

They say that in spring a young man's fancy turns to love, but for academic librarians and the communities they serve it often turns to thoughts of upcoming summer vacations. You'll find a plethora of Web sites to help you plan your next trip in this month's "Internet Resources" column (page 271). Brian Coutts covers everything from scouting a good vacation locale to finding your way there and discovering what to do once you arrive.

A more local but equally stimulating type of excursion is detailed in Malcolm Brantz's article, "Library-sponsored faculty book-buying trips" (page 264). The article presents an alternative to traditional library book acquisition that breaks down the barriers between librarians and departmental faculty and helps keep library collections relevant and up-to-date.

In "The citizen in the information age" (page 276), Laura Burtle and Tammy Sugarman describe their experiences in developing and

implementing a freshman learning community on the theme of "life in the information age." They found that by taking the initiative to explore new territory, they gained a better understanding of the wants and needs of first-year students and recognition from teaching faculty as equal partners in the teaching mission of the university.

Also in this issue is the second wave of ACRL award winner announcements, on page 284. We congratulate them on their achievements.

Information on the University Libraries Section's activities is on page 291. If you're thinking about seeking office in an ACRL section or would like to nominate someone, you'll find contact information for nominating committee chairs on page 282. Interested in getting involved with the *News*? We're looking for a new column editor (page 281).

—Stephanie Orphan, *editor-in-chief*  
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## Register for ACRL Preconferences

Keep up-to-date with the latest developments in advocacy, instruction, information literacy, or rare books at one of ACRL's preconferences to be offered in Atlanta, June 14, prior to the ALA Annual Conference:

- **Legislative Advocacy Workshop.** Develop your skills in library advocacy and gain practical information from long-term library advocates who will share their experience and sage advice on the art of persuasion.

- **RBMS Preconference—New Occasions, New Duties: Changing Roles and Expectations in Special Collections, June 11 to June 14.** Explore the changing role of special collections librarians, examine the different aspects and implications of change, and discover how special collections librarians can take advantage of change for their own use and development.

- **Instruction for First-Year Undergraduates: Developing Strategies to Facilitate their Transitions.** Explore characteristics of first-year undergraduate students, examine what they are learning about information resources and strategies in high school, and investigate programmatic innovations at the institutional and library levels that meet first-year student needs.

- **From Expectations to Results: Library/Faculty Partnerships for Assessing Student Learning Outcomes.** Explore various assessment instruments developed by IMLS grant recipients, and find out how to adapt their examples for use on your campus.

Complete details, including registration information, are on the Web at  
<http://www.ala.org/acrl/confhp.html>.