

OLAQ

OLA Quarterly

Volume 16
Number 4

*Doing More with Less: Creative Strategies in the
New Economy (Winter 2010)*

July 2014

Introduction

Tricia Juettemeyer
Art Institute of Portland

Recommended Citation

Juettemeyer, T. (2014). Introduction. *OLA Quarterly*, 16(4), 3. <http://dx.doi.org/10.7710/1093-7374.1299>

© 2014 by the author(s).

OLA Quarterly is an official publication of the Oregon Library Association | ISSN 1093-7374

Introduction

In the past year, Oregon libraries and librarians have been asked by administrators, legislators, managers and others to do more with less ... less financial support, less material support, less professional development support, less staffing, and more—er, less. These requests, or rather, directives are popular across the country, as evidenced by the numerous budget cuts, salary and hiring freezes, and library closings we have read about, listened to, and seen in the media in 2010. There is a clear need for creative thinking to address the many issues created by having less of everything. Exemplifying this, an ALA title set to be published in 2011, the *Frugal Librarian: Thriving in Tough Economic Times* will provide strategies for success across all libraries—academic, public, and special—when faced with a troublesome fiscal outlook.

Oregon librarians are ahead of this curve on this type of thinking, and have been doing more with less for some time. Despite their often challenging situations, this state's librarians use creative thinking in order to continue to provide the best services possible to their users. While making do with what they currently have, they are working to meet users' needs, develop professionally, continue to learn, and even subsist on less.

This issue provides insight into how librarians across Oregon are addressing these challenges in their own libraries and lives: Michele DeSilva demonstrates how thinking outside the box and involving library users can lead to great innovations. Robin Paynter and Margaret Mellinger show us how e-learning is helping to meet the professional development needs of underserved librarians statewide, while Nora Barnett provides tips on getting more out of a distance education MLS program. Connie Bennett and LaVena Nohrenberg provide an account of a continually shrinking budget, and their efforts to work creatively within those confines. Carson Mischel shows resourcefulness in creating connections and partnering with other organizations to meet user needs. Emily Ford and Valerie Fishler give practical tips for economical living as well as reducing library expenses. It is my hope that this issue provides you with inspiration and practical information to creatively develop your own strategies for doing more with less in the new economy.

Guest editor
Tricia Juettemeyer
tjuettemeyer@aii.edu
Library Director
Art Institute of Portland

O L A O
