

In this issue we report on a number of recent ACRL initiatives:

- ACRL has completed the first year of its ambitious Academic Libraries Trends and Statistics project, which aims to comprehensively gather statistics from academic libraries at all levels in the United States and Canada and issue a report in a timely manner. The first report is now available, and the new survey will be out in November (page 760).

- ACRL has launched a new Excellence in Academic Libraries Award to recognize the work of librarians and staff as they further the educational mission of their institutions. Three annual awards of \$3,000 each are available. Check out page 728 for details.

- The final, approved "Guidelines for the security of rare book, manuscript, and other special collections," as developed by the ACRL/RBMS Security Committee, appears on page 741.

- ACRL's Institute for Information Literacy held its first Immersion program for new librarians, librarians new to teaching, and experienced instruction librarians at the end of July (page 723).

- ACRL's Instruction Section held a "Think Tank III," which explored information literacy and the technological transformation of higher education. A report of their discussions is found on page 751.

- ACRL launched a "Friends of ACRL" group during the last year. See how you can become a friend on page 729.

ACRL would not be able to accomplish these many new initiatives without the efforts of its members. ACRL's call for volunteers is on page 755. Think about what you can contribute (and the skills you can develop) working with ACRL and send in your completed volunteer form today!

—Mary Ellen K. Davis
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