From the incoming ACRL president . . .

I look forward to working with you during my term as ACRL President. We have an exciting and challenging year ahead. The challenges we face in our work and on our campuses continue as the world of information expands and becomes more complex. I believe this is a time for opportunity for academic and research librarians. It is also a time when Chapters Council’s role in ACRL is critical. One of my personal goals for the coming year is to broaden the opportunities for our members who do not attend national conferences to participate in our efforts to plan for the future and to address current challenges. I will ask the Chapters Council to be actively engaged in the review and revision of the Strategic Plan and, through this effort, to help the ACRL Board and staff identify ways to strengthen the ties with the ACRL chapters.

My work as a workshop leader and presenter at many conferences and programs sponsored by ACRL chapters also leads me to see chapters as critical in ACRL’s pursuit of its current Strategic Directions, especially the first one: “Provide development opportunities for academic and research librarians and other library personnel that enhance their ability to deliver superior services and resources.” I will promote Leadership and Learning as the major themes of my year. My experience in ACRL has taught me that much of the leadership and learning which takes place occurs at the chapter level. By working with the Chapters Council, I want to recognize and promote this contribution to the association. I also plan to contribute at the local level by offering workshops and seminars at as many chapter meetings as possible during my term of office.

I look forward to working with you to continue to strengthen ACRL’s role as the professional association for academic and research librarians. I hope to see many of you in Washington D.C. this summer, but I would really like to see you leading and learning at your chapter meeting. Please let me know your ideas and suggestions (410-268-3539 or maureen@arl.org).

Maureen Sullivan
ACRL President
Preliminary Agenda
• Welcome/Introductions/Coffee
• Elections
  Vice Chair/Chair Elect
  Secretary
  Nominations -
  ACRL Director-at-Large
• General Discussion
  How can Chapters Council be
  more useful for its members?
• ACRL Forum
  Brief comments and questions
  ACRL officers and HQ
  Legislative Network coordinator
  Chapters Relations Task Force
  Chapter Topics editor
  Report on ACRL web site

Chapter Topics is published three times a year by the Chapters Council of the Association of College and Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60610 (312-944-6780). Send submissions to holman@darkwing.uoregon.edu.

Barbara Jenkins • Chapters Council Chair
Lee Hisle • ACRL President
Althea H. Jenkins • ACRL Executive Director
Jill Holman • Chapter Topics Editor

Chapter Topics is sent to ACRL chapter chairs free of charge.
It's Election Time at Chapters Council!

Our annual election of officers will be held at the Chapters Council meeting during ALA in Washington DC. All Chapters who send a representative to this important meeting will have the opportunity to vote for our new officers. Below are the statements of the candidates running for positions this year. We will be electing a Chapters Council Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect and a Recording Secretary. Please review the statements by our candidates and be prepared to cast your vote at our meeting in June. Good luck to all our candidates who have accepted the challenge to run for office in ACRL Chapters Council. See you in Washington!

-- Lois Cherepon, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

Candidate Statements
Chair-Elect

LYNNE KING, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF LIBRARIES, THE SAGE COLLEGES

King is the 1997/98 President of the Eastern New York Chapter of ACRL. She served this year on the ACRL Presidential Candidates Forum Committee and is active in her regional OCLC network, currently serving on the advisory board of SUNY/OCLC and as an elected member to the national OCLC Users Council.

“This is an exciting and challenging time to be involved with Chapters Council, as the role and influence of the chapters grow within ACRL. I feel that the chapters are coming into their own, especially given ACRL’s initiatives to promote continued education for members and to develop a responsive government relations network, both of which depend on the foundation provided by chapter professional development programs and communications within their membership. In addition, as an officer of a chapter which is neither affiliated with an incorporated state library organization nor independently incorporated, I have a vested interest in ensuring a process of achieving incorporation that will serve both the needs of the chapters involved and ACRL.

As a long-standing member of my regional ACRL chapter, but a relative newcomer to national ACRL membership, I have become more aware of the great value of the programs, initiatives, and professional advocacy afforded to librarians by ACRL, and the opportunity for the organization to reach many more potential members within academic libraries. If elected, I would work through Chapters Council to bring the largely untapped power and vitality of chapter members to the national organization in ways that would benefit all academic librarians.”

EVELYN C. MINICK, UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN, ST. JOSEPH’S UNIVERSITY

Minick has been active in the ACRL Delaware Valley Chapter for nearly 10 years. She has served as President, Board member, and planned and implemented dozens of programs. She also serves on the Board of the Pennsylvania Library Association and has chaired the College and Research Libraries Division and the Library Administration and Management Roundtable. Perhaps more notably, she may have been the first person to have a baby at an ALA conference and to operate a bookmobile on solar energy.

“I have always been impressed with the visibility and vitality of my local ACRL chapter. That is where the real excitement is for me, in encouraging young library staffers, renewing experienced ones, and keeping a continuous menu of opportunities within reach for growth, learning, shared victories and mistakes, and of course a place to safely complain. Chapters Council is valuable in much the same way — it keeps all of these activities and efforts connected to a common goal, allows us to make this national experience accessible to chapter members, and hopefully provides the vehicle to keep the national ACRL aware of the richness, variety, and importance of local chapter activities.”

Secretary see p. 4

Elisa Topper is moving to a new position: Assistant Dean of the Library School at Dominican University. We will miss her and wish her happiness. Until a new person is hired, contact Althea Jenkins (800-545-2433 x3248 ajenkins@ala.org) with questions.

ACRL has revised its Web site and now has a link for chapters. Check it out: <http://www.ala.org/acrl.html>

Barbara Jenkins, current chair of Chapters Council, was recently elected to a four-year term on the ACRL Board of Directors.

“Imagining the Learning Library”
1997 ACRL President’s Program
Now Available on Videotape!
Complete and abridged versions of the 1997 ACRL President’s Program in San Francisco are now available for borrowing. ACRL encourages state and regional chapters to bring this program to those members who may not have been able to travel to ALA last summer. Advanced reservations for the tapes will be honored by calling 312-280-3277 or via e-mail at larc@ala.org.

Lee Marie Wisel
ACRL Legislative Network Coordinator

Legislative Preconference
“Advocacy Training for Academic Librarians: From Ivory Towers to Halls of Power,” runs from the evening of Wednesday, June 24, 1998 and continues all day Thursday.

“Advocacy is one of the most powerful skills that academic librarians can learn to prepare them for the political and economic environments of the 21st century. I consider advocacy expertise and legislative awareness essential components of the academic librarian tool kit,” said ACRL President Hisle.

Registration is limited to the first 125 participants and the fee is $50 for ACRL members. See <http://www.ala.org/acrl/preconfs.html#advocacy> for more information or contact: Michael Godow, ACRL Program Officer, (800-545-2433 ext. 2510 or mgodow@ala.org)

Candidate for Secretary
MARY McINROY, FEDERAL DOCUMENTS LIBRARIAN AND HEAD OF THE MAP COLLECTION, UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

McInroy is the current Secretary of the Chapters Council. She is immediate Past President of the ACRL Iowa Chapter and has held a variety of posts in that chapter. She is an active member of the Iowa Library Association (ILA) (currently a member of the Conference Planning Committee), as well as the ILA Government Documents Round Table. She is also a member of ALA, ACRL, GODORT, and MAGERT.

“In my years of attending Chapters Council meetings, I have been impressed with the mixture of pragmatism and vision voiced at these gatherings. In most cases, what we dream of doing is tempered by what we can do best to benefit academic colleagues in our individual chapters. Chapters Council should serve as a strong advocate for local chapter members in any deliberations on national goals and mission. Clear, two-way communication is essential between national ACRL and its state chapters, and Chapters Council is a primary vehicle for this communication. I will continue to do my best to make sure our deliberations at these meetings are recorded and communicated accurately to our constituents at the state chapters.”
Minutes cont.

ACRL President Lee Hisle
Jenkins introduced Lee Hisle, 1998 ACRL President. Hisle spoke of the “energetic” programs planned for DC, all related to his theme of values. There will be a legislative advocacy preconference (see the previous page for details). The preconference will be underwritten by money from the ACRL Presidents Program, to keep registration at a low $50. Videotapes of the Washington workshop (one long; one abridged) will be made available.

When the web page linkage issue was brought to his attention, Hisle indicated his support for forming an ACRL Web Task Force, noted that he intended to begin setting it up at midwinter, then asked for volunteers. Hisle supports the “separate entities” aspect of Chapters Council membership and sees Chapters Council as helping to accomplish the ACRL Strategic Plan. He also supports making sure Chapters are not working at cross purposes with the national organization.

Chapter Topics
Jill Holman, editor of Chapter Topics, reminded people that there is room in the newsletter for the usual reports, as well as special activities, reports and pictures. In answer to queries about a Chapters Council Web site, she asked where it should be stored and who should oversee it. After more discussion on web linkage and logistics, chapter representatives present agreed that Holman should join the ACRL Web Task Force.

Miscellaneous
Rebecca Bernthal reported on the ACRL Presidential Candidates Forum held on Saturday from 12:30 - 2 p.m. Approximately 80 people attended the EBSCO-sponsored forum. The Committee was assisted by Elisa Topper. In addition to Chair Bernthal, Forum Committee members were: David Dickey, Joan Heath, Lynne King, and Laurie Sabol. Volunteers for next years Forum Committee should notify Jenkins of their willingness to serve.

ALA Member Services representative Elisa Topper spoke next and emphasized that, along with consulting their copy of the ACRL Guide to Policies and Procedures, chapter leaders should contact her via phone or e-mail (etopper@ala.org) with questions on policies and procedures. Each chapter is allowed one free set of member address labels each fiscal year, to be requested by the chapter chair. Additional label sets cost approximately $48-60 each. If chapters wish to be reimbursed for such things as postage and newsletter duplication, they need to send a copy of the reimbursement form (found in the back of the Guide), along with original receipts, to the address in the manual.

Jenkins introduced ACRL President Elect Maureen Sullivan (maureen@arl.org). Because she desires to give something more than a keynote speech while visiting chapter meetings as ACRL President, Sullivan is offering to present a short workshop (2-3 hours) on a topic of interest to the chapter being visited, and within her field of expertise. Sullivan is skilled and experienced in leading workshops in such areas as leadership & learning, change, strategic planning, work design, etc. Sullivan will do these short workshops for free during her term as ACRL President.

Michael Godow
ACRL Program Officer

ACRL’s Legislative Agenda
The ACRL Board approved a legislative agenda at its 1998 Midwinter Meeting upon recommendation of the Government Relations Committee. Here are highlights (topics followed by actions recommended):

NGI and Internet2
•Educate library administrators about the potential importance of these projects for libraries.
•Educate the high performance computing policy makers and developers at the local, state, and national levels as to the needs of libraries for high bandwidth computer capabilities.
•Follow policy and legislative developments through the Internet2 web site: <www.internet2.edu> and the Presidential Advisory Committee on High Performance Computing and Communications Information Technology, and the Next Generation Internet: <www.hpcc.gov/ac>.

Intellectual Property
•Encourage ACRL members through the ACRL Legislative Network and ACRL Leads to write their congressional representatives to get cosponsorship of critical copyright legislation. These bills are Sen. John Ashcroft’s (R-MO) Digital Copyright Clarification and Technology Act (S. 1146) and the Digital Era Copyright Enhancement Act, jointly introduced by Representatives Rick Boucher (D-VA) and Tom Campbell (R-CA) (H.R. 3048).
•Disseminate the Principles for Licensing Electronic Resources and encourage broad experimental use. The Principles may be found online at <www.ala.org/washoff/confu.html>.

Government Information
•The inter-association working group has sent a legislative proposal to congressional staff to amend the Depository Library Act (44 USC 19). The draft bill is entitled the “Federal Information Access Act.” If legislation is introduced, we want to make sure the working group’s goals are included. The goals and explanatory text can be found <www.lib.berkeley.edu/GODORT/iawfhtml.html>.

Michael Godow
ACRL Program Officer

Mary McInroy, Secretary
Report Recommendations
ACRL Chapters Relations Task Force

The report will be presented to the ACRL Board for consideration at the ALA Annual Meeting in Washington D.C. Excerpts follow, for the full report and the annual report form, see the ACRL web site <http://www.ala.org/acrl.html>.

Task Force Background
The ACRL Chapters Relations Task Force was created by the ACRL Board at the 1996 ALA Annual Conference in New York. Members, who were appointed by the ACRL Executive Committee in the fall of 1996, are: John Collins (co-chair), Ray English (co-chair), Rena Fowler, Barbara Baxter Jenkins, Victoria A. Montavon, Linda Muroi, J. Fred Olive, Henry R. Stewart, and Lee Marie Wisel. The task force was formed to resolve long-standing concerns and given a broad charge to define a more mutually beneficial and reinforcing relationship between ACRL and its affiliate chapters in accordance with the goals of the ACRL Strategic Plan.

The task force met four times at midwinter and annual conferences and discussed specific issues through electronic mail. In developing this report, the task force has attempted to create a broad consensus among representatives of ACRL and the chapters on major questions that define their relationship. Preliminary proposals from the task force, including funding for chapters, were discussed at the Chapters Council meeting at the 1997 annual conference in San Francisco. The first draft of this report was distributed and discussed at the Chapters Council meeting at the 1998 midwinter conference in New Orleans. The task force also received feedback on the draft report from chapter officers who are not members of Chapters Council. Financial aspects of the report were discussed at a joint meeting of the ACRL Budget and Finance Committee and the ACRL Board in New Orleans. Other issues were discussed via e-mail with members of the ACRL Executive Committee and at an informal meeting of the ACRL Board in New Orleans.

In pursuing its work, the task force drew on a document entitled “ACRL and Its Chapters: Benefits and Challenges for the Future,” created by William Miller (then ACRL Vice-President / President Elect) and distributed prior to the New York meeting. Two other documents, “Concerns of ACRL and ACRL Chapters” and “Improving the Relationship Between ACRL and ACRL Chapters,” written by a subcommittee of the Budget and Finance Committee in 1994, provided additional background. The task force also drew on aspects of the report of the ACRL Sections Task Force, which was submitted to the ACRL Board in 1997. It considered the ACRL Guide to Policies and Procedures and the ACRL Bylaws (in both their current form and as proposed for revision.)

Summary of Recommendations
The ACRL Chapters Relations Task Force recommends to the ACRL Board:

• That funding for each ACRL chapter be increased from $0.75 to $1.00 for each ACRL national member living in within the geographic region served by the chapter, and that the small chapter allocation be continued at its current level.

• That ACRL, beginning in the 1999-2000 fiscal year, provide additional funding to chapters in the amount of $10 for each new member of ACRL in the chapter’s geographic region who joined in the previous fiscal year, if the chapter conducted ACRL membership recruitment activities and summarized them in its annual report.

• That, with the exception of the requirement to submit annual reports, ACRL limit restrictions on funds allocated to chapters to those required by ALA policy.
• That each ACRL affiliate chapter be expected to submit a brief, one page annual report of its activities to the ACRL Office by September 1 of each year, including in it a statement of how the chapter’s activities supported the ACRL Strategic Plan in regard to the goals of professional development and legislative issues; that all chapter annual reports be distributed to both the ACRL Chapters Council and the ACRL Board; that both the regular allocation and new member funding be withheld from any chapter that fails to submit an annual report for two consecutive years; and that such funding be reinstated once a chapter has submitted an annual report.

• That an annual summary and update of the ACRL Strategic Plan be mailed to each ACRL affiliate chapter and the Chapters Council officers.

• That an annual meeting be held between the Chapters Council officers and representatives of the ACRL Board for the purpose of considering issues of mutual concern.

• That new chapters either incorporate or belong to a state association that is incorporated within one year of their recognition by ACRL; that existing chapters incorporate or become a part of an incorporated state association by the end of the year 2000; and that ACRL provide guidance and advice to chapters on the process of incorporation.

• That chapters be encouraged to offer opportunities, such as discounts on conference registration, to ACRL members who are not members of the chapter.

ACRL Chapters Relations Task Force Chairs: John Collins, 1996-97 Chapters Council President Ray English, Chair, ACRL Budget and Finance Committee, ACRL Board

**Alabama**

The Alabama ACRL Chapter held its annual dinner and business meeting April 15, 1998, in Fairhope, AL. The meeting coincided with the Alabama Library Association conference. Guest speaker ACRL President Dr. W. Lee Hisle presented a thought-provoking address entitled “Survival of the Fittest: The Values of Librarianship.”

Membership discussed the ACRL Chapters Relations Task Force recommendation that all chapters either be formally affiliated with a state organization, or incorporate legally. The Alabama Chapter is not currently affiliated with the Alabama Library Association, nor is it legally incorporated.

Officers for the 1998/99 year were presented at the meeting. Newly elected officers are: Vice President/President-Elect: Pat Henderson (Univ. of Alabama), Secretary: Margaret Alexander (Tuskegee Univ.), and Member-at-Large: Kathy Barone (Univ. of Montevallo). They will serve with President: Craig Beard (Univ. of Alabama-Birmingham), Past President: Katy Ginanni (EBSCO Information Svcs.), Treasurer: Theresa Trawick (Troy State Univ.), and Newsletter Editor: Barbara Nelson (Auburn Univ.).

Katy Ginanni
EBSCO
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**California**

California ACRL Chapter members are looking forward to the Sixth Annual 1998 CARL Conference in beautiful Newport Beach with the theme “Collaborative Adventures, Collaborative Efforts: Academic Libraries in Partnerships” scheduled for September 11th and 12th this year. Keynote speakers are Jerry Campbell, Dean and Chief Information Officer, University of Southern California, and Camilia Alire, Dean of Libraries, Colorado State University. For more information regarding conference planning, contact CARL President Les Kong at lkong@wiley.csusb.edu.

CARL is actively engaged in a comprehensive bylaw revision which will enable the Chapter to incorporate in keeping with ACRL mandate. Visit the California URL <http://www.carl-acrl.org> to explore what the Chapter is doing. California is known for its numerous and diverse regional programming—check us out!

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Architecture” is being planned for the annual fall conference.

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ILLINOIS
IACRL and NILRC, A Consortium of Midwest Community Colleges, Colleges and Universities, in cooperation with the Cooperative Collection Management Program (CCMP) co-sponsored the first annual Illinois Information Services Vendor Fairs on Thursday, March 26 in Springfield and Friday, March 27 in Chicago.

The purpose of the day-long fairs was to bring information vendors and clients together to enable both one-on-one demos and research and development/focus group sessions. Middle managers who often do not have the opportunity to interact with vendors were the targeted audience, although all levels of staff participated.

The companies represented at the fair included: Information Access Company (IAC), EBSCO, UMI, The H. W. Wilson Company, Infonautics Corp., OCLC, College NewsLink, Ovid Technologies, Disclosure Inc., Encyclopaedia Britannica and Silver Platter. The success of the event suggests that this fair will become an annual event in Illinois.

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IOWA
The Iowa Chapter and the Nebraska College & University Libraries Section held their first joint conference on May 7 and 8 in Des Moines at Drake University. The conference theme, “Creating New Connections,” emphasized the new bi-state collaborative effort. Combining the resources of two states which are relatively low in population enabled us to present a stronger program and to bring it to many librarians unable to attend national conferences. In addition, a half-day conference on May 7 emphasized a different kind of connection — that between the various types of staff in academic libraries with a particular focus on paraprofessional issues. Larry Oberg was the keynote speaker the first day and Clifford Lynch the second. Working with two states and two sets of bylaws and procedures has been an interesting and rewarding experience and we look forward to meeting more of our colleagues in the future.

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DELAWARE VALLEY
The Delaware Valley Chapter’s Spring Program “The Web: Feast or Fiasco?” was held May 8, 1998 at Widener University. Jan Alexander, Mike Powell, and Marsha Tate, all reference librarians at the Wolfgram Memorial Library at Widener University, spoke on “Evaluating Web Resources.” H.E. “Chuck” Broadbent 3d, Director of Information Technology at the Free Library of Philadelphia, spoke on “Sex in the Library, Or, Managing Web Resources.”

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FLORIDA
The Academic Libraries Section of the Florida Library Association and Florida Chapter/ACRL sponsored a program at the 75th Annual Conference of the Florida Library Association in Tampa, Florida, April 30th. The program, entitled “Seizing Opportunities: Service in the Age of Technology,” featured speaker Jane P. Kleiner, the interim Head of Collection Development for the Louisiana State University Libraries. She spoke about the document delivery and serial redesign project at Louisiana State. Suzanne Holler, Head of Access Services at the University of Central Florida focused on the experiences at her institution. There was an update on the Florida Distance Learning Library Initiative Document Delivery Study Group. Plans are underway for the fall workshop in October sponsored every year by FACRL.

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GEORGIA
Georgia’s ACRL chapter, the Academic Library Division of the Georgia Library Association (GLA), met during the annual GLA Leadership Conference on December 12, 1997 at the DeKalb County Public Library Headquarters. Approximately 25 members attended. The group began planning for the ALD’s participation in the 1998 GLA conference to be held in Macon, October 7-9. Several regional authors were suggested as speakers for the annual luncheon and business meeting. All of the six papers presented at last fall’s GLA will be published in upcoming editions of the Georgia Librarian. Later this spring, there will be a call for papers in keeping with the theme of the fall conference. The papers will again be refereed. We hope to award prizes again for the top two papers. Since several academic libraries in the state are involved in planning new buildings or additions to existing buildings, a program tentatively titled “New Trends in Library Architecture” is being planned for the annual fall conference.
Maryland
The Academic and Research Libraries Division (ARLD) of the Maryland Library Association had an exciting spring. On March 6, 1998, ACRL Executive Director, Althea H. Jenkins, was the guest speaker at our luncheon program. Her talk, entitled, “Entering the New Millennium: Issues Facing Academic Libraries,” was well attended as there was much interest in hearing from a prominent member of ACRL. Her presence at this program was funded by the ACRL Officers Speakers Program, and we were grateful to take advantage of this opportunity.

Kentucky
The ACRL-Kentucky Chapter held a joint conference with the SLA-Kentucky Chapter and the Special Libraries Section of the Kentucky Library Association on April 16-17 at Lake Cumberland State Resort Park in Jamestown, KY. The conference theme was “Great Expectations: Managing Knowledge, Resources, and Change.” Approximately 150 librarians attended. In addition to a dozen sessions offered by Kentucky academic and special librarians, there were two general sessions with invited speakers. The first general session, conducted by Elizabeth Koska of Booz Allen and Hamilton, was entitled “Future (and Present) Roles for Information Professionals with Knowledge Management.” Marti Harris of the Gartner Group and Marian Winner, Director of Northern Kentucky University’s Steely Library, were the designated respondents to Koska’s presentation. The final general session was a presentation by ACRL President, Lee Hisle, who spoke on “Survival of the Fittest: The Values of Librarianship in the Information Age.”

Louisiana
Nancy Khoury, Director of the Frazar Memorial Library, McNeese State University, will assume the presidency of the LA Chapter on July 1, 1998. Eric Johnson, Assistant Director for User Services at Southeastern Louisiana University, is the newly elected Vice President/President Elect. The Chapter has 158 personal memberships. 113 of those are national members; 40 are state members only, and 5 are students. This year the Chapter was able to make a presentation of $400 to the Louisiana Library Association’s Scholarship Fund at the association’s annual meeting. The Chapter has a Directory of Louisiana Academic & Research Librarians for sale for $5.00. Contact David Duggar at ddugga@lsumc.edu for purchase.

Maryland
The Maryland Library Association’s annual conference was held May 6-8 and ARLD sponsored three programs: “Teaching Generation X,” “Stretching Your Service Staff,” and “What’s the Buzz: Information Arcades, Gateway Libraries and Undergraduate Academic Centers.”

Minnesota
The Minnesota Chapter held its 2nd annual “November Networking and Nosh” luncheon in Minneapolis on November 7. With attendance that tripled the first year’s, this event is proving to be a popular way for librarians in academic and special libraries to meet informally, as well as to hear nationally-recognized speakers. The speaker this year was Toni Carbo, Dean of the School of Information Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh.

The topic of our annual spring event, Academic and Research Libraries Day, was “Linking to Learning with MnLINK.” MnLINK will be a new statewide information system that will link public libraries, academic libraries, school libraries and government libraries all over Minnesota so that they will appear to the user as a single resource. Sessions were developed to give librarians a chance to discuss the new environment this system will create. These were: “MnLINK and the Library User,” “Cataloging Electronic Resources, Shared Governance: How do we get there?,” and, because the vendor was announced just days before our event, a Vendor Evaluation debriefing.

Our chapter is taking on several new initiatives this year, including: a chapter web page, sponsorship of a preconference on information ethics at the Minnesota Library Association annual fall conference, and efforts to investigate ways to increase legislative advocacy for academic libraries at the state level, as well as participation in ACRL’s Advocacy Network to influence legislation at the national level.

New England
“Widening the Door: Access to Web-Based Resources for Users with Disabilities” was the forward-looking theme of the ACRL/New England Chapter’s spring conference at Boston University’s Center for Corporate Education in Tyngsboro, MA. Judy Brewer, Director of the Web Accessibility Initiative for the WWW Consortium gave the keynote address outlining the problems associated with Web accessibility, what projects the W3C Web Accessibility Initiative is developing, and what Web developers can do to improve access for all groups. Other speakers

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Sue Forrest
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included: Will Walker of Sun Microsystems, Geoff Freed from WGBH, Jane Burke of Endeavor Information Systems, Beth Fraser, University of Washington, and Joe Lazzaro of the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind.

Special Interest Groups are an active part of the life of the ACRL/NEC and the spring schedule exemplifies their contributions. A sizeable coven of librarians journeyed to the Women’s Studies Interest Group’s program at Salem State College Library to hear Emerson Baker lecture on the topic “Were there witches in Salem?” Community health was on the minds of the Social Sciences Librarians’ Interest Group and reflected in their spring program “MassCHIP—Massachusetts Community Health Information Profile Database Demonstration & Training.” The Social Sciences Librarians Interest Group also collaborated with the Collection Development Interest Group on a program with Francine DeFranco of the University of Connecticut on collection development decisions on a fixed budget. ACRL/New England’s Bibliographic Instruction Interest Group focused on electronic classrooms for their spring program at Yale University’s Sterling Memorial Library and Harvard University’s Gutman Library was the site of the Serials Interest Group’s program “Creative Collection Development in an Electronic Journal Age: Librarian and Publisher Perspectives.”

Earlier this winter, Andrew White, ACRL/NEC’s newly appointed webmaster, skillfully created the Chapter’s web site and continues to ‘grow’ our web presence with links to Special Interest Group pages and ACRL National. Look for us at: <http://www.conncoll.edu/acrl/nc/>. The Chapter extends its congratulations to newly elected board members: Vice-President/President-Elect: Laura Walters (Tufts University), Secretary: Judy Montgomery (Bowdoin College), and Member-at Large: David McChesney (University of Connecticut at Storrs).

Sarah Mitchell
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NEW JERSEY
In its other identity as the College and University Section of NJLA, the chapter sponsored a full day of programs for academic librarians at the 1998 NJLA Spring Conference in Long Branch. Programs included: “Are Two Heads Better Than One?” a panel discussion on the pros and cons of collaboration in research and writing and “Internet 2 and Other Initiatives.” Our luncheon speaker was our own Dr. Judith Lin Hunt, Dean of Library Services at Montclair State University, who spoke of her experiences as an ALA/USIA Library Fellow in an address entitled, “Global Reach: An Academic Librarian in the Sultanate of Brunei Darussalam.” The annual research forum, which gives members an opportunity to report on ongoing and completed research, completed the day.

Two one-day workshops were organized by committees of the chapter. The User Education Committee sponsored “Chalk, Sparks, and Bytes: Teaching Strategies for Bibliographic Instruction” at The College of New Jersey on April 16. The Technology Committee convened a panel of webmasters on May 22 to discuss policy issues in web design and maintenance at the Scholarly Communications Center at Rutgers University.

The chapter’s listserv is being used to forward legislative concerns to members, as received from Michael Godow at ‘legnet’.

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NEW MEXICO
The New Mexico Academic and Research Librarians sponsored a very successful preconference to the New Mexico Library Association’s 75th Annual Meeting. “Networking Basics for Libraries” drew 50 participants from academic, K12 and public libraries and from virtually all parts of the state. The presentation was a collaborative effort between representatives of CISCO Systems and Nancy Dennis of the University of New Mexico General Library. A second NMARL sponsored program during the meeting focused on the Super Computing Challenge -- a statewide high school competition for which NMARL members have provided training support the last three years.

NMARL will again join the Council for Higher Education Computing/Communications Services (CHECS) in a joint conference next October. The theme this year is “Computing and Communications Convergence Towards the Year 2000 and Beyond.” This joint effort provides our membership opportunities to network with our colleagues in the academic computing centers in a rare and productive manner.

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EASTERN NEW YORK
As a means of facilitating communication among members and promoting membership in academic libraries in the region, the Eastern New York chapter has established a listserv, ENYACRL-L. The listserv supplements the chapter’s well-established newsletter and website <http://urislib.library.cornell.edu/acrl/home.html>. Listserv subscription information is available from the ENY/ACRL website.

In other chapter activities, balloting was completed in February for the chapter treasurer, membership chair, government relations chair, and for the office of Program Chair/Vice President/President-Elect. The 1998/99 officers were installed at the chapter’s spring confer-
The title of the conference was “Full Speed Ahead: The Impact of Full-Text Databases,” and the program featured an array of workshops dealing with such topics as cataloging and management of full-text resources, full-text in bibliographic instruction, and methods for choosing between print and electronic subscriptions. Other conference highlights included the chapter’s annual Librarian of the Year Award and a preconference dinner at the Culinary Institute of America. We encourage conference attendance by members of other area chapters in the northeast by posting conference registration information on our website.

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Ohio
The Ohio Chapter of ACRL held its elections in the spring. New officers for 1998-99 are: President: Mary Konkel (University of Akron), Vice President/President-Elect: Jerome Conley (Miami University), Past President: Sherri Edwards (University of Akron), Secretary: Marcia Suter (University of Toledo), Membership Chair/Treasurer Elect: Martha Fleming (Case Western Reserve University), and Treasurer: Sheila Shellabarger (Wright State University).

Planning is well underway for our annual conference to be held on November 13, 1998 in Columbus, Ohio. The conference, “Today’s Actions, Tomorrow’s Adventures: To Infinity and Beyond,” will feature former ACRL President, Bill Miller, as our keynote speaker.

Highlights of the year include approving a proposal by the Human Diversity Interest Group to become a standing committee. This committee will serve as an advisory group and assist the organization in implementing a vision and commitment to diversity. We awarded the following: a $1500 Minority Scholarship to a student enrolled at the Kent State University School of Library and Information Science, $400 for travel and lodging expenses for a member of our legislative network to participate in ALA’s Legislative Day in Washington, D.C., and $100 for three members of the network for the ACRL Preconference “Ivory Towers and the Hall of Power.”

For more information about our annual conference and other activities, visit our chapter’s web page at: <http://www.wooster.edu/alao/>.

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Oregon
ACRL-Oregon presented a preconference and three programs at the annual conference of the Oregon Library Association, March 30-April 1, in Eugene. For more information on topics and speakers, see our web page at: <http://www.open.org/ola/oracr/olaconf.html>.

“Today’s Teenagers, Tomorrow’s Scholars” was the theme of a half-day preconference jointly sponsored...
Maureen Sullivan will visit the Chapter at the 1998 Annual Conference, to be held in October. Plans are in the works for President Sullivan to present both a pre-conference and a conference session.

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Utah
The Utah Chapter sponsored two programs at the Utah Library Association/Mountain Plains Library Association (ULA/MPLA) joint conference in Salt Lake City, May 6-9. The first program, “The Distance Learner: A Vision for Library Support and Instruction,” focused on meeting the challenge of providing instruction services to distance learners. The second program featured ACRL President W. Lee Hisle, who presented: “Survival of the Fittest: The Values of Librarianship in the Information Age.” In other chapter news, this year we have focused on reviewing our bylaws and status within the Utah Library Association (ULA); the chapter is a roundtable within this organization. ULA has an Academic Section whose mission and goals coincide with the chapter’s. The officers of ULA’s academic units are exploring the prospect of combining into one section in order to eliminate duplicate functions and efforts. Our chapter reviewed other ACRL chapters’ organization for input. There are still many issues to resolve and we intend to generate a discussion with our membership in the near future. Our goal is to ensure Utah academic librarians are being effectively served by their professional associations and that the ACRL chapter is an integral part of this organization. Our chapter’s home page is now located on the Utah Library Association’s web site <http://www.ula.org/>.

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South Carolina
The South Carolina Chapter presented a program at the 1997 Annual Conference of the South Carolina Library Association on “Protecting Free Expression in Electronic Communications” with Robert M. O’Neil, Professor of Law at the University of Virginia and founder of the Thomas Jefferson Center for the Protection of Free Expression. Professor O’Neil’s talk focused on the controversies and recent litigation related to the Internet in libraries.

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