

ALCTS MEMBERSHIP UPDATE FOR NOVEMBER 2008

MOVING FORWARD IN 2009

- **Website re-design**

Now that ALA has launched its new Web site with a new information architecture (IA), ALCTS staff with volunteer help is moving our content to that new IA in preparation for a new design for the ALCTS Web site. For more information, see Website Update below.

- **More dynamic, vibrant newsletter**

ANO, the ALCTS newsletter, has always been a staple for gathering news about ALCTS. Like many publications, it needs refreshed so that the most current news can be delivered more quickly and more comprehensively. Mary Beth Weber, ANO editor, and Christine Taylor of the ALCTS staff along with a couple volunteers will begin to design an new ANO that both delivers up to date information on an ongoing basis with the current bimonthly reports and articles. This ANO re-vamp does open up more volunteer opportunities, See below.

- **@ a Glance returns in the spring**

The bimonthly email message that was sent out for a number of issues will be returning as an update from the office and as a supplement to ANO.

- **E-LRTS**

An electronic version of LRTS will be coming. E-LRTS will be built on the ALA e-publishing platform along with many of the other ALA journals. No timeline has been set but the commitment to the project has been made and hopefully will result in an electronic LRTS in 2009.

- **Moving to E-CE (web based continuing education)**

ALCTS is moving even more courses to web based delivery. We currently have three courses being offered with several more to come. If you haven't looked at these courses, go to the Events page on the ALCTS Web site for more information. This also includes webinar presentations initiated this year.

- **E-Forums**

Begun last spring, the ALCTS E-Forum provides for moderated discussion on hot topics or interesting problems. The discussion happens through the ALCTS E-Forum discussion list (alcts-eforum@ala.org) and is open for anyone who wishes to participate. A schedule of upcoming E-Forums is below.

- **Getting involved**

With many of these initiatives, volunteer opportunities are created. These new opportunities do not depend on members attending the ALA Midwinter Meeting or Annual Conference. ALCTS still depends on volunteers for committees, but we are also doing our best to create other "virtual" opportunities.

WEBSITE UPDATE

The ALCTS Web site is adopting the ALA information architecture although our design will look somewhat different. If you look at the site now, you'll notice a new navigation on the left. This is the ALA navigation. Across the top we still have the buttons which will be converted to the tab structure of the ALA site, but with different content. We will be able to use the "pod" of ALA on the right. Those are the big blocks for ALA Midwinter, etc. So to keep moving forward I want to share a couple of things with you.

- **Tagging**

A large part of what was done during August and September was tagging ALCTS content so that appears on ALA pages and in searches. See

<http://www.ala.org/ala/awardsgrants/recognition/achievement/index.cfm>

The preservation page is also full of ALCTS (PARS) information

<http://www.ala.org/ala/professionalresources/preservation/preservatiotech/index.cfm>

We'll be counting on member expertise to tag relevant pages and hope that you will consider volunteering.

- **Subject Area Work**

These are some but not all the areas we need to develop more: Membership, Issues & Advocacy, Education & Careers, News & Press, Professional Resources. The most important task now is getting the content in the correct place in the site. To see an outline of various parts of the ALA and ALCTS web sites, the Site Redesign Wiki (<http://alcts.ala.org/webwiki/index.php>) We have volunteer opportunities to help with this.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- **Website Help Volunteers Needed**

Until an easy development interface is ready, we need a few volunteers to work with the content inventories to assess what has to be done and make important corrections and updates. Skills: basic HTML, previous CMS experience appreciated, CSS helpful, ColdFusion helpful. Training dates are TBA, but should be available soon and should be scheduled for Midwinter as well. There's a lot of work to be done in areas that may not be related to any particular group. Contact Christine Taylor (ctaylor@ala.org) for all Web site volunteer opportunities or for more information.

- **Volunteer for a committee**

Even with these new opportunities, ALCTS still needs members for its committees. The Volunteer Form is now available and can be accessed under Member Groups in the center of the ALCTS main page.

- **Webinar moderators and presenters**

One of the new initiatives for this year is the development and presentation of webinars. ALCTS is looking for moderators and presenters for webinars on a variety of topics beginning in the spring. For more information contact Julie Reese in the office (jreese@ala.org).

- **E-forum discussion moderators**

The E-Forum is a moderated discussion over a period of two or three days on topics of interest, research, or problems. The moderator is responsible for identifying the topic, providing background to the participants, frame and lead the discussion. A schedule of upcoming E-Forums is listed below. Contact either Charles Wilt (cwilt@ala.org) or Dina Giambi (dinag@udel.edu) if you are interested.

- **ALCTS Newsletter (ANO) reporters**

ANO has always relied on reporters to cover the program, forums, and interest groups. Those reporters are still needed, so if you are interested contact Mary Beth Weber, ANO editor, (mbfecko@rci.rutgers.edu). With the new vision for ANO, that of bringing more news, more quickly to the readers, a new group of reporter will be needed. These volunteers would cover a content area and bring to ANO information that would be valuable to the ANO readers.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Midwinter symposia**

On Thursday, Jan. 22: "Implementing an Institutional Repository: Benefits and Challenges"
ALCTS thanks Berkeley Electronic Press for its generous support of this symposium.

On Friday, Jan. 23: "Breaking Down the Silos: Planning for Discovery in Library 2.0"
ALCTS thanks Innovative Interfaces, Inc. for their generous support of this symposium.

Visit the ALCTS website for these and more Midwinter 2009 events: www.ala.org/alcts.

- **Midwinter Events in Denver**

Look for these ALCTS events at Midwinter in Denver. More information will be published in the December issue of ANO: Member Reception on Saturday at 6:00 p.m., Volunteer Forum on Saturday at 10:30 a.m., Interest Group presentations and a variety of ALCTS Forums

- **E-Forums**

Dec. 3-5, 2008: "Institutional repositories", a pre-Midwinter Symposium discussion moderated by Pamela Bluh, University of Maryland.

Jan. 14-16, 2009: "Library budgets and impact on support for staff development and professional travel" moderated by Pamela Bluh, University of Maryland.

Febr. 10-12, 2009: "Disaster Preparedness" moderated by Walter Cybulski, National Library of Medicine, and Nancy Kraft, University of Iowa.

February, 2009: "Breaking down the silos: planning for discovery in Library 2.0", a post-Midwinter Symposium discussion moderated by Dina Giambi, University of Delaware.

To register go to: <http://lists.ala.org/sympa>, click on ALCTS (spelled out) under the ALA Division heading, then choose alcts-eforum@ala.org. A login and password are required to register. Instructions for obtaining a login and password may be found on the list homepage.

- **Webinar and Web course 2009 schedules out soon**

ALCTS IN FACEBOOK

Visit the ALCTS Facebook page. Lots of pictures, posts, and fun. Add yourself as a member. Search ALCTS or we're listed under groups to join. www.facebook.com