



75TH ANNIVERSARY

Association of College
& Research Libraries

A DIVISION OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

*75 Years of Advancing Learning
& Transforming Scholarship*

ANNUAL REPORT
2014 – 2015

Message from the President

Karen A. Williams

ACRL's 76th President



What a wild ride this has been!

One highlight of my term in office was participating in ACRL's 75th anniversary celebrations. Among the highlights were the publication of *New Roles for the Road Ahead*, a collection of essays including reflections on ways academic libraries can succeed in a changing higher education environment, and a special issue of *College & Research Libraries* looking back at a selection of seminal articles from the journal's history. We were fortunate to be able to celebrate the association's history while looking to the future at the ACRL 2015 Conference in Portland, Oregon.

I was heartened by the commitment of our membership to the future of the association as evidenced by the overwhelming participation in our 75th anniversary scholarship campaign, which raised more than \$56,000 and allowed us to award an additional 75 scholarships for ACRL 2015. We continue to celebrate our past on the ACRL 75th Anniversary website at <http://acrl.ala.org/acrl75/>.

In addition to all of the anniversary events in Portland, I was very pleased to see so many academic and research librarians gather in person and online for a wonderful learning and networking experience. ACRL 2015 set a record with the combined registrant attendance ever for an ACRL conference, with 3,390 face-to-face and more than 300 virtual attendees from all 50 states and 24 countries. By all accounts, attendees went home energized and ready to apply what they learned at their institutions.

This year, the association also concluded the process that began as a revision of our *Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education* so that they include current thinking on the creation and dissemination of knowledge, the changing global higher education and learning environment, and the expanding definition of information literacy to include multiple literacies. The task force appointed by the Board of Directors in 2013 to guide the process did an outstanding job collecting ideas and comments from across the ACRL and higher education communities, leading to the development of the *Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education*, and I would like to thank them for their commitment and hard work. Following a process that included several drafts and public comment periods, the Board took the official action of "filing" the Framework at the 2015 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Chicago. This action allows the Framework to move forward as a dynamic, living document that can be changed in the future without needing a vote and full Board approval.

Our strategic goal area committees made significant progress this year. As part of the Value of Academic Libraries goal, ACRL released a new report, "Academic Library Contributions to Student Success: Documented Practices from the Field," which synthesizes results from over 70 higher education institutions from across North America that recently completed team-based assessment projects. These projects, from the first year of AiA, resulted in promising and effective approaches to demonstrating the library's value to students' academic success. The Research and Scholarly Environment Committee released an updated version of the Scholarly Communication Toolkit, added new presenters and venues to the Scholarly Communication Road

ACRL by the Numbers

Show, and participated in the planning for the ARL/ACRL Unconference held in conjunction with ACRL 2015 in Portland.

Serving as ACRL president is an honor and pretty darn cool any year, so I feel especially lucky to have this privilege when our association turned 75 and we had a year-long celebration. This report highlights a vibrant organization, fueled by the knowledge, energy, and commitment of more than 11,000 members. As noted in our conference tagline, ACRL continues to be “peer revered.”

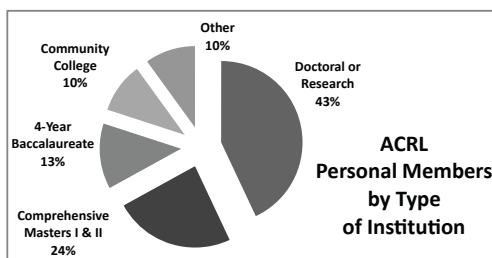
ACRL by the Numbers

More than \$225,000 was awarded to **390 individuals** for scholarships to ACRL professional development events from 2012 to 2015

13,809 TWITTER FOLLOWERS

6,353 FACEBOOK LIKES

Thirty one librarians and libraries received ACRL awards in 2015



2,224 Scholarly Communication Roadshow participants from more than **600** institutions in **26** different U.S. states, the District of Columbia, **1** U.S. territory, and **3** Canadian provinces.

203 teams participating in the Assessment in Action program from **41** states, the District of Columbia, **four** Canadian provinces, and Australia

Nearly **1,400** ads for job opportunities posted to ALA JobLIST by academic and research institutions in FY15

2,700 Information Literacy Immersion Program attendees since 1999

Thirteen formal liaison relationships with sister higher education associations

Message from the Vice-President

Ann Campion Riley

Vice-President/President-Elect



As ACRL's 2014–15 vice-president, my focus has been on building rapport with state chapters and making diverse and representative appointments to committees and other groups. I like to think of making chapter visits as being on a listening tour, and I had some great visits. In Mississippi, Colorado, Oklahoma, and North Dakota, as well as my home state of Missouri, active members are doing great programming and working hard for the good of academic libraries. Seeing the various chapter conferences and meeting the wonderful volunteers were very enriching experiences for me. Reading about places and corresponding online are great, but they are not an adequate substitute for meeting members face to face and learning about their work, interests, and concern. ACRL supports these chapter visits financially, and I have realized this is one of more important things we fund as an organization. As a leader I feel so much more informed about the members than I did before I undertook chapter visits. Another heartening part of the experience was having my feelings confirmed that we have so much more in common among types of academic libraries and locations than we have differences. Some consistent messages I heard included how much people appreciate the quality of ACRL continuing education offerings and how the costs of participating in organizations and meetings can be a barrier for many wishing to take part. Virtual participation is increasing, but the physical presence at conferences in particular is still valued.

Making appointments to groups has been very important also, as filling these volunteer jobs is essential to progress within the organization. ACRL is very fortunate to have many interested and engaged member volunteers, and each year some of those volunteers end up disappointed. I'm sorry about that, and hope that those volunteers who didn't receive a committee appointment don't become discouraged but persevere and keep volunteering in the future. The appointment process can be cumbersome, and the help of the assisting committees is very valuable. Making contact with the chair of a group you want to join, either at the committee's ALA Annual Conference meeting or in the time between Annual and Midwinter, can often be very helpful to achieving successful appointment to a committee or other group. Working to get the right people in the right job is just as hard or harder in a volunteer group as it is in your libraries. I tried very hard to create representative and diverse committees, and know that you all understand the value that diversity adds to the work of the organization.

All of us on the ACRL Board of Directors are committed to providing value for our members, and continue to work to assure those paying their membership dues that we want to serve them and continue to engage with their needs. Another matter for discussion in the weekly conference calls among the current, in-coming, and past ACRL presidents has been how our planning efforts should relate to those of ALA as a whole. Current and incoming chairs of our goal area committees also attend the ACRL strategic planning retreat, and have become an important part of our planning efforts. With their help, the ACRL leadership continues to look to the future of the association.

I look forward to continuing to serve ACRL as president over the next year.

Letter from the Executive Director

Mary Ellen K. Davis

ACRL Executive Director



I am so honored to have been a part of the historic ACRL 75th anniversary! ACRL marked the occasion in ways both large and small, and I want to thank ACRL's 75th Anniversary Task Force chaired by Pamela Snelson, the editorial board of *College & Research Libraries*, the ACRL Board of Directors, donors who contributed to the Kick Start the Future Campaign, and the staff for a wonderful year-long celebration.

We were so lucky to have ACRL's 75th anniversary coinciding with an ACRL Conference year. The ACRL 2015 Conference in Portland, Oregon, was a record-breaking dazzling success full of content, conversations, connections, and cake. I especially enjoyed the panel focused on the future of academic and research librarianship as envisioned by noted bloggers Steven Bell, Lorcan Dempsey, and Barbara Fister who expanded on their essays for ACRL's commissioned *New Roles for the Road Ahead: Essays Commissioned for ACRL's 75th Anniversary*. This thought provoking collection, edited by Nancy Allen, is well worth a read! It is available on the ACRL website at www.ala.org/acrl/sites/ala.org.acrl/files/content/publications/whitepapers/new_roles_75th.pdf.

Anniversaries do present the opportunity to look back and *C&RL* Editor Scott Walter and the editorial board invited readers to help identify seven landmark articles from the journal's history for publication in a special anniversary issue, available at <http://crl.acrl.org/content/76/3.toc>. The opportunity to vote gave everyone a chance to read and reflect on the enduring significance of our rich history of scholarship. The featured articles were the subject of another excellent panel session at ACRL 2015.

ACRL's 75th anniversary also offered an opportunity to invest in the future: our successful "Kick Start the Future" campaign raised more than \$56,000 for early career and student scholarships (surpassing the original goal of \$50,000). It was my pleasure to contribute to the campaign, to encourage former and current ACRL leaders and members to contribute, and to award more than 179 conference scholarships. It was a joy to participate in the ACRL Scholarship Breakfast and meet the winners—all bright stars representing the next generation of leaders for the profession and ACRL. I look forward to engaging this talented group in the life and work of ACRL.

As we move toward our centennial anniversary, I invite you to support ACRL in advancing its Plan for Excellence. Your membership strengthens our voice when we advocate on behalf of academic and research libraries and librarians on issues such as student learning, new forms of scholarly dissemination, fair use, and the value of academic libraries to the higher education community. Renew your membership, encourage a colleague to join ACRL, and get involved. Together, we can advance learning and transform scholarship in the 21st century!

I especially want to thank 2014–15 ACRL President Karen A. Williams and the ACRL Board of Directors for their leadership in advancing the ACRL Plan for Excellence. I also wish to thank the many corporate colleagues, libraries, and Friends who so generously supported ACRL's programs and 75th anniversary scholarship campaign. I want to also thank ACRL members, volunteers, and staff for the contributions they have made (and continue to make) to this exceptional community.

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FRIENDS OF ACRL

The Friends of ACRL donations support ACRL's mission in key areas, including the Advocacy Fund, Board Strategic Plan Initiative Fund, Innovative Programming Fund, Professional Development Fund, RBMS Scholarships Fund, and the William Moffett Memorial

Fund. Since the establishment of the Friends of ACRL, 728 donors have become Friends and contributed more than \$195,000 to demonstrate their support for its initiatives. Money from the Friends Funds has been used to provide scholarships for ACRL professional development activities and to support the ACRL awards program through publicity and the creation of special presidential awards.

Thanks to those listed below for contributing to the Friends of ACRL in FY15 (September 1, 2014 – August 31, 2015). Founding Friends are shown in italics. A complete list of Founding Friends is available on the ACRL website at www.ala.org/acrl/aboutacrl/give-toacrl/donate/friendsfound. A list of contributors to the 75th Anniversary Kick Start the Future Scholarship Campaign can be found at http://acrl.ala.org/acrl175/?page_id=250.

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"As a former ACRL President, I was honored to be the ACRL 2015 conference chair. The ACRL 75th anniversary coincided with the Portland conference, and supporting scholarships is, to me, the perfect way to celebrate and acknowledge the association's contributions to the professional development and education of academic librarians."

— Lori Goetsch, Friend of ACRL



Names in *Italics* = Founding Members

* In honor of the 75th Anniversary Campaign

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Annual Conference Programs

ACRL Programs at the 2015 ALA Annual Conference — San Francisco —

- ANSS/LES/LPSS – Libraries Behind Bars: Education and Outreach to Prisoners
- Arts – Framing and Enhancing Visual Literacy: Using the New ACRL Framework to Develop Effective Art Instruction
- DLS – Intentional Teaching Online: Using Instructional Design to Enhance Distance Library Instruction
- EBSS – Boots on the Ground: Making Academic Libraries Work for Veterans
- Individual Proposal – But We’re Neutral! And Other Librarian Fictions Confronted by #critlib
- Individual Proposal – Academic Integrity: An Opportunity for Faculty Development
- Individual Proposal – Putting Your Patrons in the Driver’s Seat: Assessing the Value of On-Demand Streaming Video
- Individual Proposal – Embeddedness-Plus: Combining Embedded Librarianship with Direct Marketing to Underserved Groups
- Individual Proposal – All the Data: Privacy, Service Quality, and Analytics
- IS – Aligning Learning Spaces with Pedagogy: The Instruction Librarian’s Role in Classroom Re/Design
- Liaison Assembly Committee – How Others View Us: Insights from Librarian Engagement in Higher Education Associations
- Library and Information Science Education Interest Group – Collaborative Influences of LIS Educators and Practitioners Regarding Hiring the Profession
- President’s Program – The Power of Mindset: Fostering Grit on the Way to New Roles
- Professional Values Committee – Should I Tweet That? Academic Freedom and Social Media
- Publications Coordinating Committee – Reducing the Fog around Publishing: Practical Strategies for Book Development, from Research to Writing
- RBMS (cosponsored by ALA-GLBTRT) – Curating Activism in LGBT History
- SEES/WESS – Beyond Tintin: Collecting European Comics in the U.S.
- STS – Unlocking the Sciences: Collaborative Research with Community Engagement through Citizen Science
- ULS – Look into the Crystal Ball: Future Directions for Higher Education and Academic Libraries

Year in Review

ACRL 75th Anniversary

In May 2014, ACRL began a celebration of the association's 75th anniversary. Following a new constitution that included the creation of self-governing divisions within the association, the ALA Council recognized its first division on May 31, 1940. That inaugural division was ACRL, the Association of College and Reference Libraries. It was not until 1956 that the word *Research* was substituted for *Reference*—in response to the Reference Libraries Section of ACRL joining a newly formed Library Reference Services Division.

Among the highlights of the anniversary celebration this fiscal year were the publication of *New Roles for the Road Ahead*, a collection of essays reflecting on ways academic libraries can succeed in a changing higher education environment, a series of articles in *C&RL News* highlighting each decade in ACRL's history, and a special issue of *College & Research Libraries* looking back at a selection of seminal articles from the journal's history. ACRL celebrated the association's history while looking to the future at the ACRL 2015 Conference. Anniversary events included special panel discussions, a timeline of ACRL history, and a celebratory cake cutting. In addition, a time capsule of artifacts including memorabilia from past ACRL conferences, the table of contents from the *C&RL* anniversary issue, and a copy of the ACRL Plan for Excellence, along with a variety of other items, was sealed at the 2015 ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco. The time capsule will be opened as part of the celebration of ACRL's 100th anniversary.



The commitment of the ACRL membership to the future of the association was evidenced by the overwhelming participation in the 75th anniversary scholarship campaign, which raised more than \$56,000 and created an additional 75 scholarships to be awarded for the ACRL 2015 Conference.

More information on these and other activities are available throughout this report and on the ACRL 75th Anniversary website at acrl.ala.org/acrl75.

Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education

The ACRL Board of Directors appointed a task force in 2013 to update the *Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education*, adopted by the association in 2000, so that they reflect the current thinking on the creation and dissemination of knowledge, the changing global higher education and learning environment, the shift from information literacy to information fluency, and the expanding definition of information literacy to include multiple literacies. To better equip students to navigate, understand and contribute in this dynamic information ecosystem, the task force determined that a move from the traditional standards model to a framework was needed to allow for more creative and integrated information literacy learning outcomes. The Board took the official action of “filing” the new *Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education* at the 2015 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Chicago. The Board also decided to defer sunseting the *Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education*. More information on the Framework is available in the Student Learning section of this report.

Year in Review

ACRL 2015 Conference

More than 5,000 library staff, exhibitors, speakers, and guests attended the ACRL 2015 Conference, held March 25–28 in Portland, Oregon. ACRL 2015 set a record with the highest combined registrant attendance ever for an ACRL conference, with 3,390 face-to-face and more than 300 virtual attendees from all 50 states and 24 countries. The number also included 1,250 first-time attendees, the highest recorded. Themed “Creating Sustainable Community,” the conference offered more than 500 programs that explored a host of pressing issues affecting higher education. ACRL 2015 took place during ACRL’s 75th anniversary year, and to celebrate, special events and programs were held throughout the entire conference. ACRL held a fundraising campaign that awarded a record-breaking 179 conference scholarships, totaling \$112,995, for librarians and staff to attend ACRL 2015. More information about the conference is available in the Education section of this report.



“As a first-generation college graduate and an entry-level librarian of color, I have used my experience at ACRL 2015 to further improve how I teach information literacy skills to all students, especially first-generation students of color.”

– Kenny Garcia, ACRL Member of the Week

ACRL’s Plan for Excellence

This report highlights ACRL’s many accomplishments during the 2015 fiscal year across the three strategic goal areas highlighted in the Plan for Excellence—the value of academic libraries, student learning, and the research and scholarly environment—along with the association’s enabling programs and services.

The Value of Academic Libraries

ACRL made significant progress on the association’s goal of assisting academic libraries in demonstrating alignment with, and impact on, institutional outcomes this year.

The association provides support and training to ACRL liaisons to other higher education organizations and disciplinary societies so that they are prepared to talk about the value of academic libraries in those contexts. In order to further influence national conversations and activities, ACRL members and staff have presented about the value of academic libraries initiative at several conferences, including the 2014 Assessment Institute, Library Assessment Conference, and Association for the Assessment of Learning in Higher Education.

ACRL’s *Standards for Libraries in Higher Education* continue to be an important component of the Value initiative. The association licensed and offered five full-day workshops on

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implementing the standards over the past year. More than 185 print copies of the revised *Standards for Libraries in Higher Education* were distributed this year, and the online version was visited nearly 17,000 times.

Members of the Value of Academic Libraries Committee continue to regularly highlight significant research and project reports on the VAL blog at www.acrl.org/value/ and the Valueography at <http://acrl.org/valueography/>. The committee also released customizable template posters that use research to highlight the value of libraries in November 2014. The posters are available online at www.acrl.org/value/?page_id=954.

Assessment in Action Program

In September 2012, ACRL was awarded a National Leadership Demonstration Grant of \$249,330 by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) for the program “Assessment in Action: Academic Libraries and Student Success” (AiA). Part of ACRL’s Value of Academic Libraries initiative, AiA is being undertaken in partnership with the Association for Institutional Research (AIR) and the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU). The grant supports the design, implementation, and evaluation of a program to strengthen the competencies of librarians in campus leadership and data-informed advocacy.



The AiA program employs a blended learning environment and a peer-to-peer network over the course of 14 months. The librarians participate as cohort members in a one-year professional development program that includes team-based activities carried out on their campuses. An important component of the AiA program is establishing a learning community where librarian team leaders have the freedom to connect, risk, and learn together.

ACRL released a new report “Academic Library Contributions to Student Success: Documented Practices from the Field,” which synthesizes results from more than 70 higher education institutions from across North America that recently completed team-based assessment projects. These projects, from the first year of AiA, resulted in promising and effective approaches to demonstrating the library’s value to students’ academic success.

Fifty-five institutional teams were selected to participate in the third year of the program. The teams, representing all types of institutions, come from 24 states, the District of Columbia, and Australia. These teams join the 75 institutions that participated in the first year of the program and 73 from the second year. For a list of institutions from all three years of the program, visit the AiA program website at www.ala.org/acrl/AiA.

Eric Resnis, who serves in a dual appointment as assessment coordinator in the Center for Teaching, Learning, and University Assessment and as organizational effectiveness specialist in the Libraries at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, and John Watts, undergraduate learning librarian at University of Nevada–Las Vegas, were named as new facilitators for the program this year.

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ACRLMetrics

To assist with evaluating library performance, ACRLMetrics added the 2013 ACRL survey data as well as selected IPEDS elements. This online product provides unprecedented access to the annual ACRL Academic Library Trends and Statistics Survey data as well as the biennial National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) Academic Library Survey data from 2000 to 2013. ACRLMetrics facilitates performance analysis and decision-making with peer benchmarking and customized reports for use in presentations, grant applications, self-studies, and strategic planning.

Student Learning

The following activities are examples of ways ACRL moved towards achieving the association's goal of assisting librarians in transforming student learning, pedagogy, and instructional practices through creative and innovative collaborations.

The ACRL Board of Directors appointed a task force in 2013 to update the *Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education*, adopted by the association in 2000, so that they reflect the current thinking on the creation and dissemination of knowledge, the changing global higher education and learning environment, the shift from information literacy to information fluency, and the expanding definition of information literacy to include multiple literacies. To better equip students to navigate, understand and contribute in this dynamic information ecosystem, the task force determined that a move from the traditional standards model to a framework was needed to allow for more creative and integrated information literacy learning outcomes. As noted earlier in this report, the Board took the official action of "filing" the new *Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education* at the 2015 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Chicago. The Board also decided to defer sunsetting the *Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education*.

To help with the implementation of the Framework, Sharon Mader was hired as ACRL visiting program officer for information literacy in February 2015. To further support the implementation of the Framework, the ACRL Board of Directors approved the creation of a new ACRL Framework for Information Literacy Advisory Board in spring 2015. These member leaders will work with Mader to offer a range of expertise and perspectives that can positively and strategically shape the growth and development of the Framework.

The Student Learning and Information Literacy Committee compiled an annotated bibliography on threshold concepts, one of the educational theories underpinning the document. The list represents a wide variety of disciplines around threshold concepts and serves as an introduction to threshold concepts in the literature of educational theory. In addition, the ACRL 2015 conference featured ten panel sessions covering various aspects of the Framework, along with an update session on the document.

To facilitate additional information sharing, ACRL created an electronic list to provide a convenient spot for exchanging ideas about the Framework. The new list serves as an open forum for asking questions, posting professional development opportunities, and sharing examples of

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how libraries are using the Framework. Additional information on the new list and other activities around the Framework is available through a dedicated website at acrl.ala.org/framework.

The *Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education* continue to be widely cited as a benchmark in information literacy instruction. This year the standards were cited in numerous books, journal articles, and blogs along with ACRL's own publications. More than 325 print copies of the standards have been distributed this year, and the online version has been visited nearly 123,700 times, showing the level of engagement with the revision/Framework development process. Since its filing in February 2015, the online version of the Framework has been accessed more than 42,100 times.

A variety of e-Learning courses and webcasts, along with programs and preconference sessions at ACRL 2015, the ALA Midwinter Meeting, and ALA Annual Conference, provided additional opportunities for librarians to gain additional skills in these important areas.

"I appreciate ACRL's efforts to push our field forward and its capacity to spur conversations that help shape our profession, whether it's through professional development opportunities, disseminating LIS research, or creating documents like the Framework for Information Literacy."

– Eamon Tewell, ACRL Member of the Week



Information Literacy Immersion Program

ACRL endeavors to improve members' ability to teach and assess lifelong learning skills. To help librarians and institutions develop and implement information literacy programs on their campuses, the ACRL Immersion "Classic" Program was offered from August 2–7, 2015, at Seattle University. The program provided two tracks of intensive training and education for 85 attendees. The Teacher Track focused on individual development for librarians interested in enhancing or extending their individual instruction skills, while the Program Track focused on developing, integrating, or managing campus-wide and programmatic information literacy programs.

Fifty-five attendees participated in the Assessment and Intentional Teacher Tracks, held November 19–22, 2014, in Nashville. The Assessment Track provided attendees with an understanding of assessment and information on how to use assessment as a tool to guide evidence-based classroom, curriculum, and program development. The Intentional Teacher Track offered a mixture of structured and co-constructed learning segments, such as peer discussions, individual reading and reflection times, and participant-led communities of practice to help attendees become more self-aware and self-directed as teachers.

An additional 40 individuals participated in the Practical Management for the Instruction Coordinator Track held March 25, 2015, in conjunction with the ACRL 2015 Conference in Portland, Oregon. This interactive one-day program addresses how to lead from within – developing the powers of persuasion to influence in multiple directions. Other topics included creating the right environment for a successful instruction program, understanding a broader campus environment, providing constructive feedback, and coaching for success.

Regional Immersion programs were held at the University of Alabama in May 2015 and the National University of Singapore in June 2015.

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Information Literacy Resources

Eleven e-Learning seminars and webcasts provided opportunities to learn more about information literacy and student learning-related topics. Topics of the e-Learning opportunities included From Tutorials to Courses: Building an Engaging Online Learning Experience for Your Audience; Beyond Worksheets: Using Instructional Technologies for Authentic Assessment of Student Learning; Collaborating for Student Success: Libraries and High Impact Educational Practices; Google It or Go Elsewhere; Librarians Collaborate! Working across Two- and Four-Year Institutions to Teach Transfer Students Information Literacy Skills; Moving from Impossible to Manageable: Helping Students Manage and Focus Research Topics; and You're Doing it Wrong: Ten Rules to Break to Create Awesome Tutorials.

Several ACRL sections additionally sponsored information literacy-related programs at the 2015 ALA Annual Conference. See page 610 for a full list of program topics.

ACRL continues to publish a variety of information literacy and learning monograph titles. *Classroom Assessment Techniques for Librarians, Not Just Where to Click: Teaching Students How to Think about Information (PIL #68)*, and *Teaching Information Literacy Threshold Concepts: Lesson Plans for Librarians* were published this year.

Intersections of Scholarly Communication and Information Literacy

The ACRL Intersections of Scholarly Communication and Information Literacy Task Force continued its work in promoting the connections between these two areas of the Plan for Excellence by proposing and delivering sustainable professional development opportunities building on the ideas and recommendations in the Intersections white paper. The task force presented a three-part ACRL e-Learning webcast series in winter 2014–15 focusing on strategic collaborations for scholarly communication and information literacy, job descriptions for new roles, and copyright. A panel on the Intersections topic was also held at the ACRL 2015 conference. Plans are underway for additional Intersections professional development opportunities in the coming year.

Research and Scholarly Environment

ACRL's scholarly communication program actively promotes a commitment to the greater good through the transition to a more open system of scholarship. ACRL released a new version of its popular Scholarly Communication Toolkit with updated content in September 2014. The toolkit, developed and maintained by the ACRL Research and Scholarly Environment Committee (ReSEC), continues to provide content and context on a broad range of scholarly communication topics, including expanded information on data management. It provides links to examples of specific tools, including handouts, presentations, and videos for libraries to use on their own campuses, and for library school students seeking to incorporate these issues into their course work. The toolkit is also widely used by libraries in conjunction with Open Access Week, an annual global event promoting open models of scholarly communication. The ACRL Scholarly Communication Toolkit is freely available online at acrl.ala.org/scholcomm.

ACRL established a new Digital Scholarship Centers Interest Group this year to provide a forum for discussion and the exchange of ideas. The association also raised awareness of important

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scholarly communication issues by offering a free ACRL Presents... webcast, “Celebrating Fair Use Week: Does Fair Use Really Work?” during the February 2015 celebration of Fair Use Week. Another ACRL Presents... webcast held in October 2014, “Celebrating Open Access Week: Scholarly Communication Initiatives at Academic Libraries,” helped librarians better understand the landscape, collaborations with faculty and students, and connections to information literacy.

ReSEC selected four sites from eight applications to host the subsidized version of our popular workshop “Scholarly Communication: From Understanding to Engagement” as road show events this spring and summer. The institutions selected to host the 2015 road shows are Auburn University Libraries (Auburn, Alabama), Iowa State University Library (Ames, Iowa), Tri-College University Libraries (Fargo, North Dakota), and University of South Carolina (Columbia, South Carolina). The workshop focuses on access, emerging opportunities, intellectual property, and engagement. When the 2015 workshops are complete, the road show will have visited 26 different states, the District of Columbia, 1 U.S. territory, and 3 Canadian provinces. The 36 workshops offered over the program’s six years will have reached more than 2,200 participants from more than 600 institutions. ACRL also makes the workshop available to other interested institutions.

The Scholarly Communication Road Show added two new presenters this year—Katie Fortney, copyright policy and education officer for the California Digital Library, and Anali Maughan Perry, associate librarian for collections and scholarly communication at the Arizona State University Libraries.

The first-ever unconference sponsored by the ARL/ACRL Institute on Scholarly Communication was held in March 2015, in Portland, Oregon, in conjunction with the ACRL 2015 Conference. During this community-driven experience, attendees shared skills, learned what has worked at other campuses, and built plans for their library’s scholarly communication program throughout the day. More than 25 additional sessions at ACRL 2015 focused on scholarly communication issues. To help strengthen the connection between scholarly communication and information literacy, ACRL’s Intersections of Scholarly Communication and Information Literacy task force presented a three-part e-Learning webcast series, *From Awareness to Transformation: Intersections of Scholarly Communication and Information Literacy in 21st-Century Academic Libraries*, in winter 2014–15.

ACRL published two books, *Getting the Word Out: Academic Libraries as Scholarly Publishers* and *Meaningful Metrics: A 21st Century Librarian’s Guide to Bibliometrics, Altmetrics, and Research Impact*, focusing on scholarly communication issues this year.

The ACRL Scholarly Communication Discussion Group, the Scholcomm discussion list, and the ACRL/SPARC Forum on Emerging Issues in Scholarly Communication continue to be important venues for strengthening the association’s role in supporting new models of scholarly communication. Regular articles on scholarly communication issues and trends in *C&RL News* play an important role in disseminating a body of knowledge for the field.

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Enabling Programs and Services

In addition to the three Plan for Excellence goal areas, ACRL serves its members, along with the academic and research library community, through a wide variety of programs and services. Highlights of the regularly recurring operations relevant to the ability of ACRL to lead academic and research librarians and libraries in advancing learning and scholarship are reported below.

Member Engagement

ACRL's membership activities build on retaining core membership while recruiting from new and diverse communities. As of August 31, 2015, ACRL had 11,181 members, an increase of 1.55% (171 more members) from FY14 (11,010). There are currently 10,472 personal members, 690 organizational members, and 19 corporate members.

ACRL continues to explore new models for member connections. The ACRL 101 program at the ALA Annual Conference educates members and potential members on the wide range of association activities and opportunities for participation. For the third year, the association held a virtual orientation session for incoming leaders. A number of ACRL committees, interest groups, sections, and the Board of Directors are working virtually and taking advantage of ALA Connect and other virtual meeting systems to keep the work of the association moving forward year round.

As of August 2015, 6,353 individuals “like” the official ACRL Facebook page (www.facebook.com/ala.acrl) and 13,809 people follow the association on Twitter (https://twitter.com/ALA_ACRL). Many ACRL sections, including AFAS, Arts, CLS, IS, LES, LPSS, and WGSS, have Facebook pages or groups for their members and other interested parties. ACRL's scholarly research journal *College & Research Libraries* also maintains Facebook and Twitter presences. These online presences provide avenues for information dissemination and connection with, and between, members. The ACRL Pinterest site (www.pinterest.com/acrlala/) provides a visual picture of the association, including images of award winners, members of the week, ACRL publication covers, and more. As of August 2015, 378 people follow ACRL's Pinterest presence.



“Through ACRL, I will always be able to find new ways to change and grow in the profession as well as people who will support me along the way.”

– Meagan Lacy, ACRL Member of the Week

The ACRL Insider blog (www.acrl.ala.org/acrlinsider/) continues to keep readers current and informed on the activities, services, and programs of the association and features weekly profiles of ACRL members. The biweekly ACRL Update e-newsletter, along with publications and e-Learning course announcements, continue to be distributed to more than 13,000 subscribers to increase awareness of ACRL activities.

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ACRL Communities of Practice Membership Statistics

ACRL Sections	Personal	Organizational and Corporate	August 2015 total	August 2014 total	Change
ACRL	10,472	709	11,181	11,010	+1.55%
AAMES	298	33	331	289	+14.53%
AFAS	248	8	256	194	+31.96%
ANSS	473	32	505	424	+19.10%
Arts	757	43	800	747	+7.10%
CJCLS	1,205	113	1,318	1,236	+6.63%
CLS	2,504	154	2,658	2,476	+7.35%
DLS	1,505	54	1,559	1,471	+5.98%
EBSS	791	75	866	779	+11.17%
IS	3,946	209	4,155	3,989	+4.16%
LES	568	10	578	496	+16.53%
LPSS	418	38	456	412	+10.68%
RBMS	1,610	76	1,686	1,585	+6.37%
SEES	176	19	195	152	+28.29%
STS	1,222	89	1,311	1,229	+6.67%
ULS	4,001	150	4,151	4,019	+3.28%
WESS	450	23	473	421	+12.35%
WGSS	569	20	589	437	+34.78%

Total Personal Section Affiliations 21,887

ACRL Interest Groups	Personal	Organizational and Corporate	August 2015 total	August 2014 total	Change
Academic Library Services to International Students	424	1	425	355	+19.72%
Digital Badges	93	0	93	N/A	N/A
Digital Curation	1,012	5	1,017	935	+8.77%
Digital Humanities	352	1	353	N/A	N/A
Health Sciences	583	3	586	494	+18.62%
Image Resources	340	4	344	264	+30.30%
Librarianship in For-Profit Institutions	188	2	190	154	+23.38%
Library and Information Science (LIS) Education	476	4	480	246	+95.12%
Library Marketing and Outreach	321	2	323	N/A	N/A
Numeric & Geospatial Data	311	0	311	244	+27.46%
Residency	99	0	99	59	+67.80%
Technical Services	568	4	572	331	+72.81%
Universal Accessibility	290	0	290	193	+50.26%
Virtual Worlds	169	1	170	130	+30.77%

Total Personal IG Affiliations 5,253

Note: The ACRL Digital Scholarship Centers Interest Group was added as a dues products September 1, 2015. Membership figures will be available for FY16.

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ACRL continues to sponsor participants in the ALA Emerging Leaders program. This year's five ACRL-sponsored emerging leaders were Crystal Boyce (sponsored by STS), Rachel Gammons (sponsored by Arts and LES), Alexandra Hauser (sponsored by CLS), Rebecca Marrall (sponsored by ULS), and Melissa Ringle (sponsored by ACRL).

As part of its commitment to furthering diversity in librarianship, the association is supporting Stephanie Everett as its 2015–16 Spectrum Scholar. Everett is a student at Kent State University. Since 1999, ACRL has contributed \$102,500 to the ALA Spectrum program, sponsoring 12 ALA Spectrum Scholars, and has awarded more than 20 Spectrum Travel Grants consisting of registration and a travel stipend to help Spectrum Scholars attend every ACRL conference since 2005, with a total value of more than \$20,000.

In addition, ACRL assists scholars through mentoring and conference assistance. In 2003, ACRL founded the ACRL Dr. E. J. Josey Spectrum Mentor Program and Committee to encourage ALA Spectrum LIS students to pursue academic librarianship. Since then, the committee has paired more than 120 Spectrum Scholars with a trained mentor from an academic library and will be again working to pair interested current scholars and scholars from the incoming Spectrum class. The committee has been implementing assessment tools to gather and measure feedback from mentors and mentees about the use and effectiveness of the mentoring program, which will be used to refine the program as future cohorts use and review the data gathered.

Communities of Practice

ACRL has dozens of opportunities for members with similar interests to “meet up” through its communities of practice. Sections, Interest Groups, and Discussion Groups provide formal or informal ways for members to connect and work on projects that contribute to the profession.

Sections

ACRL provides special connections for members, both virtual and personal. ACRL sections offer 17 vibrant and dynamic communities that nurture individual development and foster a deeper connection to the profession. Sections also hosted dozens of special events (socials, dinners, receptions) at the ALA Midwinter Meeting and ALA Annual Conference to create community among new and continuing members.

Interest Groups

As of August 2015, ACRL's 14 interest groups — Academic Library Services to International Students, Digital Badges, Digital Curation, Digital Humanities, Health Sciences, Image Resources, Librarianship in For-Profit Educational Institutions, Library and Information Science (LIS) Education, Library Marketing and Outreach, Numeric and Geospatial, Data Services in Academic Libraries, Residency, Technical Services, Universal Accessibility, and Virtual Worlds — have attracted 5,226 members, with an average membership of 373. The Digital Curation Interest Group currently has the most members (1,017). The Digital Scholarship Centers Interest Group launched September 1, 2015, bringing the total number of Interest Groups to 15 beginning in FY16. Approved by the ACRL membership in the 2008 ALA/ACRL election, interest groups provide a way to easily create a “home” within ACRL for topics and issues of interest to the profession.

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Discussion Groups

ACRL's 22 discussion groups are designed to gather together interested parties to discuss issues and always-important informal networks for exchanging ideas and problem-solving. A listing of Discussion Groups is available on the ACRL website at www.ala.org/acrl/aboutacrl/directoryofleadership/discussiongroups/dgs.

Awards

Through its awards program, which recognizes the achievements of academic and research librarians and libraries, ACRL provides a platform for librarians to bring notice of their work to their broader communities. Since 1923, the ACRL Awards Program has recognized and honored the professional contributions and achievements of academic libraries and librarians. This special recognition by ACRL enhances the sense of personal growth and accomplishment of our members, provides our membership with role models, and strengthens the image of our membership in the eyes of employers, leadership, and the academic community as a whole.

In 2015, 31 outstanding individuals and institutions received ACRL awards recognizing their accomplishments. ACRL's top honor, the Academic/Research Librarian of the Year Award, was presented to Robert A. Seal, dean of university libraries at Loyola University Chicago. Seal was cited for his commitment to international library cooperation along with his reputation as a strong, visionary leader and as a caring mentor to new and experienced academic librarians.



Robert Seal,
2015 Academic/Research
Librarian of the Year

ACRL continues to present the Excellence in Academic Libraries Award to recognize the staff of a community college, a college, and a university library for exemplary programs that deliver outstanding services and resources to further the educational mission of their institution. This year's recipients were Santa Fe College in the community college category, Amherst College in the college category, and Purdue University in the university category. The award, sponsored by ACRL and YBP Library Services, includes a presentation ceremony on the campus of each award-winning library.

Publications

ACRL's publications program was very active during 2014–15, publishing 12 new books, which are listed in the accompanying table. ACRL monographs are available in a variety of e-book formats through the ALA Store and Amazon. Libraries can also purchase ACRL e-books through EBSCO.

Serials

Association members continue to receive print copies of *College & Research Libraries News (C&RL News)*, ACRL's news magazine and publication of record, as a perquisite of membership. *C&RL News* is also available by subscription. As noted earlier in this report, the association's scholarly research journal *College & Research Libraries (C&RL)*, is an online-only, open access publication. ACRL is proud to make quality research freely available to the higher education community as it models new practices in scholarly communication.

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ACRL AWARD WINNERS 2015

Division Award Winners

■ **Academic/Research Librarian of the Year Award** (*Donor: YBP Library Services*)
Robert A. Seal, Dean of University Libraries, Loyola University Chicago

■ **Excellence in Academic Libraries**

(*Donor: YBP Library Services*)

University: Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana;

College: Amherst College, Amherst, Massachusetts;

Community College: Santa Fe College, Gainesville, Florida

■ **Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Award**

(*ACRL, ALCTS, LLAMA, LITA*) Brian Schottlaender, University of California-San Diego

Section Award Winners

■ **CJCLS Library Program Achievement Award** (*Donor: EBSCO Information Services*)

Andrew G. Truxal Library, Anne Arundel Community College

■ **CJCLS Library Resources Leadership Award** (*Donor: EBSCO Information Services*) Mary

Ann Sheble, Oakland Community College

■ **CLS Innovation in College Librarianship Award** Melinda Beland, Angie Cox, Melissa

Gevaert, Anna Hollingsworth and Linda McLauri, University of Northern Iowa

■ **DLS Routledge Distance Learning Librarianship Conference Sponsorship Award**

(*Donor: Routledge/Taylor & Francis Group*) Christina Sibley, Arizona Western College

■ **IS Ilene F. Rockman Instruction Publication of the Year Award** (*Donor: Emerald Group*

Publishing Limited) Emily Drabinski, Long Island University-Brooklyn

■ **IS Innovation Award** Michelle Keba, Michael Schofield, and Jamie Segno, Nova Southeast-

ern University

■ **IS Miriam Dudley Instruction Librarian Award** (*Donor: ACRL Instruction Section*) Lisa

Janicke Hinchliffe, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

■ **RBMS/Leab Exhibition Catalogue Awards** (*Donor: Katharine Kyes Leab and Daniel J. Leab*

Endowment) CATEGORY 1 WINNER (EXPENSIVE): The Grolier Club; CATEGORY 2 WINNER (MODERATELY

EXPENSIVE): Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library at the University of Toronto; CATEGORY 3 WINNER

(INEXPENSIVE): Saint Louis University Libraries, Archives and Records Management; CATEGORY

4 WINNER (BROCHURES): Bruce Peel Special Collections Library at the University of Alberta;

CATEGORY 4 HONORABLE MENTION (BROCHURES): The Getty Research Institute; CATEGORY 5 WINNER

(ELECTRONIC EXHIBITIONS): The Eda Kuhn Loeb Music Library at Harvard University

■ **WESS De Gruyter European Librarianship Study Grant** (*Donor: de Gruyter Foundation*)

Katharine C. Chandler, Free Library of Philadelphia

■ **WGSS Achievement in Women's Studies Librarianship Awards**

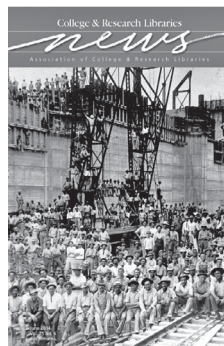
Career Achievement Connie Phelps, University of New Orleans

Significant Achievement Nancy Goebel, University of Alberta Augustana Campus

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RBM: A Journal of Rare Books, Manuscripts, and Cultural Heritage is published twice yearly in print and online, and is available by subscription. ACRL also publishes the *Choice* suite of products, including *Choice* magazine and *Choice Reviews Online*.

Wendi Kaspar, policy sciences librarian at the Texas A&M University Policy Sciences and Economics Library, was appointed the next editor of *C&RL* in June 2015. Kaspar will serve as editor designate from July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2016, when she will assume full editorial responsibility. In the position of editor, Kaspar will also serve as chair of the *C&RL* Editorial Board. Her extensive publishing experience includes serving as co-editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Academic Librarianship* (2012–14) and co-editor-in-chief of *Library Leadership & Management* (2010–12). Kaspar succeeds Scott Walter, university librarian at DePaul University in Chicago, as *C&RL* editor. Walter began his term as editor in 2012.



Mark Shelton of Harvard University was appointed to the post of *C&RL* book review editor in October 2014. Currently head of collection development at Harvard’s Gutman Library, Shelton has written numerous book reviews for *C&RL* and *Collection Building*, in addition to serving as a library advisory board member for a variety of publishers.

A 75th anniversary special issue of *C&RL* was released online in March 2015. The issue contains commentary essays on a series of seminal articles from the journal’s history selected by the journal readership, along with republished versions of those articles, an introductory essay from editor Scott Walter, and a look at the future of publishing in scholarly societies. The special issue is freely available on the *C&RL* website.

“I love getting C&RL News in the mail and reading it. I really do! Our colleagues do some excellent work and as a new librarian, I am grateful for this publication which help me reflect on my approach, gain exposure to new perspectives, and grow my knowledge base.”

– Isabel Gonzalez-Smith, ACRL Member of the Week



As part of its social media program, the journal hosted two online fora this year. Each forum highlighted a new *C&RL* study with a free, live, expert panel comprised of the study’s authors and additional subject experts. “Degrees of Impact: Analyzing the Effects of Progressive Librarian Course Collaborations on Student Performance,” held in December 2014, featured authors of a study conducting a rubric assessment of first-year seminar research papers to analyze the level of instruction it takes to improve information literacy learning. Held in May 2015, “A Survey of Campus Coordinators of Undergraduate Research Programs” featured a panel sharing the findings of a study, which included two parts: a survey of libraries that gauged current support for undergraduate research programs and an investigation of how undergraduate research program coordinators perceive and value library support for undergraduate research. May also featured a forum on the “Future of the ‘Research’ in the

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ACRL PUBLICATIONS

ACRL Insider

- The blog keeping the world current and informed on ACRL activities, services, and programs.

ACRLog: Blogging by and for Academic and Research Librarians

- The official blog of ACRL features posts on current issues in academic and research librarianship from the blog team.

ACRL TechConnect

- Blog covering innovative uses of technology in academic and research libraries.

ACRL Value of Academic Libraries

- Trends and issues related to the ACRL Value of Academic Libraries initiative.

Keeping Up With...

- Online current awareness publication featuring concise briefs on trends in academic librarianship and higher education.

New Publications in 2014–15

- *2013 Academic Library Trends and Statistics*
- *Assessing Liaison Librarians: Documenting Impact for Positive Change (PIL #67)*
- *Classroom Assessment Techniques for Librarians*
- *Difficult Decisions: Closing and Merging Academic Libraries*
- *Digital Humanities in the Library: Challenges and Opportunities for Subject Specialists*
- *Getting the Word Out: Academic Libraries as Scholarly Publishers*
- *Meaningful Metrics: A 21st Century Librarian's Guide to Bibliometrics, Altmetrics, and Research Impact*
- *Navigating the Future with Scenario Planning: A Guidebook for Librarians*
- *Not Just Where to Click: Teaching Students How to Think about Information (PIL #68)*
- *Owning and Using Scholarship: An IP Handbook for Teachers and Researchers*
- *Teaching Information Literacy Threshold Concepts: Lesson Plans for Librarians*
- *The Living Library: An Intellectual Ecosystem*

ACRL Magazines and Journals

- *College & Research Libraries*—Official scholarly journal of ACRL; six bimonthly issues per year
- *College & Research Libraries News*—Official news magazine of ACRL; 11 issues per year (July/August combined)
- *RBM: A Journal of Rare Books, Manuscripts, and Cultural Heritage*—A journal of theory and practice covering all aspects of special collections librarianship; two issues per year

CHOICE Publications

- *Choice* magazine—Book review journal of ACRL, includes special editorial features and reviews; published monthly
- *Choice Reviews on Cards*—*Choice* reviews, and just the reviews, on cards; published monthly
- *Choice Reviews Online* Version 3.0—The current web version of *Choice* magazine; provides 24/7 access to all of *Choice*'s editorial content, including all reviews published since September 1988 plus a customizable monthly e-mail bulletin (www.cro3.org).

Year in Review

Association of College & Research Libraries,” including wide-ranging discussion of what ACRL needs to do to remain central to the work of librarians as researchers and evidence-informed practitioners.

C&RL continued to experiment with new models of scholarly communication by adding altmetrics statistics for all articles to the journal website this year.

C&RL's Facebook and Twitter presences are home to updates on pre-print and current articles, book reviews, highlights of past articles from the journal's history, and exclusive content from *C&RL* editors and researchers.

ALA JobLIST

ALA JobLIST (joblist.ala.org), the online career center operated since 2006 by *C&RL News* in partnership with *American Libraries* and ALA's Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment (HRDR), offers services for both job seekers and employers. The site published more job ads in FY15 than in any year since its launch in FY07, with many of the ads announcing multiple available positions. JobLIST also reaches thousands of followers with links to helpful career and job search information on Twitter, Facebook, Google+, and LinkedIn. Face-to-face services are made available through the ALA JobLIST Placement Center, operated by HRDR at major ALA and ACRL conferences, which has also offered occasional webinars and other virtual development opportunities throughout the year.



CHOICE

The 2014–15 fiscal year was a year of change at CHOICE, a publishing unit at ACRL. Easily the most important of these changes was the acceptance, in February 2015, of the CHOICE Strategic Directions document by the ACRL Board of Directors. The document outlines our plans over the next three years for expanding the range of services and publications CHOICE provides and proposes a program to rebrand CHOICE to position it as a publisher to multiple audiences, both traditional (librarians) and new (faculty and students), through a diversified portfolio of products.

The first of these new tools was the launch of a *Choice* tablet app over the summer of 2015. Available for download through the App Store and Google Play, the app is currently being offered free to all *Choice* subscribers. Key features include the ability to play ACRL-CHOICE webinars inside the app and to view editorial content not available in other formats, including topical information from the ACI Scholarly Blog index.

Editorial changes to *Choice* were much in evidence this past year, with the addition of two new columns, “Ask an Archivist,” an editorial feature—in interview format—intended to spotlight special collections, and “Guest of *Choice*,” a platform for leaders in the library community to discuss issues of importance. Future months will see the introduction of new tools that will enable rapid discovery of community college resources and the publication of *Choice* bibliographic essays on the LibGuide platform. All the while, *Choice* kept pace with contemporary scholarship by once again publishing more than 7,000 reviews. As an expression

Year in Review

of the continued interest in the publication, visits to *Choice Reviews Online* increased by 15% during the academic year, with subscribers accessing over half a million pages on the site per month.

This past January saw the 50th publication of *Choice*'s prestigious Outstanding Academic Titles list. This year's list singled out 694 of the most noteworthy titles of 2014, representing selections from 54 academic disciplines, for exceptional praise. This year also witnessed the vigorous expansion of the ACRL-CHOICE webinar program, with the hosting of 32 presentations designed to connect the library community with publishers and other content providers around topics of common interest. An archive of the complete series is available on the *Choice* YouTube channel.

Resources for College Libraries (RCL), a copublishing venture with ProQuest, continues to be enhanced with new edition updates and annual revisions, and finished the fiscal year with strong subscription sales. A new version of the database, RCL 3.0, was launched during the summer of 2015, featuring an improved user interface, responsive design, mobile and tablet accessibility, and improved performance using cloud computing services from Amazon. At the same time, *Choice* staff, under the direction of Anne Doherty, added 1,932 titles to the RCL database during our annual update to RCL subjects, bringing the total number of resources contained in the combined RCL and RCL Career Resources close to 90,000. RCL is now also embedded in ProQuest's new Intota collection assessment tool, widening both the reach and the utility of the RCL database.

Finally, *Choice*'s social media presence expanded significantly in FY15, including topping 10,000 Facebook likes.

Reports, White Papers, Online Publications

As part of its 75th anniversary celebration, ACRL published "New Roles for the Road Ahead: Essays Commissioned for ACRL's 75th Anniversary" in March 2015. Authored by well-known bloggers and thought leaders Steven J. Bell, associate university librarian at Temple University, Lorcan Dempsey, vice-president of OCLC research and chief strategist, and Barbara Fister, academic librarian at Gustavus Adolphus College, the collection features a series of 20 essays, including reflections on ways academic libraries can succeed in a changing higher education environment, take advantage of opportunities, and think about the best ways to deliver both ongoing and innovative services to students and faculty. ACRL members provided commentary on the draft of the report, much of which was incorporated into the final work.

ACRL released the first in a two-part set of Occasional Reports on academic library construction and renovation in February 2015. Authored by Christopher Stewart, "Building with Purpose: A Quantitative Overview of U.S. Academic Library Construction 2000–2014" presents a rich set of data on, and analysis of, new library construction over the past 14 years. The analysis presented in Stewart's report examines new library construction through a framework of institutional characteristics, which provides an opportunity to identify patterns in terms of where libraries are investing in new space. This information also provides evidence of shifting institutional intentions and aspirations for the library building. A forthcoming second report will cover academic library renovations in the same period.

Year in Review

Keeping Up With..., ACRL's online current awareness publication series, continued issuing concise briefs on trends in academic librarianship and higher education. Each edition focuses on a single issue, including an introduction to the topic and summaries of key points, along with implications for academic libraries. The series' offerings this year included information on competency-based education, critical librarianship, the *Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education*, iBeacons, learning analytics, library value, net neutrality, and the ed tech surge.

Blogs/Social Media

ACRL continued to leverage social media and other new technologies to deliver content over the past year.

ACRLog (acrlog.org) is now heading into its ninth year of operation. The blog, which discusses the issues of the day in academic and research librarianship, featured 60 posts from the blog team and assorted guests in FY15.

The ACRL Insider blog (acr.ala.org/acrlinsider) continued to distribute information on publications, events, conferences, and other association activities to the membership and beyond. There were 228 posts to ACRL Insider during the fiscal year. The Member of the Week feature continues to highlight the diversity of the association and remains one of the most popular features of the blog.

The ACRL TechConnect blog (acr.ala.org/techconnect) is a moderated blog covering innovative projects, emerging tech tools, computer programming, usability, design, and more. There were 28 posts to ACRL TechConnect during the fiscal year.

The ACRL Value of Academic Libraries blog (acr.ala.org/value) covers trends and issues related to the association's Value of Academic Libraries initiative. There were 40 posts to the blog during the fiscal year.

Several ACRL communities of practice also manage content blogs focused on their specialties. As noted in the member engagement section, ACRL social media presences on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Pinterest provide news and avenues for engagement with the association.

Standards, Guidelines, and Frameworks

The development of standards, guidelines, and frameworks for all areas of academic and research librarianship is a core service of ACRL. These documents are a key ACRL contribution to the profession. As previously noted, the *Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education* was filed in February 2015 as one of the constellation of information literacy documents from the association. The new *ACRL Statement on Intellectual Freedom* was approved by the Board of Directors at the 2015 ALA Annual Conference. The online versions of ACRL's standards, guidelines, and frameworks were accessed nearly 300,000 times this fiscal year.

Year in Review

ACRL promotes continuous learning through preconferences, workshops, and e-learning

Preconferences / Workshops @ ALA Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference

ACRL preconferences continue to provide academic and research librarians with tips, tools, and new ways of thinking.

One workshop was held before the 2015 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Chicago:

- Tackling Textbook Costs through Open Educational Resources: A Primer (held in collaboration with the ARL/ACRL Institute for Scholarly Communication and SPARC)

Four preconferences were held before the 2015 ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco:

- Data Visualization: Tools, Techniques, and Practice
- Reflective Teaching: Self-Evaluation to Assess and Improve Your Teaching Practice (Instruction Section preconference)
- Storytelling 101: Craft Narratives to Engage and Persuade
- Writing Data Management Plans Across the Curriculum

e-Learning Seminars and Webcasts

Delivered through Moodle, online seminars provide participants with a dynamic and flexible approach to continuing education. Offerings in 2014–15 were:

- Community College Libraries: More Relevant than Ever
- From Tutorials to Courses: Building an Engaging Online Learning Experience for Your Audience
- Managing Change in Academic Libraries
- Preparing for Accreditation
- Using Qualitative Research Strategies to Assess Library Services and Programs
- What You Need to Know About Writing Data Management Plans

The association also expanded its offerings of Webcasts, using an online community hosted by LearningTimes, to deliver real-time, interactive programming over the web. Offerings in 2014–15 were:

- Action Research to Bridge Academic Scholarship and Everyday Practice
- Assessing Faculty Perceptions and Use of OER and the Implications for Libraries
- Beyond Worksheets: Using Instructional Technologies for Authentic Assessment of Student Learning
- Collaborating for Student Success: Libraries and High Impact Educational Practices
- Finding Your Role: The Subject Specialist and Digital Humanities
- Google It or Go Elsewhere
- Information Literacy/Scholarly Communication Intersections Series Part 1: How to Start the Conversation in Your Library
- Information Literacy/Scholarly Communication Intersections Series Part 2: Incorporating Scholarly Communication into Liaison Job/Position Descriptions

Year in Review

Education

ACRL continues to offer a wide range of professional development programs and events to meet the needs of today's academic and research librarians.

ACRL Conference

More than 5,000 library staff, exhibitors, speakers, and guests from all 50 states and 24 countries attended the ACRL 2015 Conference, held March 25–28 in Portland, Oregon. Themed “Creating Sustainable Community,” the conference offered more than 500 programs that explored a host of pressing issues affecting higher education. Key topics included the changing nature and role of academic and research librarians, libraries as partners in higher education, scholarly communication, libraries and social justice, assessment, and trends in information literacy instruction, along with a variety of technology-related subjects such as e-textbooks, mobile services, and social media.



ACRL 2015 also featured a Virtual Conference, which enhanced the experience for onsite attendees as well as providing a venue for participation for those not able to attend in person. Virtual Conference participants have access to more than 200 Slidecasts (PowerPoint presentations synced with real-time audio) from every contributed paper, invited paper, panel session, and TechConnect presentation offered at the face-to-face conference in Portland for the next year. The Virtual Conference also included 12 live webcasts, which allowed librarians to interact in real time, as well as more than 30 asynchronous virtual poster sessions.

ACRL 2015 took place during ACRL's 75th anniversary year, and, to celebrate, special events and programs were held throughout the entire conference. ACRL held a fundraising campaign that awarded a record-breaking 179 conference scholarships, totaling \$112,995, for librarians and staff to attend ACRL 2015.

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- Information Literacy/Scholarly Communication Intersections Series Part 3: Integrating Copyright Into Information Literacy Instruction
- Librarians Collaborate! Working across Two- and Four-Year Institutions to Teach Transfer Students Information Literacy Skills
- Moving from Impossible to Manageable: Helping Students Manage and Focus Research Topics
- Precision Googling: Techniques to Extract Exactly What You Want from the Largest Search Engine
- Reaching Out to International Communities Through Student Engagement, Outreach Services and Embedded Librarianships
- The Search for Meaningful Metrics: Scholarly Impact and The Role of Academic Libraries
- Virtual Reference 101
- Weed It and Reap: Successful Strategies for Re-shaping Collections
- You're Doing it Wrong: Ten Rules to Break to Create Awesome Tutorials

Year in Review

The ACRL 2017 conference, themed “At the Helm – Leading Transformation,” will take place March 22–25, 2017, in Baltimore.

ACRL @ ALA Annual Conference

ACRL preconference sessions at the 2015 ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco provided information on crafting effective narratives, data management plans and visualization, and reflective teaching. The ACRL President’s Program featured Thomas Hoerr, noted author of *Fostering Grit*, and OCLC research scientist Constance Malpas discussing the emerging higher education landscape in order to learn to embrace its challenges, celebrate mistakes, persist in the midst of setbacks, and focus on continuous learning to re-invent ourselves and our libraries.

ACRL sponsored an additional 18 section, committee, and individual programs in San Francisco on topics such as academic freedom and social media, curating LGBT history, data services, education and outreach to prisoners, instructional design, making libraries work for veterans, streaming media, visual literacy, and more. A list of programs is available in the table on page 610.

56th RBMS Conference

The 56th Annual RBMS Conference, *Preserve the Humanities! Special Collections as Liberal Arts Laboratory*, was held June 23–26, 2015, in Oakland, California. The conference explored the role of special collections libraries in the context of larger trends in the humanities and higher education. Highlights included talks on special collections and instructional collaboration, undergraduate education, classrooms as liberal arts laboratories, donor relations, social media, and leveraging collections to shape the humanities. This year’s event featured ten panel sessions, five discussion sessions, three plenaries, thirteen seminars, and four workshops, along with nine posters and tours of historic Richmond, California; the University of California (UC)–Berkeley campus; African American Museum and Library at Oakland; Oakland Public Library Oakland History Room; the UC–Berkeley Museum of Vertebrate Zoology; and the UC–Berkeley Magnes Collection of Jewish Art and Life.



“The wide range of opportunities to both learn and contribute, from conference presentations and discussions to webinars and ACRL publications, has been invaluable to my growth as a librarian and scholar.”

– Rachel Borchardt, ACRL Member of the Week

Leadership Institutes

ACRL again collaborated with other higher education associations to offer the Women’s Leadership Institute, held December 2–5, 2014, in Laguna Niguel, California. The institute is an experience that brings together women from administrative and student affairs functions across institutions of higher education.

Year in Review

Online Learning

The ACRL e-Learning program offered 25 e-Learning events consisting of 18 webcasts and 7 multiweek courses this year on a variety of topics, such as community college library issues, preparing for accreditation, data management, OER, research metrics, managing change, and more. A full list of ACRL e-Learning offerings is in the chart on pages 628 and 629. More than 515 individuals and 158 groups, representing more than 1,110 individuals, participated in this year's e-Learning offerings.

ACRL Presents... Webcasts

The ACRL Presents... program offers free occasional webcasts on issues of broad interest and importance to the academic and research library community. ACRL Presents... webcasts offered this year included "An Update on the New IPEDS Academic Library Component" (October 2014), "Celebrating Open Access Week: Scholarly Communication Initiatives at Academic Libraries" (October 2014), "Celebrating Fair Use Week: Does Fair Use Really Work?" (February 2015), "Putting the Framework for Information Literacy into Action: Next Steps" (March 2015), and "Teaching Information Literacy Threshold Concepts" (July 2015).

Scholarships

Knowing that professional development is essential to the success of academic and research librarians, especially during an economic downturn, we awarded more than \$137,000 in scholarships this year. Thirty-eight scholarships were awarded for the ACRL e-Learning program, the Immersion Program, and 56th RBMS Conference.

"ACRL 2015 was a chance for me to learn what my field was all about, to meet new people and find new ideas and inspiration to excel. Being at the conference this year was such a delight. With help from donors and ACRL, early career academic librarians have the chance to feel like they really belong in this inspiring field."

– Nimisha Bhat, ACRL 2015 scholarship recipient



As part of the celebration of ACRL's 75th anniversary, the association awarded a record-breaking 179 scholarships for the ACRL 2015 Conference. Scholarships were awarded in six categories, including early- and mid-career librarians, support staff, and Spectrum Scholar travel grants, amounting to a total of \$112,995. Funding for 75 of these scholarships (more than \$56,000 in value) was raised through the ACRL 75th Anniversary Kick Start the Future Scholarship Campaign. The association expresses its sincere appreciation to the individuals and groups who participated in the 75th anniversary campaign. Their support enables ACRL to build the skills and capacities of the next generation to serve the academic and research library profession and create a sustainable community.

Advocacy

Continuing the association's focus on advocacy, ACRL aims to increase its communication on major trends and issues in libraries and increase its influence in public policy affecting higher education. ACRL's continued work in the scholarly communication arena, especially as a member of the Library Copyright Alliance (LCA), helped the association to meet these objectives.

Year in Review

Legislative Advocacy

Public policy issues affecting higher education remain an essential focus of the strategic plan. Each year, the ACRL Government Relations Committee, in consultation with the ACRL Board of Directors and staff, formulates an ACRL Legislative Agenda. Drafted with input from the ACRL Scholarly Communications and Copyright Committees, along with additional committees, ACRL leaders, and ALA Washington Office, the legislative agenda is prioritized and includes objectives for legislative action at the national level on issues that may affect the welfare of academic and research libraries. The 2015 ACRL Legislative Agenda focuses on two issues that the U.S. Congress has recently taken, or will most likely take, action on in the year ahead: access to federally funded research and curbing government surveillance. The agenda also includes a watch list of policy issues of great concern to academic librarians. Issues on the watch list include net neutrality, copyright reform, fair use, “making available” right, preservation and reproduction exceptions, orphan works, and the Digital Millennium Copyright Act. Legislation on these issues is not likely to arise and, moreover, ACRL does not believe that any legislation about these issues is necessary.

ACRL joined 21 other scholarly societies this year in a statement protesting proposed changes to the structure of the University of Wisconsin system that threaten to undermine tenure, shared governance, and academic freedom in Wisconsin. ACRL also joined a variety of organizations around the world in denouncing a new sharing and hosting policy for Elsevier journal articles that impedes access to information.

This summer, ACRL joined a broad coalition of more than 90 education, library, technology, public interest, and legal organizations in a letter calling on the White House to take administrative action to ensure federally funded educational materials are made available as Open Educational Resources (OER) that are free to use, share, and improve. The executive action envisioned by the coalition would build upon the Administration’s strong leadership in advancing public access to publicly funded resources with a strong Executive Branch-wide policy for the open licensing of educational, training, and instructional materials created with federal funds.

ACRL President Karen A. Williams and ALA President Courtney Young commented on net neutrality and why it matters for higher education in a column for *CURRENTS*, a publication of the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE).

As noted above, ACRL continues to be an active partner with ALA and the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) in the LCA. Over the course of the past year, LCA has taken action on a number of important issues by issuing comments on pending legislation and court cases, joining briefs, and releasing papers and guides on a wide range of copyright and fair use issues, including unlocking technology, assistive technologies, Internet consumer protection, copyright and 3-D printers, exemptions for audiovisual works for nonprofit educational programs, anti-circumvention measures for MOOCs, and exemptions for motion picture excerpts and literary works distributed electronically.

Partnerships with Higher Education

ACRL continues to work with higher education associations to strengthen both partnerships and the profession. The association collaborated with members of the Council of Higher Education

Year in Review

Management Associations to offer the 2014 Women’s Leadership Institute. This program brought together mid-level administrators from across campus functional areas to share experiences, develop a better understanding of the campus as a workplace and culture, and create new networks and networking skills.

As mentioned in the Value of Academic Libraries section of this report, the Association for Institutional Research and the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities partnered with ACRL to receive a National Leadership Demonstration IMLS Grant for the ongoing “Assessment in Action (AiA): Academic Libraries and Student Success” project.

ACRL maintains liaison relationships with a number of higher education associations through the Liaisons Assembly. ACRL currently has formal liaison relationships with the American Anthropological Association (AAA), American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), American Association of Community Colleges (AACC), American Political Science Association (APSA), Association for Information Science and Technology (ASIST), Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE), Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), Council of Independent Colleges (CIC), Modern Language Association (MLA), National Resource Center for The First-Year Experience and Students in Transition (NRC-FYEST), National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA), Society for College and University Planning (SCUP), and Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education (SITE).

ACRL also maintains working relationships with a variety of additional associations, including the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS), American Institutes for Research (AIR), Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU), Association of Research Libraries (ARL), Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), Coalition for Networked Information (CNI), Council of Higher Education Management Associations (CHEMA), International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA), Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC), and more.

Organizational Effectiveness and Vitality

ACRL sustains the fiscal resources, staff expertise, and organizational structure necessary to advance the association’s Plan for Excellence.

ACRL Staff

The 2015 fiscal year included several changes to the ACRL staff. Elois Sharpe joined ACRL as program coordinator in October 2014, filling a position vacated when Allison Payne was promoted to program officer. Elizabeth Caris was hired as a program coordinator but left the staff in July 2015 to continue her graduate studies. Sharon Mader joined ACRL as visiting program officer for information literacy this year to assist with the implementation of the *Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education*.

Many of you have had phone and e-mail contact with ACRL’s staff, of which there are 15.75 FTE positions in Chicago and an additional 23.5 FTE at the Choice office in Middletown, Connecticut. Take a minute to “meet” ACRL’s diverse staff on the association website at www.ala.org/acrl/aboutacrl/staff/contactacrl.

Sponsorships

ACRL Sponsorships for 2015

ACRL expresses its sincere appreciation to the following sponsors for their generous donations to the various programs and events we have offered throughout the year. Thanks to your support, ACRL members benefited from enhanced programs and services this year.

Colleagues

Magna Cum Laude (\$20,000–34,999)

EBSCO Information Services
Elsevier

Cum Laude (\$7,500–19,999)

Alexander Street Press
American Psychological Association
Ex Libris North America
Innovative Interfaces
SAGE
Springer
Taylor & Francis Group
The UC Berkeley Library
University of Pittsburgh
West Virginia University Libraries
YBP Library Services

Dean's List (\$3,000–7,499)

Antiquarian Bookseller Association of America
Atlas Systems
Brick Row Book Shop
CCS Content Conversion Specialists
Emerald Group Publishing
Form & Reform
The Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation
IEEE
IOP Publishing
Kansas State University
McGraw-Hill Professional
Nature Publishing Group | Palgrave
Macmillan
OCLC
Oxford University Press

Dean's List (continued)

Pennsylvania State University Libraries
Princeton University Library
Purdue University Libraries
Thomson Reuters
University of Houston Libraries
University of Iowa Libraries
University of Washington
University of Wyoming Libraries
William Reese Company

Mortar Board (Up to \$2,999)

AAAS
Adam Matthew Digital
AMALIVRE
American Chemical Society
Anonymous
Antiquariat Botanicum
Appalachian State University - C. G. Belk Library
Archival Products
Ars Libri
Arthur Fournier fine & rare
ASME
B & L Rootenberg Rare Books
The Bancroft Library
Bartleby's Books
Baylor University
Begell House Publishers
The Bibliographical Society of America
Bolerium Books
Bonhams
The Book Shop
Books Tell You Why
Boston Rare Maps
Brepols Publishers
Brigham Young University
Brill USA
Bromer Booksellers
Bruce McKittrick Rare Books
California Digital Library
California Rare Book School
Carl Blomgren Fine Books
Carpe Diem Fine Books
Casalini Libri
Charles Babbage Institute, University of Minnesota
Charleston Library Conference and Against the Grain

Sponsorships

ACRL Sponsorships for 2015

Mortar Board *(continued)*

Coconut Rose Rare Books & Autographs
Colby College
College Library Directors Mentor Program
Columbia University
CRC Press/Taylor & Francis Group
Credo Reference Limited
Dartmouth College Library
Data-Planet
Davarr Antiquarian Books
Dawson's Book Shop
Denison University Libraries, William Howard
Doane Library/Seeley G. Mudd Learning Center
DePaul University Libraries
Division Leap
Eclectibles
Emory University
Erasmus Boekhandel
Eric Chaim Kline Bookseller
Estates of Mind
Florida Atlantic University
Florida State University
G. Gosen Rare Books & Old Paper
Geographic Research/Simply Map
The George Washington University
Harper's Books
HARRASSOWITZ Booksellers and Subscription
Agents
Hollinger Metal Edge
IET USA, Inc.
Ingram Content Group
J. Willard Marriott Library at the University of Utah
James Arsenault & Company
James M. Dourgarian Bookman
Jarndyce Antiquarian Booksellers
Jeff Weber Rare Books
Johanson Rare Books
John Howell for Books
John Windle, Antiquarian Bookseller
JoVE - Journal of Visualized Experiments
Julia Gelfand
Juxta Editions
Ken Lopez Bookseller
Ken Sanders Rare Books
Kenneth Karmiole Bookseller
Knovel
Liber Antiquus, Early Printed Books & Manuscripts
Libros Latinos
Linfield College
Locus Solus Rare Books
Lorne Bair Rare Books
Loyola University of Chicago
Lux Mentis Booksellers
Macalester College
Maggs Bros.
Marc Selvaggio, Bookseller
Marquette University Libraries
Martayan Lan Rare Books
Mary Ann Liebert, Inc.
Michael Laird Rare Books
MIT Libraries
Moe's Books
Morgan & Claypool Publishers

Mortar Board *(continued)*

Musinsky Rare Books
North Carolina State University
Nudelman Rare Books
Oberlin College Library
Ohio Wesleyan University Libraries
Orbis Cascade Alliance
Oregon State University Libraries and Press
Pacific University
Palinurus Antiquarian Books
Philadelphia Rare Books & Manuscripts
Company
Phillip J. Pirages Fine Books and Manuscripts
Preservation Technologies
Puvill Libros
Rabelais
Rice University-Fondren Library
Richmond Public Library Foundation
Rittenhouse
Rockefeller University Press
Routledge/Taylor & Francis
Roy Young Bookseller
Royal Books
Royal Society of Chemistry
Rulon-Miller Books
SAE International
Santa Clara University Library
Simon Beattie Ltd.
Southern Methodist University
SPIE
Tavistock Books
Temple University Libraries
Ten Pound Island Book Co.
Thomas A. Goldwasser Rare Books
Thomas Library, Wittenberg University
Tulane University Libraries
University of Arizona Libraries
University of Arkansas Libraries
University of California, Irvine Libraries
University of Colorado at Boulder Libraries
University of Idaho
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
University of Kansas
University of Massachusetts Amherst Libraries
University of Minnesota Libraries
University of Montana, Mansfield Library
University of New Mexico Libraries
University of Oregon Libraries
University of Puget Sound
University of San Diego
The University of Texas at Austin, Harry Ransom
Center
Utah State University Libraries
Walkabout Books
Walter de Gruyter Stiftung
Washburn University Libraries
Washington University in St. Louis
White Fox Rare Books and Antiques
Whitman College Library
Willamette University Library
Winston-Salem State University
Wolters Kluwer Health Ovid

ACRL Board of Directors, 2014–2015



ACRL Board 2014–15 (l to r): (back) Julie Ann Garrison, Loretta R. Parham, Mary Ellen K. Davis, Susan Barnes Whyte, Irene M. H. Herold, Kim Leeder, John P. Culshaw, Julia M. Gelfand, (front) Cynthia K. Steinhoff, Ann Campion Riley, Karen Williams, Trevor A. Dawes, Douglas K. Lehman

ACRL Board of Directors, 2014–2015

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Financial Report

Cynthia K. Steinhoff

Budget & Finance Committee Chair



The ACRL Board of Directors, Budget & Finance Committee, and Executive Director again carefully reviewed and monitored budget performance over the course of the 2014–2015 fiscal year in light of the slow recovery from the global economic recession. Despite budget challenges, ACRL’s careful stewardship of its resources allowed the association to serve its members well and advance its strategic initiatives. What follows is a summary of ACRL’s budgetary performance highlighting both operating revenue activity and budgetary outcomes.

FY15 ACRL Budgetary Performance:

A Fiscal Year-End Summary as of August 31, 2015

Due to the large swings in revenue caused by the biennial ACRL Conferences, comparisons with the most recent conference year are provided for ACRL. *Choice* revenues/expenses are reported separately to provide a clearer picture of the two operations.

ACRL TOTAL	FY2015 ACTUAL	FY2015 BUDGET	VARIANCE	FY2013 ACTUAL	VARIANCE FY13 to FY15
Revenues	\$5,282,284	\$4,454,395	\$827,889	\$4,751,514	\$530,770
Expenses	\$4,604,875	\$4,576,550	\$28,325	\$4,069,726	\$535,149
NET REVENUE	\$677,409	(\$122,155)	\$799,564	\$681,787	(\$4,378)

CHOICE TOTAL	FY2015 ACTUAL	FY2015 BUDGET	VARIANCE	FY2014 ACTUAL	VARIANCE FY14 to FY15
Revenues	\$3,017,391	\$3,000,891	\$16,500	\$3,030,955	(\$13,564)
Expenses	\$3,150,447	\$3,233,565	(\$83,118)	\$3,063,119	\$87,328
NET REVENUE	(\$133,056)	(\$232,674)	\$99,618	(\$32,164)	(\$100,892)

Factors Affecting ACRL Budget Outcomes

Fiscal year 2014–2015 closed with positive net revenues thanks to careful budgeting and continuous monitoring and adjustment of expenses by the ACRL Board of Directors, Budget & Finance Committee, and the Executive Director to control revenue and expense expectations in response to the effect of the global recession. Economic conditions have affected libraries, higher education and the nonprofit sector in general, and reduced resources available to purchase association goods and services. Recovery within this sector is slow.

It should be noted that 2015 was a conference year, so ACRL recognized revenue from registration fees and other income sources associated with a conference. The total revenue for the 2015 ACRL Conference in Portland, Oregon, in March was \$2,670,947, or \$532,058 (24.88%) more than budgeted. Face-to-face conference registrations of 3,390 surpassed that of Philadelphia, which had the

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largest face-to-face registration prior to the Portland conference, at 3,079. Conference expenses of \$1,891,879 were \$51,118 (2.78%) more than budget, which can be at least partially attributed to the higher number of registrations. Donations from ACRL Colleagues and sales of exhibit booths at the conference also exceeded revenue projections. It is important to note the significance of conference revenue on the operations of ACRL. This revenue helps to support to ACRL programs and services that do not generate revenues, e.g., scholarly communication, liaisons to higher education, value of academic libraries, ALA conference programs, standards, member governance structures, etc.

ACRL Revenues

As with other years, some categories performed better than others, contributing to revenue growth in some budget lines and deficits in others. Highlights in revenue and expense budget lines include:

- The sponsored ACRL/CHOICE webinars came in at double the budgeted figure as vendors have appreciated a new channel to reach target customers. ACRL webinars generated \$150,413 in gross revenues or 50% more than budgeted.
- Classified advertising revenues generated 13% or \$43,250 more than budgeted.
- Surprisingly, print advertising in *C&RL News* also outperformed budget by 41% or \$34,529, while online ad sales underperformed by 25% or \$34,036—in part a result of an overly optimistic outlook while budgeting online ads.
- While membership increased 1.55% in FY15 (one of only two ALA divisions to have an increase), revenues just missed budget coming in .024% or \$1,540 below budget with revenues of \$646,245. This slight increase in membership is most likely tied to interest in attending the ACRL Conference as a member. Dues revenue has held fairly stable since the Board began exercising its authority to increase dues no more than the HEPI index.
- After a several years of sluggish performance, book sales took a dramatic leap due to many in-process manuscripts being published in FY15. Gross revenues came in 54% ahead of budget at \$306,820.
- Gross sales of ACRL's Metrics and Trends and Statistics products were also up \$22,919 or 28%, thanks in part to new consortial sales. These products returned revenues in excess of expenses due in part to pre-paying some production costs in FY14.

ACRL Expenses

- ACRL total expenses without Choice at \$4,604,875 were \$28,325 (0.62%) more than budgeted. This small variance actually masks expense savings in a number of categories including salaries, professional services, lodging and meals, web operating, program allocations (funds budgeted for things such as reimbursements to members, unplanned strategic initiatives, etc.) and printing. Expenses were over budget in editorial services, mailing services, and meal functions (due to increased attendance at events). The other factor contributing to the slight overage in expenses was the transfer of \$150,000 to the long-term investment (which was planned, but not budgeted as an operating expense).
- Due largely to the success of the ACRL 2015 Conference, ACRL contributed nearly \$800,000 to ALA's General Fund through the indirect cost charge of 25.4%.

ACRL Net

ACRL's net revenue of \$677,409 is better than budgeted by \$799,564. This is more than 600% better than the budgeted net of (\$122,155). The large swing in net is a result of not only the huge

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success of the ACRL 2015 Conference, but also the expense savings listed above. This brings ACRL's net asset balance to a healthy \$5,002,115, which will allow the association to adjust to changes in the environment, and to seek other strategic opportunities for the development of new programs and services. A big challenge is to identify a major initiative that could be funded with part of the net asset balance. Another challenge is to develop programs and services that would contribute net revenue.

Long-Term Investment (LTI)

ACRL's Long Term Investments (LTI) showed a net gain of \$87,269 through the final quarter of the fiscal year, increasing from \$3,040,255 to \$3,127,523, after a transfer of \$150,000 from the ACRL operating budget. The award endowments all had losses reflecting the challenging market this year with the Oberly Award endowment ending at \$28,144 (down \$1,261), the Leab Award endowment ending at \$42,788 (down \$1,185), and the Atkinson Award endowment at \$153,218 (down \$6,990). The ACRL endowment ended the year at \$2,903,373. While this is an increase of \$96,704, because ACRL transferred \$150,000 into the LTI, one could say that ACRL actually lost \$53,296).

The Future

The current economic climate has depressed many of ACRL's traditional revenue streams when compared to the years prior to the recession, and this is likely to continue. Recovery from the recent recession is moving slowly. A bright spot is that ACRL's membership increased by 1.55% this year, though this is less than in conference years in the past, which averaged a 3% membership increase. The membership increase in 2013, another recent conference year, was less than 1%.

Future budgets will incorporate revenue from newer programs and services (e.g., workshops on using ACRL's new standards and the *Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education*, consulting services, and increased opportunities for online advertising). ACRL will continue to look for additional revenue opportunities with programs and services that members need. While ACRL looks for ways to grow its revenue streams, the association has also been working to trim administrative expenses. Staff continues to look for ways to streamline procedures and automate processes where possible. The goal is to moderate expenditures to be more in line with current revenue expectations, while aligning the budget to support the Plan for Excellence. With a robust net asset balance, ACRL is considering judicious spending of a portion of the balance to invest in sustainable new programs and services to retain and attract members.

CHOICE

At 4th close, CHOICE finished FY15 with revenues of \$3,017,391, \$16,500 (0.55%) better than budget but a shortfall of \$13,564 (0.4%) to fiscal 2014. Expenses came in at \$3,150,447, beating budget by \$83,118 (2.57%) but \$87,328 (2.9%) above last year's spending. As a result, at -\$133,056, CHOICE net revenue bested budget by \$99,618 but fell short—by some \$100,892—of last year's results.

Choice magazine subscription revenue continued its ongoing decline of approximately 6% annually, while circulation also tracked recent history by dropping 10.5%, the difference between the two rates attributable to subscription price increases. Circulation of *Choice Reviews on Cards*

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ACRL Executive Summary 2014–2015 (unaudited; report as of Oct. 16, 2015)

SOURCES OF REVENUE	FY2014 ACTUAL	FY2015 BUDGET	FY2015 ACTUAL
OPENING RESERVE LEVELS AS OF SEPT. 1:			
ACRL Operating Reserve Fund	\$4,647,434	\$4,324,706	\$4,324,706
ACRL Long-Term Investment Fund (including award endowments)	\$2,561,564	\$3,040,255	\$3,040,255
<i>CHOICE</i> Operating Reserve Fund	\$3,049,671	\$3,017,507	\$3,017,507
<i>CHOICE</i> Long-Term Investment Fund	\$823,273	\$895,640	\$895,640
TOTAL	\$11,081,942	\$11,278,108	\$11,278,108
ACRL LTI Fund Net Interest (excluding award endowments)	\$73,710	\$32,265	\$96,704
MEMBERSHIP DUES AND OTHER			
Dues	\$648,844	\$647,785	\$654,494
Standards and Licensing Fees	\$87,491	\$41,500	\$21,694
Miscellaneous Donations	\$8,000	\$60,500	\$87,269
Awards	\$14,700	\$10,460	\$14,200
Special Events	\$16,030	\$15,200	\$18,210
Subtotal	\$775,065	\$775,445	\$795,867
PUBLICATIONS			
<i>CHOICE</i>	\$3,030,955	\$3,000,891	\$3,017,391
<i>C&RL</i>	\$40,751	\$17,776	\$19,060
<i>C&RL News</i>	\$518,085	\$558,647	\$585,773
<i>RBM</i>	\$35,993	\$34,095	\$39,923
Nonperiodical Publications	\$192,108	\$199,589	\$313,551
Library Statistics	\$95,461	\$81,015	\$103,934
Subtotal	\$3,913,353	\$3,892,013	\$4,079,632
EDUCATION			
Institutes	\$266,063	\$324,438	\$321,036
ACRL Conference	(\$26,026)	\$2,138,889	\$2,670,947
Preconferences & Workshops	\$188,073	\$171,146	\$264,380
Annual Conference Programs	\$21,350	\$16,000	\$17,400
Web CE	\$97,613	\$99,855	\$150,413
Subtotal	\$547,073	\$2,750,328	\$3,424,176
SPECIAL PROJECTS			
Friends of ACRL—Restricted	\$42,684	\$7,185	\$35,677
Friends of ACRL—Operating	\$0	\$0	\$0
IMLS Grant	\$79,704	\$82,558	\$91,920
IMLS Grant Cost Share	\$79,704	\$37,500	\$0
Total Revenue	\$5,235,491	\$7,455,286	\$8,299,675
<i>CHOICE</i> Revenue	\$3,030,955	\$3,000,891	\$3,017,391
ACRL Revenue without <i>CHOICE</i>	\$2,204,536	\$4,454,395	\$5,282,284

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OBJECT OF EXPENSE	FY2014 ACTUAL	FY2015 BUDGET	FY2015 ACTUAL
MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITIES			
Membership Services*	\$121,667	\$131,346	\$185,781
Executive Committee & Board	\$218,961	\$205,281	\$194,933
Advisory	\$45,117	\$44,107	\$77,494
Standards Distribution	\$15,050	\$30,621	\$5,429
Awards	\$41,866	\$39,883	\$36,752
Chapters	\$22,444	\$19,905	\$23,079
Committees and Interest Groups	\$98,744	\$125,447	\$132,232
Sections	\$92,409	\$92,939	\$88,182
<i>C&RL</i> Over Revenue	\$63,257	\$67,973	\$43,871
<i>C&RL News</i> Over Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0
Liaisons to Higher Ed. Organizations	\$40,142	\$53,433	\$47,059
Special Events	\$25,219	\$24,748	\$27,256
Information Literacy	\$43,648	\$33,405	\$45,090
Scholarly Communication	\$67,354	\$81,809	\$58,245
Value of Academic Libraries	\$3,134	\$52,234	\$18,687
Government Relations	\$20,290	\$36,829	\$26,282
Scholarships	\$18,250	\$89,300	\$77,595
Annual Conference Programs	\$51,409	\$61,987	\$52,767
Subtotal	\$988,961	\$1,191,247	\$1,140,734
SPECIAL PROJECTS			
Friends of ACRL—Restricted	\$3,915	\$7,185	\$56,838
Friends of ACRL—Operating	\$49,387	\$52,436	\$84,180
Subtotal	\$53,302	\$59,621	\$141,018
PUBLICATIONS			
<i>CHOICE</i>	\$3,063,119	\$3,233,565	\$3,150,447
<i>C&RL</i>	\$40,751	\$17,776	\$19,060
<i>C&RL News</i>	\$430,721	\$537,884	\$446,431
<i>RBM</i>	\$29,884	\$34,294	\$32,739
Nonperiodical Publications	\$182,316	\$198,176	\$259,236
Library Statistics	\$95,157	\$87,686	\$86,501
Subtotal	\$3,841,948	\$4,109,381	\$3,994,414
EDUCATION			
Institutes	\$265,764	\$316,013	\$281,964
ACRL Conference	\$155,421	\$1,851,889	\$1,909,873
Preconferences & Workshops	\$194,328	\$171,551	\$248,583
Web CE	\$60,214	\$66,371	\$65,714
Subtotal	\$675,727	\$2,405,824	\$2,506,134
FUNDED PROJECTS			
IMLS Grant	\$79,704	\$82,558	\$91,920
IMLS Grant Cost Share	\$34,361	\$51,227	\$29,849
Total Expenses	\$5,590,384	\$7,810,115	\$7,755,311
<i>CHOICE</i> Expenses	\$3,063,119	\$3,233,565	\$3,150,447
ACRL Expenses without <i>CHOICE</i>	\$2,527,263	\$4,576,550	\$4,604,875

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NET REVENUE AND FUND BALANCES	FY2014 ACTUAL	FY2015 BUDGET	FY2015 ACTUAL
ACRL Net without <i>CHOICE</i>	(\$322,728)	(\$122,155)	\$677,409
<i>CHOICE</i> Net	(\$32,164)	(\$232,674)	(\$133,056)
<hr/>			
Transferred to <i>CHOICE</i> LTI Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
Transferred to ACRL LTI Fund	\$0	\$150,000	\$150,000
Mandated ACRL Operating Reserve	\$831,653	\$863,210	\$863,210
<hr/>			
CLOSING RESERVE LEVELS AS OF AUG. 31:			
ACRL Operating Reserve Fund	\$4,324,706	\$4,202,551	\$5,002,115
ACRL Long-Term Investment Fund (including award endowments)	\$3,040,256	\$3,074,162	\$3,127,523
<i>CHOICE</i> Operating Reserve Fund	\$3,017,508	\$2,784,833	\$2,884,451
<i>CHOICE</i> Long-Term Investment Fund	\$895,640	\$918,155	\$848,318
TOTAL	\$11,278,110	\$10,979,701	\$11,862,407

Notes: ACRL's fiscal year runs from September 1 through August 31. Actual numbers shown are rounded from two decimal places; therefore, subtotals may not precisely represent column totals due to rounding. Salaries and operating costs are allocated to each budget project and are not presented as a separate line item.

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fell below 300, but cards remain highly profitable, with a contribution margin of \$89,422 (60%). Overall, then, *Choice* print revenue matched budget but fell \$51,112 (6.8%) when compared to FY14. Subscription revenue from *Choice Reviews Online (CRO)* rose 7.4% over prior year, but failed to yield the anticipated 11.5% gains included in the budget, despite the inauguration of sales initiatives in the Pacific Rim and vigorous efforts closer to home to recoup lost income from multisite licenses. *CRO* circulation growth has been flat for five years now, with circulation varying by no more than 27 subscriptions (2%) from its annual average of 1,132 in any of the years since 2011.

A bright spot for FY2015 has been the continuing strength of *Resources for College Libraries. RCL* subscription revenue had been budgeted to fall dramatically due to the planned elimination of the Bowker Book Analysis System (BBAS), which included *RCL* in recent years. Problems with the release of the successor program to BBAS delayed discontinuation, resulting in income for *RCL* only slightly below that of last year.

Unexpected gains in print advertising drove a \$64,000 improvement in overall *Choice* advertising revenue. Print revenue rose \$43,633 (11.9%) against a more modest \$20,919 (13.65%) gain in *CRO* ad spending, this latter a disappointing performance compared to the 32% gain in digital advertising the year before.

Another bright spot for *CHOICE* this year was the ACRL-*CHOICE* webinar program, which doubled budgeted revenue amounts on gross revenues of \$155,000. *CHOICE* hosted 32 sponsored

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webinars, averaging 384 registrants and 151 (39%) participants per session. Additionally, participants and others logged an average of 300 post-webinar sessions in the archives on YouTube and elsewhere. During FY15 CHOICE and ACRL split both revenue and expenses from the program. The success of the sponsored webinar series speaks to the desire of vendors to communicate directly with customers.

Licensing, also called royalty income, stems from 3 sources: licenses for *Choice* reviews, licensing of *Resources for College Libraries* to various platforms, and several miscellaneous categories generating small amounts of revenue. Royalty income saw a decline of \$103,451.

Publications-related expenses exceeded budget by \$119,350. This is attributed to increased expenses for technology, including software maintenance costs, the *Choice* tablet app, and unbudgeted webinar costs.

Strict budget discipline kept expenses below budget for the second year in a row, although direct spending did increase by \$61,637 over the prior year, and total spending, at \$3,150,448, exceeded prior year by \$87,329. The continuing use of student interns has not just helped to reduce costs; their fine efforts have materially contributed to editorial efforts, including the production of the new “Ask an Archivist” feature, almost entirely the work of Wesleyan seniors.

CHOICE had a net loss of \$133,056, which was 42.81% better than budget.

CHOICE continues to look for economies in operations. The webinar program has created a new revenue stream, but its long-term viability remains to be proved. The CHOICE strategic plan, approved by the ACRL Board in February of this past year, outlines a program of new product development that hopefully will provide a needed infusion of cash to counter the decline of our magazine product.

Budget & Finance Committee, 2014–2015

Cynthia K. Steinhoff, *Anne Arundel Community College, chair*

Carolyn Henderson Allen, *University of Arkansas*

Fannie M. Cox, *University of Louisville*

Brian J. Doherty, *New College of Florida*

Diane G. Klare, *Wesleyan University*

John A. Lehner, *University of Houston*

Kevin Wade Merriman, *Yale University*

Joan Roca, *Minnesota State University Mankato*

Judith C. Russell, *University of Florida*

Edwin C. Schroeder, *Yale University*

Theresa C. Stanley, *Pima Community College*

Ann Campion Riley, *University of Missouri, ex-officio*

Mary Ellen K. Davis, *ACRL/ALA, ex officio*

Allison Payne, *ACRL/ALA, staff liaison*