

About the Literatures in English Section

ACRL's Literatures in English Section provides the resources—ideas, programs, discussion forums, and networking opportunities—to support the development of members of ACRL who are professionally involved in the selection, acquisition, organization, and use of information sources and collections related to the study and teaching of literatures written in English.

LES has five goals:

- Promote** the improvement of library resources related to literatures in English.
- Enhance** the professional development of its members.
- Serve** the field by initiating and sponsoring programs, discussion sessions, publications, and other projects related to literatures in English.
- Support** academic and research librarians specializing in literatures in English.
- Foster** projects and further research opportunities in English-language literary studies for librarians and other professionals.

LES welcomes members from all types of academic and research libraries, and all meetings are open to any librarians interested in literatures in English. Members are encouraged to become involved in LES through committee work, program planning, and professional exchange. Programs are usually scheduled during the annual conference. Business meetings take place at both the ALA Annual Conference and Midwinter Meeting, and discussion sessions on announced topics are often held at the end of general business meetings.

"LES provides a forum where we enlarge our knowledge and sharpen our skills through programs, conversation, and discussion with colleagues. In addition, the members are fun."

*Marcia Pankake
Professor and Bibliographer
University of Minnesota Libraries*

About ACRL

The Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) is the foremost organization of academic and research librarians and other interested individuals. ACRL is dedicated to leading academic and research librarians and libraries in advancing learning and scholarship.

ACRL has 17 interest-specific sections that provide professional development through newsletters, discussion lists, specialized programming, preconferences, and awards.

ACRL Sections

- African-American Studies Librarians
- Anthropology and Sociology
- Arts
- Asian, African, and Middle Eastern
- College Libraries
- Community & Junior College Libraries
- Distance Learning
- Education and Behavioral Sciences
- Instruction
- Law and Political Science
- Literatures in English
- Rare Books and Manuscripts
- Science and Technology
- Slavic and East European
- University Libraries
- Western European Studies
- Women's Studies

How to Join ACRL and the Literatures in English Section

ACRL dues include two section memberships at no additional cost. If you have questions about ACRL membership or would like more information on becoming an ACRL member, please contact us by phone or e-mail. To join ACRL, complete a paper application, call one of our courteous membership specialists at (800) 545-2433 (press 5), or visit www.ala.org/acrl and click "Join ACRL."

 Association of College & Research Libraries
A Division of the American Library Association
50 East Huron Street • Chicago, IL 60611-2795
T: (800) 545-2433, ext. 2523 • F: (312) 280-2520
www.ala.org/acrl • acrl@ala.org

 Association of College & Research Libraries
A Division of the American Library Association

LITERATURES IN ENGLISH SECTION



Advancement

Professionalism

Unique community

Recognition

Specialized resources

The **Literatures in English Section (LES)** enhances the work of professionals who select, acquire, organize, and use information sources and collections related to literatures written in English in academic and research libraries.

Visit **LES** online at <http://www.ala.org/acrl/les>.



What do members of the Literatures in English Section do?

Participate nationally on issues relating to literatures in the English language.

Plan programs, publications, conferences, and discussions with librarians and others involved in the study of literatures in English.

Share ideas and information about current trends in publishing, research, and teaching with colleagues and other professionals.

Produce resources including reference and instruction guides, Web sites, and literary reviews of English-language resources.

Network with librarians and other colleagues.

Enhance knowledge of the field and develop new skills.

What are the benefits of joining the Literatures in English Section?

Advancement

With members from all kinds of libraries and backgrounds, LES provides opportunities to participate in conferences with librarians, publishers, and faculty; to publish in *Biblio-Notes*, the LES newsletter, and other venues; and to take a leadership role in committees and programs at ALA, and elsewhere. LES also provides a mentoring program for new members who would like to learn more about the profession.

Recognition

LES members have many opportunities to achieve recognition as speakers at professional programs, through committee work, and as contributing authors to LES-sponsored publications. LES offers an array of committees that provide members with activities, including conference program planning, membership development, strategic planning, and publications as well as discussion groups dealing with issues such as collection development and reference.

Unique Community

LES members are active nationally and internationally with their colleagues in the English-speaking world. The section has an active electronic discussion list community (LES-L) that allows publishers, librarians, and faculty to discuss important issues relating to literary studies in English. Three discussion groups—Literary Reference, Collections, and New Members—provide additional opportunities for information sharing.

“ACRL Literatures in English Section provides a wonderful community for librarians and other professionals who are focused on the intersection of literature and people. The members of LES share their experiences and expertise with one another to better understand the world of literature and literary studies—an emphasis you won’t find anywhere else in ALA.”

Michael Macan
Reference-Bibliographer for English
U.S. Naval Academy

Professionalism

LES is a leader in promoting the study and research of librarianship in literatures in English. The section is dedicated to helping its members become leaders in their respective institutions and professional communities.

How to Get More Involved

Visit the Literatures in English Section Web site at <http://www.ala.org/acrl/les>. You will find all the information you need to get involved in LES on our “Member Activities and Services” page.

“I became involved in the Literatures in English Section to learn more about how my counterparts at other universities handle the daily demands of their jobs. Now I have a supportive and essential cohort of colleagues from across the country. This national network fosters a vital camaraderie between unique individuals with similar responsibilities. The experiences and opinions shared through the section—at meetings, via the group e-mail list, through programs and panels—prove invaluable to me every day.”

Angela Courtney
Librarian for English and American Literature
Indiana University-Bloomington

“I’ve been attending LES meetings for the last twenty years because it’s a terrific way to network with my colleagues in the field of literature librarianship.”

Laura Fuderer
Subject Librarian for English and French Literatures
University of Notre Dame