For Immediate Release:  
April 27, 2006

**Prudence Adler is 2006 Patterson Copyright Award Winner**

(WASHINGTON) Prudence S. Adler is the 2006 recipient of the *L. Ray Patterson Copyright Award: In Support of Users’ Rights*. Ms. Adler is Associate Executive Director, Federal Relations and Information Policy for the Association of Research Libraries. For more than 17 years, Ms. Adler has worked the gamut of information policy issues important to libraries and higher education including intellectual property, telecommunications, and issues relating to access to government information.

Ms. Adler’s outstanding contributions on copyright issues have had a unique impact on libraries and library users. Her communications on legislative developments concerning copyright keep countless librarians informed, helping them decipher and manage the copyright challenges at their home institutions, in addition to preparing them for library advocacy. “Prue Adler’s efforts on behalf of academic and research libraries to monitor and influence federal and state legislation related to copyright and intellectual property are unrivaled. I cannot imagine a more appropriate or deserving recipient of the Patterson Copyright Award,” noted Brian E. C. Schottlaender, University Librarian at the University of California at San Diego and President of the Association of Research Libraries.

Ms. Adler is a founder of the Library Copyright Alliance (LCA), a coalition of five major library associations (www.librarycopyrightalliance.org) that collectively influence federal copyright legislation. Since its inception last year, the LCA has taken a leading role in successfully blocking more than a dozen legislative proposals that would have been damaging to the public interest, such as database legislation and the broadcast flag.

“As a lobbyist for libraries and their users, Ms. Adler is recognized throughout the library profession for her leadership in mobilizing alliances of like-minded constituencies, and for her effective collaboration with groups such as the Digital Future Coalition, Home Recording Rights Coalition, the Center for Democracy & Technology, Americans for Fair Electronic Commerce Transactions (AFFECT) and others, to promote and protect access to information resources.” said Janice T. Pilch, chair of the Patterson Award committee.

In the area of copyright and intellectual property litigation, Ms. Adler has also been influential. She has contributed to amicus briefs in copyright-related court cases ranging from *Eldred v. Ashcroft* (copyright term extension) to *The New York Times v. Tasini* (electronic re-publication of works by freelance authors) to *Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios v. Grokster* (P2P file sharing).

The Patterson Copyright Award recognizes contributions of an individual or group that pursues and supports the Constitutional purpose of the U.S. Copyright Law, fair use and the public domain. The award is named after L. Ray Patterson, a key legal figure who explained and justified the importance of the public domain and fair use. He helped
articulate that copyright law was negatively shifting from its original purpose and overly favoring rights of copyright holders. His book, *The Nature of Copyright: A Law of Users’ Rights* is the definitive book on the constitutional underpinnings of copyright and the critical importance of the public domain.

Sponsored by the ALA Office for Information Technology Policy (OITP) and the OITP Copyright Advisory Committee, the Patterson award is a crystal trophy. The award will be presented at the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans on Monday, June 26, 2006.