



**Laura N. Kirkland, Associate Professor  
and Cataloging Librarian**

As Cataloging Librarian, Laura Kirkland oversees all materials added to the library's online catalog, except for Periodicals and Government Documents. She supervises and trains the student assistants who process library books and materials. She is also responsible for quality control, ensuring that all catalog records are accurate with up-to-date and correct headings. She is presently

overseeing a library-wide inventory of the physical collection, and the library has been able to reinstate many lost and missing items as a result.

Kirkland is the editor of the Stetson University *Faculty Review*, an online listing of publications and creative activities of Stetson faculty members. This annual publication began in 2001 and has been well-received by both faculty and administration. All issues are available on the library's website

([http://stetson.edu/library/publications\\_facultyreview.php](http://stetson.edu/library/publications_facultyreview.php)).

Kirkland has published two articles, one on resources available for catalogers, and one (co-authored with Head of Technical Services Debbi Dinkins) on the impact of adding contents notes to bibliographic records. During her recent sabbatical leave, she analyzed the catalog's search logs and compared the results with item circulation records in an effort to learn how the library's patrons are searching the catalog, and to what extent those searches enable users to find useful items in the library's physical collection. This information should prove useful when the library selects a new public interface for the catalog.

Since coming to Stetson University, Kirkland has served on the Professional Development Committee, as Library Representative on the Faculty Senate, the Library Research Prize Committee, and on the Women and Gender Studies Committee. She has also been involved in organizations of technical services and cataloging librarians. She has served as chair of the Central Florida Library Consortium Cataloging Interest Group, and has also chaired the Florida Library Association Technical Services Interest Group.

Kirkland currently serves as *News Digest* Editor for the Florida Library Association, compiling and editing news from Florida libraries and from national library news sources on a monthly basis; the issues are available online to FLA members. In 2008, she and Instruction Librarian Jane Bradford presented a program at the FLA Annual Conference entitled, "Why We Can't 'Google' Everything - Smart Searching Strategies and Controlled Vocabulary" which was well-attended and received many favorable comments. They repeated the presentation for the CFLC Cataloging Interest Group at the group's request.