

President's Message



Technology Doesn't Dumb Us Down. It Frees Our Minds.

Many of you may have heard about or read the recent article in Atlantic Magazine entitled "Is Google making us Stupid?" As an avid user of Google it certainly grabbed my attention. Basically the author contends that Google users are slaves of convenience, and using Google prevents individuals from developing their intellectual capacity to its fullest. If you read my title, which by the way I Googled, you know that I disagree.

However; I suspect that many of LAB's members might agree with the author of the article at least to a limited extent. This is not an unusual state of mind. For many librarians technology is a useful tool, but is inherently suspect and not something they find really interesting.

This is an important realization for me as the current president of LAB. For one I would like to change this attitude and help our members become more comfortable with

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technology. Secondly I realize that my interests and attitude do not reflect the interests and attitudes of many of LAB's members. LAB needs to reach out to these members and to others who might become members to discover what their needs and interests really are.

During this past year LAB did concentrate on technology. The training we arranged for concerned new technology and an initiative was started to encourage LAB members to become members of Facebook and to join the LAB group on Facebook as well as the group for the Florida Library Association. Many members turned out for the training, but only a few members took advantage of or joined LAB in using Facebook. I had hoped that by encouraging members to use Facebook that we could start on-line discussions of topics like "Is Google making us Stupid?"

During the coming year I hope that we can reach out to our members and to prospective members to discover what they really feel would be useful and interesting to them.

Thank you,
 Jack A. Newcombe
 President,
 Library Association of Brevard

Continuing Education Workshop



Wednesday, November 12
 2:00 - 5:00 PM

The Invisible Web

featuring

Suzi Holler,
Central Florida Library
Cooperative (CFLC)

Evans Library
 Link Multimedia Room
 150 West University Blvd.
 Melbourne, FL 32901
 (321) 674-8086

[http://www.lib.fit.edu/
 pubs/directions/
 directionstolibrary-4-30-2004.pdf](http://www.lib.fit.edu/pubs/directions/directionstolibrary-4-30-2004.pdf)

Space is limited so register early. Refreshments will be served.

Looking Ahead...

Theater Night will be held in January or February of 2009. If you know about a great local theater event during one of those months, please share it with our VP, Nate Hosburgh at nhosburg@fit.edu.

Contact members of the LAB Executive Board with your ideas, requests, comments or concerns at www.lib.fit.edu/lab.