



ALCTS

Association for Library Collections & Technical Services
a division of the American Library Association

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ALCTS Annual Report to ALA Council

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ALCTS President 2014 – 2015

The Association for Collections and Technical Services, a division of the American Library Association, is the premier organization for professionals in collection development, cataloging and metadata, continuing resources, and preservation. Comprised of nearly 3,000 members from throughout the United States and more than 40 countries, we lead the development of principles, standards, and best practices for creating, collecting, organizing, delivering, and preserving information resources in all formats.

Accomplishments

Perhaps the most significant event this year was the retirement of Charles Wilt, our beloved Executive Director, after a seventeen year career at ALA. It was a bittersweet moment for ALCTS. However, we were very fortunate to hire Keri Cascio as our new Executive Director. Keri brings a wealth of experience in many different library settings – research, public, consortium – and she has long been active in the Association. In fact, she was ALCTS' first Emerging Leader back in 2007, which gives her career thus far a lovely symmetry.

ALCTS has worked on drafting a new strategic plan, taking its lead from ALA's Strategic Directions. We expect to approve and implement a three year strategic plan at the Annual Conference in San Francisco.

The Program Review Task Force, charged to examine ALCTS programming, broadly conceived, and make recommendations for strategic directions, structural and procedural improvements, and new approaches to meet member needs, submitted its final report to the ALCTS Board. We expect to adopt and implement their recommendations before the Annual Conference.

The Fundamentals of Cataloging web course was brought to fruition under the leadership of Vicki Sipe (who will be the ALCTS President Elect after the Annual Conference). Five sessions of the six-week online course were scheduled in 2015, and four of those have already sold out.

ALCTS 101, the highly successful program held each year at the Annual Conference, is designed to inform new and potential members of ALCTS about ways to become involved. This past spring, we held a virtual ALCTS 101 program, which attracted over 230 registrants.

The Membership Committee and the ALCTS New Member Interest Group (ANMIG) reinvigorated communication with new and renewing members and spearheaded the launch of ALCTSCentral, a general listserv for all members.

Midwinter Symposium

ALCTS' Midwinter Symposium, *Collection Development Strategies in an Evolving Marketplace*, featured Lorcan Dempsey and Constance Malpas of OCLC Research. The well-received symposium attracted over 55 attendees.

Fundraising

The Fundraising Committee has worked hard to develop a culture of philanthropy within ALCTS, and it surpassed its goal of raising \$20,000 for the year.

Publishing

We appointed a new ALCTS Monographs Editor, Susan E. Thomas, to begin her term in June. Susan brings years of experience in writing and project management to this newly-revised position, and we are eager to reinvigorate our publishing program. ALCTS Publishing released the *Guide to Ethics in Acquisitions* by Wyoma vanDuinkerken, Wendi Arant Kaspar, and Jeanne Harrell in early 2015. *The Critical Component: Standards in the Information Exchange Environment*, edited by Todd A. Carpenter, will be published in June 2015. *Library Resources & Technical Services*, ALCTS' peer reviewed research journal, went online-only with the January 2015 issue. It has been migrated to the Open Journal Systems platform supported by ALA Publishing. The AcqNet listserv is in the process of transferring to the Acquisitions Section in consideration of listserv sustainability. CollDev, managed by an individual who retired this year, is in the process of being transferred to the Collection Management Section.

In closing...

Finally, I must acknowledge ALCTS' wonderful Executive Committee: Past-President Genevieve Owens, President-Elect Norm Medeiros, and Councilor Andy Hart – dear friends and colleagues all. While I struggled through the formalities of parliamentary procedure or attempted to lead a difficult Board discussion, they were there with support, counsel, and good cheer. I was fortunate to have retired Executive Director Charles Wilt by my side during the first half of my presidency, and equally as fortunate to have Keri Cascio with me for the home stretch. Both ALCTS Executive Directors have been a joy to work with, and I've learned more about leadership by observing them than I can express. The ALCTS office staff, Christine McConnell and Julie Reese, were unfailingly helpful and reassuring while I learned the ropes. ALCTS is lucky to have them. The entire ALCTS Board worked hard this year, and to a person, they contributed substantively to the work of the Association. I am honored to know you and to have worked with you. I'll end with a shout-out to the amazing ALCTS volunteers, who stand for office, donate their time and energy to Sections and Committees, and take on tasks large and small for the good of ALCTS and the profession. You all have my eternal gratitude.