

## **Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship Records, 1978 – 2008, 4 Cubic Feet**

### **PREFACE**

The Clarion University Archives, housed in Carlson Library on the Clarion University campus, serve as the central repository for information and records created by, for, and about the University and its constituency. It exists to identify, collect, and preserve records of enduring value to the Clarion University community and to deliver a useful information service to its members as well as to the public at large. The aim of the Archives is to achieve the ultimate goal of advancing the educational and research mission of the University as an institution and of supporting inquiries about those who have built and sustained it.

Archival collections, unless restricted, are available to members of the Clarion University community and outside researchers. A complete archives collecting policy and services / use policy is available from the archivist. Researchers wishing to access this collection or other archival collections should make an appointment with the archivist before visiting the Clarion University Archives.

### **INTRODUCTION**

The records of the *Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship*, henceforth referred to as CSRL, were received in the Clarion University Archives in August 2008. The core collection and related journals totals 4 cubic feet. The collection was transferred to the Archives by Dr. Bernard Vavrek. Dr. Vavrek, the coordinator / director of CSRL, was a faculty member in the Library Science Department from 1971 until his retirement in Summer 2008.

The bulk of the collection consists of CSRL publications (such as journals, conference proceedings, and newsletters), and brochures documenting the agendas for CSRL and CSRL-related workshops and conferences. The records are open for research without restrictions, under conditions of the Archives' services / use policy (available from the archivist.) The suggested citation to the collection is: "Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship, Clarion University Archives, Carlson Library, Clarion University of Pennsylvania."

### **ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY**

*The quotations in this section are available from a brochure about CSRL available in folder # 1.1*

The CSRL was organized in 1978 by the faculty of the *School of Library Media and Information Science*, as the department was referred to at that time. Dr. Bernard Vavrek, a department faculty member from 1971 – 2008, served continuously as the director / coordinator of CSRL. The stated goal of CSRL was "to identify needs and to extend current knowledge relative to the nature and role of rural libraries"

whether they be public, school, academic, special, or corporate libraries, or library systems / networks including small libraries. CSRL “developed out of a particular concern for library services in areas geographically isolated from spheres of influence generated by metropolitan library systems.” At its founding, the objectives of CSRL were: “1) To stimulate imaginative thinking relative to rural library services; 2) To identify problems endemic with rural library services – for those being served and those who are unserved; 3) To provide consultative services in designing new service patterns in rural libraries; 4) To conduct and / or coordinate research relative to identifiable library problems; 5) To stimulate continuing education; 6) To coordinate physical and human resources which could be lent to analyze library services; 7) To collect data relevant to the needs of rural libraries.”

CSRL’s primary activities were to organize continuing education workshops and conferences, to offer graduate level courses in rural library studies & internship opportunities in rural libraries, to participate in research programs and projects (funded by the *H.W. Wilson Foundation*, *National Endowment for the Humanities*, *Pennsylvania Humanities Council*, and *Pennsylvania State University*), to publish materials focusing on rural librarianship (bibliographies, newsletters, conference proceedings, journals), and to provide speakers for conferences and workshops held by groups outside of CSRL.

The CSRL disbanded in 2008 with the retirement of Dr. Vavrek, with the intention that its activities would be continued (beginning in 2009) by the *Association for Rural and Small Libraries* and the *Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services*. These two entities were founded by the CSRL, but are no longer affiliated with the University. In the final 2008 issues of *Bookmobile and Outreach Services* and *Rural Libraries* ( CSRL journals), Dr. Vavrek writes, “The intention in helping to parent both of these entities was always with the idea that they would become independent from Clarion University and provide continuity. The *H. W. Wilson Foundation*, which has been a supporter of the CSRL over many years, provided the original funding to organize both associations in 2002.”

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

This collection is composed of five series: *brochures*, *publications*, *correspondence*, *coordinator’s activities*, and *miscellaneous*. The collection contains materials dated from 1978 – 2008, with the bulk of materials in the *brochures* and *publications* series. The *brochures* series is particularly helpful in documenting the agendas for workshops and conferences presented by or sponsored by the CSRL.

## **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

### **Brochures (Series 1) – 8 folders**

This series contains CSRL-related brochures of various types:

Folder 1.1 - *Background Information* (circa 1978 - 1982 ) – Describe the goals, objectives and activities of CSRL and describe graduate level library science courses pertaining to rural / small libraries.

Folder 1.2 - *Conferences / Workshops* (1978 – 2006) – These brochures are programs, registration forms, and announcements for conferences and workshops sponsored by or in cooperation with CSRL.

Folder 1.3 - *Rural Libraries and the Humanities* (1981 – 1983) – Informational brochures and conference programs / registration forms for a special series of workshops held over a two-year period from Nov. 1981 – Nov. 1983. They were funded through a grant from the *National Endowment for the Humanities*.

Folder 1.4 - *Institute for the Development of Information Technology in Rural Communities* (1997 – 1999) – Programs and registration forms for conferences sponsored by the *Institute for the Development of Information Technology in Rural Communities*, Clarion University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Vavrek served as the director of this Institute.

Folder 1.5 - *Business Information Services of the Clarion District Library Association* (1984) – Informational brochures about *Business Information Services* and workshop advertisements for workshops held by *Business Information Services* in cooperation with CSRL.

Folder 1.6 - *Rural Adult Literacy Program* (1987) – Brochures describing the *Rural Adult Literacy Center*, formed in 1987 through legislation proposed by Representative David R. Wright (D-63) and supported by an appropriation from the Pennsylvania State Legislature.

Folder 1.7 - *CSRL Publication Advertisements* (circa 1984 - 1992) – Brochures advertising CSRL publications, proceedings, journals, and software for purchase.

Folder 1.8 - *CSRL Sub-Groups* (circa 2002) – Brochures advertising two CSRL-parented organizations: ABOS (*Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services*) and ARSL (*Association of Rural and Small Libraries*).

## **CSRL Publications (Series 2) – 14 folders**

This series contains or points to the locations / alternate locations of CSRL publications such as conference proceedings, journals, and newsletters. Included publications are:

Folder 2.1 - *CSRL Newsletter* (1979 – 1980)

Folder 2.2 - *Rural and Small Library Services Newsletter* (1990 – 1992)

Folder 2.3 – “*Outputm*” *Manual* (1988) – (Output Measures for Public Libraries) – vn 2.0

By William Schell – Assistant Professor of Computer Science, Clarion University of Pennsylvania

Folder 2.4 - *The Rural Bookmobile: Going Strong After Eighty Years* (1985)

Proceedings of a conference held in Columbus OH, June 19-21, 1985 under the auspices of the State Library of Ohio. A copy of this publication is also available in Carlson Library's circulating collection: Quarto Z 686 .R8

Folder 2.5 - *The Rural Bookmobile: Quality As A Basic Ingredient* (1987)

Proceedings of a conference held in Columbus OH, June 18-20, 1986.

Folder 2.6 - *A Budgeting Manual for Small Public Libraries* (1987)

By William D. Campbell – Professor of Accounting in the College of Business Administration, Clarion University of Pennsylvania

Folder 2.7 - *Assessing the Information Needs of Rural Pennsylvanians* (1990)

By Dr. Bernard Vavrek, CSRL coordinator

Folder 2.8 - *A Bookkeeping System for Small Public Libraries* (1990)

By William D. Campbell – Professor of Accounting in the College of Business Administration, Clarion University of Pennsylvania. A copy of this publication is also available in Carlson Library's circulating collection: Quarto Z 683 .C3

Folder 2.9 - *Assessing the Information Needs of Rural Americans* (1990)

By Dr. Bernard Vavrek, CSRL coordinator

Folder 2.10 - *The 21<sup>st</sup> Century: The Wilson Symposium on the Future of Public Libraries* (1992)

Proceedings of the *H. W. Wilson Symposium on the Future of Public Libraries* held in Omaha, Nebraska, on Sept. 26-29, 1990. A copy of this publication is also available in Carlson Library's circulating collection: Quarto Z 675 .C8 W54 1992

Folder 2.11 - *Assessing the Role of the Rural Public Library* (1993)

By Dr. Bernard Vavrek, CSRL coordinator. A copy of this publication is also available in Carlson Library's circulating collection: Quarto Z 675 .C8 V3683 1993

Folder 2.12 - *Trends in Humanities Programming* (1984)

Edited by Dr. Bernard Vavrek, CSRL coordinator and Loralyn Whitney. Proceedings of a workshop, "*Trends in Humanities Programs: Present, and Future,*" which was sponsored by CSRL on November 18, 1983. A copy of this publication is also available in Carlson Library's circulating collection: Quarto Z 675 .V7 T7

Folder 2.13 - *Bookmobile and Outreach Services* (1998 – 2008)

Journal published twice per year by CSRL. Issues are held in Archives under LD 1017 .C818 B7 Circulating copies of this journal are available in Carlson Library's print periodicals collection.

Folder 2.14 - *Rural Libraries* (1980 – 2008)

Journal published twice per year by CSRL. Issues are held in Archives under LD 1017 .C818 R83 Circulating copies of this journal are available in Carlson Library's main collection under Z675 .C8 R8 and in Carlson Library's print periodicals collection.

Folder 2.15 – *Rural Public Libraries in Pennsylvania: A Directory* (March 1, 1979)

Folder 2.16 – *Rural Public Libraries in Pennsylvania: A Directory* (October 1, 1980)

**Correspondence (Series 3) – 1 Folder**

This series (1977 – 2006) is arranged chronologically and contains cards, letters, memos, e-mail messages, and listserv postings related to CSRL activities. The majority of the correspondence is addressed to Dr. Bernard Vavrek.

**Coordinator's Activities (Series 4) – 2 Folders**

This series documents the activities of Dr. Bernard Vavrek, CSRL coordinator. It contains drafts of his vita (which documents many CSRL activities) (in folder 4.1) and drafts and / or published copies of papers / articles that he submitted to professional journals (1997 – 2001) (in folder 4.2). Included articles or article drafts are:

*A National Crisis No One Really Cares About* – Published in *American Libraries*, December 1997

*What Are Public Library Users Really Buying?* – Published in *American Libraries*, March 1998

*Your Public Library Has a Web Page: So What?* – Published in *American Libraries*, January 1999

*Is the American Public Library a Part of Everyone's Life?* – Published in *American Libraries*, January 2000

*The Best Things in Life Have Fees* – Published in *American Libraries*, May 2000

*Downsizing the Public Library: This Is Only the Beginning* – Published in *Public Library Quarterly*, Vol. 18 (1) 2000

*Wanted: Entertainment Director?* – Published in *American Libraries*, June / July 2001

**Miscellaneous (Series 5) – 7 folders**

This series contains a small collection of CSRL news releases and CSRL-related Clarion University news releases (folder 5.1) (1980-2003), CSRL survey forms (folder 5.2) (*bookmobile user survey* and *public library user survey* – no survey results included), several publications from outside entities that make

reference to CSRL (folder 5.3), CSRL bookmarks and bookplates (folder 5.4), award certificates (folder 5.5) (2000 – 2003) and a plaque presented to Dr. Vavrek and / or CSRL (folder 5.5.1) (1985), and a “Rural Libraries” tote bag (folder 5.6).

## CONTAINER LISTING

Box	Folder	Contents
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	1.1	Brochures - CSRL Brochures – Background Information circa 1978 - 1982
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	1.2	Brochures – Conferences / Workshops 1978 - 2006
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	1.3	Brochures – Rural Libraries and the Humanities 1981 - 1983
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	1.4	Brochures – Institute for the Development of Information Technology in Rural Communities 1997 - 1999
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	1.5	Brochures – Business Information Services of the Clarion District Library Association 1984
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	1.6	Brochures – Rural Adult Literacy Program 1987
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	1.7	Brochures – CSRL Publication Advertisements circa 1984 - 1992
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	1.8	Brochures – CSRL Sub-Groups circa 2002
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	2.1	CSRL Publications – CSRL Newsletter 1979 - 1980
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	2.2	CSRL Publications – Rural and Small Library Services Newsletter 1990 - 1992
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	2.3	CSRL Publications – “Outputm” Manual 1988
Center for the Study of Rural	2.4	CSRL Publications – The Rural Bookmobile: Going Strong After Eighty Years

Librarianship		1985
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	2.5	CSRL Publications – The Rural Bookmobile: Quality As A Basic Ingredient 1987
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	2.6	CSRL Publications – A Budgeting Manual for Small Public Libraries 1987
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	2.7	CSRL Publications – Assessing the Information Needs of Rural Pennsylvanians 1990
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	2.8	CSRL Publications – A Bookkeeping System for Small Public Libraries 1990
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	2.9	CSRL Publications – Assessing the Information Needs of Rural Americans 1990
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	2.10	CSRL Publications – The 21 <sup>st</sup> Century: The Wilson Symposium on the Future of Public Libraries 1992
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	2.11	CSRL Publications – Assessing the Role of the Rural Public Library 1993
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	2.12	CSRL Publications – Trends in Humanities Programming 1984
Archives LD1017 .C818 B7	2.13	CSRL Publications – Bookmobile and Outreach Services 1998 - 2008
Archives LD1017 .C818 R83	2.14	CSRL Publications – Rural Libraries 1980 - 2008
Center for the Study of Rural	2.15	Rural Public Libraries in Pennsylvania: A Directory

Librarianship		March 1, 1979
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	2.16	Rural Public Libraries in Pennsylvania: A Directory October 1, 1980
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	3.1	Correspondence 1977 - 2006
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	4.1	Coordinator's Activities – Dr. Vavrek's Vitas
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	4.2	Coordinator's Activities – Papers / Journal Articles 1997 - 2001
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	5.1	Miscellaneous – CSRL and University CSRL-Related News Releases Approx. 1980 - 2003
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	5.2	Miscellaneous – Surveys (Not Dated)
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	5.3	Miscellaneous – Outside Publications Making Reference to CSRL (Not Dated)
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	5.4	Miscellaneous – Center Bookmarks and Bookplates (Not Dated)
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	5.5	Miscellaneous – Award Certificates Presented to Dr. Vavrek and /or CSRL 2000 - 2003
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	5.5.1	Award Plaque 1985
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	5.6	Rural Libraries Tote Bag
Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship	5.7	Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship Framed Cross-Stitch, undated

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