the archive after this date.

Are you constructing an asynchronous online course? Check out a great presentation by Cathy Moore 5 Ways to make linear navigation more interesting. “Yay! I get to click the next button.” <http://www.slideshare.net/CathyMoore/5-ways-to-make-linear-navigation-more-interesting> Another great resource for trainers is the Rapid E-Learning Blog <http://www.articulate.com/rapid-elearning/>

Going to ALA in Washington DC?

Don't miss the opportunity to participate in the 7th annual Learning Round Table Training Showcase: Best Practices in Training, Staff Development and Continuing Education.

The 2010 Training Showcase will feature old favorites and new opportunities!

6" Exhibit Tables for Participants

Resource Exchange Program

Showcase Sponsorship

Networking Niches

Refreshments

Door Prizes

BIGWIG!



This fun event attracts several hundred conference attendees. It's an effective venue for networking with colleagues; and learning about best practices in training. Light refreshments are served and door prizes are awarded.

Where: ALA Annual Conference - Washington D.C. (exact location to be announced later)

When: Sunday, June 27, 2010 from 1:30 -3:30 pm

For more information about sponsorships and participating in the Training Showcase check the Learning Round Table website: www.ala.org/cfenert or email the Showcase Co-Chairs: Cindi Hickey, chickey@Kslib.info or Louise Whitaker, louise@pls.lib.ok.us.

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LearnRT Board Meetings - Join Us Virtually!

What: All Learning Round Table members (and other interested folks) are invited to attend the LearnRT virtual monthly meetings. We use the meetings for updates and follow-ups to committee work, discussions, sharing and announcements.

2010 Virtual Meeting Dates

- Thursday, March 11
- Wednesday, April 21
- Thursday, May 13
- Wednesday, June 16



Virtual Meeting Times:

2:00 - 3:00 pm EDT

How:

We're using ALA's OPAL web-conferencing platform for these meetings.

Location/Log In: <http://www.conference321.com/masteradmin/room.asp?id=rs423c62c43df0>