

Technology and Trends Roundtable Report – 1/26/2006

The TNT Roundtable section sponsored at NCLA conference in Winston-Salem September 20 – 23, 2005 They included:

- “Interactive Mapping Web Sites at the Local and State Level” Presented by Susan Pulsipher, Director of Library Services and Liaison Areas, Methodist College. This program demonstrated the variety of questions that can be answered from local government web sites, provided lists of sites, demonstrated the common navigation and manipulation tools used, and explained a little about the underlying geographic information system technology (GIS) that makes all of this possible.
- “The Library From Your Browser Toolbar” Presented by Scott Rice, Networked Information Services Librarian and Distance Education Librarian, UNC Greensboro. Scott spoke on how bookmarklets and other browser modifications can make the library's resources even easier and quicker to use. Bookmarklets use javascript to enable the user to quickly and easy gain access to library resources from any web page by selecting a word or phrase and clicking on the bookmark. They can be made for a library catalog, a link resolver, or any electronic resource that accepts a search string as input.
- “Technology, Popular Culture, and the Future of the Library” presented by Dr. Richard Madaus, Executive Director of the College Center for Library Automation in Tallahassee Florida. The session focused on how popular culture embraces an ongoing variety of ever changing technologies, the role of the library faces new challenges. This presentation explored the impact of some of the consumer electronics trends and the challenges and opportunities created for all types of libraries.
- “New Communications Tools for Libraries: Blogs, Wikis, RSS, Podcasting and Other Social Software” presented by Brandy Bourne, Web Services Librarian at UNC Asheville. The session will described blogs, wikis, rss feeds, podcasting, and other new tools for keeping up to date, managing projects, and publishing news for your organization or for the public. It will covered what some of these applications are, how they work, how libraries are using them, and their implications for library service.

All sessions were well attended. We had over 60 conference attendees at every session.

The TNT Roundtable also had a Luncheon to discuss future plans for the group. Each participant was asked what the top technologies they want to learn about are. The group discussed making the TNT listserv more viable in 2006. Programming for 2006 was discussed and ideas were gathered. The presentations from the conference will be mounted on the NCLA TNT website as soon as possible. Beth Bernhardt was named Chair and John Via was named Vice-Chair.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Bernhardt