Introduction

The Charleston Conference continues to be a major event for information exchange among librarians, vendors and publishers. Now in its thirty-second year, the Conference continues to be one of the most popular conferences in the Southeast. With record numbers for 2012, Conference attendees continue to remark on the informative and thought-provoking sessions. The Conference provides a casual, collegial atmosphere where librarians, publishers, and vendors talk freely and directly about issues facing their libraries and information providers. All this interaction occurs in the beautiful city of Charleston, South Carolina. This is the eighth year that Beth R. Bernhardt has put together the proceedings from the Conference and the fourth year for Leah Hinds. We are pleased to share some of the learning experiences that we, and other attendees, had at the conference.

The theme of the 2012 Charleston Conference was “Accentuate the Positive!” While not all presenters prepared written versions of their remarks, enough did so that we are able to include an overview of such subjects as collection development, management, end users, scholarly communication, and technology issues. The unique nature of the Charleston Conference gives librarians, publishers, and library vendors the opportunity to holistically examine these and other points of interest.

Katina Strauch, founder of the conference, is an inspiration to us. Her enthusiasm for the conference and the proceedings is motivating. We hope you, the reader, find the papers as informative as we do and that they encourage the continuation of the ongoing dialogue among librarians, vendors, and publishers that can only enhance the learning and research experience for the ultimate user.

Signed,

Co-Editors of the 32nd Charleston Conference Proceedings

Beth R. Bernhardt, Electronic Resources Librarian, University of North Carolina at Greensboro and Main Conference Director

Leah Hinds, Assistant Conference Director