



ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEASTERN RESEARCH LIBRARIES

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ASERL Selects Paula Sullenger as Visiting Program Officer for Cooperative Journal Retention

ATLANTA — (September 9, 2011) — The Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (ASERL) has selected Paula Sullenger, Head of Electronic Resources and Serials for Auburn University Libraries, to serve as the organization's next Visiting Program Officer (VPO). Ms. Sullenger will lead the expansion of ASERL's cooperative print journal retention program. Her work with ASERL will be a six month assignment, starting October 15, 2011.

Ms. Sullenger has significant experience in many aspects of collection management and technical services. "Paula Sullenger has both the hands-on knowledge and the organizational skills needed to foster greater participation in this program. I think she is a great match for this assignment with ASERL," commented John Burger, ASERL's Executive Director.

In April 2011, ASERL members approved a policy to govern the collaborative journal retention program. Items that are committed to this effort will be retained at library facilities across the region through December 31, 2035. Currently ASERL libraries have committed to retain more than 1500 scholarly journal titles, with a goal of securing commitments for another 1500 titles before the end of the calendar year. This first phase will be an archive of approximately 200,000 volumes upon which other libraries can make collection management decisions.

Ms. Sullenger will devote her time to serve as the program's leader. She will work with participating libraries to identify additional titles to be retained, determine the bibliographic processes that are necessary to record the retention commitments, and create a useful web presence and documentation for the program. She will remain at Auburn University during this assignment, with occasional travel to ASERL's offices and relevant meetings and conferences on an as-needed basis.

Ms. Sullenger noted "Cooperative journal retention programs are in development across the country. I am eager to help create such a system to serve the research libraries in the Southeast, and I think ASERL is well suited to meet this need."

About ASERL

Founded in 1956, the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries is the largest regional academic library cooperative in the country, with 38 members in ten states. ASERL operates numerous projects designed to foster a high standard of library excellence through inter-institutional resource sharing and other collaborative efforts. By working together, ASERL members provide and maintain top quality resources and services for the students, faculty, and citizens of their respective communities. More information about ASERL can be found at www.aserl.org.

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