

Happy New Year and welcome to the new and we think improved—pages of *C&RL News!* We wanted to keep *C&RL News* upto-date and inviting to read. Many thanks are due to ACRL production editor Ann-Christe Young who took the designer's specifications and translated them into reality. We hope you like our new look and find it easy to read.

In this issue we invite you to participate in ACRL's 9th National Conference, April 8–11, 1999. Take a few minutes to pull out the insert and review the "Call for Participation" to see what type of paper, program, or discussion you might propose. The "Call" and other conference information is also mounted on the Web at http://www.ala.org/acrl/ prendex.html.

And if you are still associating Detroit with the old stereotype of the Motor City, Bill Kane's overview will show you many new facets of the city and should whet your appetite for visiting it in 1999 (page 23). Katherine Branch continues ACRL President Lee Hisle's "Values for the electronic age" column with a look at the role of reading in academic librarianship (page 16).

John Newman takes to task academic librarians who complain about the need to research and publish. His advice is to stop complaining and start writing (page 19).

ACRL is offering its first leadership institute on April 30–May 1, 1998, in Boston. The institute features a number of exciting speakers who will offer practical tips for enhancing your personal leadership toolkit. Registration is limited to the first 150, so check out the details on page 7 and make your reservations today.

This issue contains the index to volume 58 of *C&RL News*. Our thanks to dedicated volunteers Kit Dusky for compiling the index and Eldon Tamblyn for editing it. This is a yearlong effort and we appreciate their hard work.

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