

**ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGE AND RESEARCH LIBRARIES
ANNUAL PROGRAM/BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

Connie Kanakis' Cafe
Birmingham, Alabama
Wednesday, April 5, 2000

The Annual Program/Business Meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by President Pat Henderson.

Pat Henderson gave the welcome. The agenda was modified.

I. INCORPORATION REPORT - Craig Beard

An accountant is needed to start the incorporation procedures. The Incorporation Committee is looking for an accountant. The process will be completed before the deadline.

II. TREASURER'S REPORT - Susan Herring (report attached)

The balance as of April 6, 1999 was \$5,974.71. During the 1999-2000 year income received was \$4,149.71 and expenses paid were \$4,024.00. The balance as of April 5, 2000 was \$6,100.42.

Interest received on the checking account helps with the account balance. Funds will be available for incorporation.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Certificates

Tim Dodge, President-Elect, recognized members of the Program Committee. Certificates were presented to Tom Skinner, Jennifer Long, Kristina Dalton, George Whitesel, and Evelyn Smykla.

Significant Contribution Award

Craig Beard presented the Significant Contribution Award to Dr. Sue Medina, Network of Alabama Academic Libraries. EBSCO presented a monetary award. Dr. Sue Medina expressed her appreciation for being recipient of the award.

IV. GUEST SPEAKER

Tim Dodge introduced the speaker, Althea Jenkins, Executive Director, Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL).

“Issues Facing Academic Libraries: Can We Survive?” was presented by Althea Jenkins. Dr. Jenkins discussed the new American student. There are a number of libraries that know the new student and provide services to meet the needs of this student. However, most libraries still offer the same services as 10 to 20 years ago. Libraries have not looked at what has happened in higher education.

There have been many changes in higher education such as changing attitudes, less funding from the federal government, universities changing their missions, product development, and international involvement. These new demands on higher education have an effect on libraries. Additionally, libraries need to respond to the new demands of higher education.

Libraries need to look at the new American student including student enrollment at institutions, student background, ethnic background, gender, age, and demographic makeup. Today, students entering colleges and universities are interested in hands-on experiences and not the traditional library type of instruction.

The fastest growing area in higher education is distance education. Dr. Jenkins indicated that others are defining library services in distance education. The Association of College and Research Libraries has developed guidelines to assist libraries in the development of distance education programs. Librarians must define what library services should look like in the area of distance education. There were 54,000 distinct courses offered through distance education programs in 1999 reflecting 65% growth over the previous year. Libraries must provide services to distance education students as if the student were on campus.

Dr. Jenkins indicated that providing library services to corporate students is an issue. Libraries need to be strong activists and identify the best way to approach the corporate student. Libraries and corporate universities need to work together to develop and build library services to meet the needs of the corporate student.

In addition to the traditional library services offered to students, libraries are asked to provide new library services for the new student without additional funding. Dr. Jenkins indicated that there is a need for librarians to determine how to diversify library programs and services that meet the needs of the new student.

Dr. Jenkins outlined factors that focus on how to diversify programs and services: 1) Look at the issues and missions on campus. How does the library fit into the mission? Is the university's stability strong enough to sustain library personnel? The future direction of technology and the virtual library will have an effect on the library. 2) Address intellectual copyright/property issues. Libraries need to address these issues as distance education programs grow. 3) Explain what libraries contribute to the learning process. Librarians need to address the issue of assessment and accountability. The library helps students to understand how to determine their informational needs, how to evaluate their needs, how to access information, and how to use the information. There is no form of measurement in determining the effect of the library on the learning process. Feedback from faculty members whose class has gone through the library experience is one form of measurement. 4) Information literacy is the wave of the future. Libraries need to be involved in information literacy. Librarians need to know what is going on and who is responsible for information on campus. Look at how the library is developing the services in terms of the kind of students. The new American student does not make a distinction between the types of services in the information environment.

Dr. Jenkins indicated that the fastest growing groups on campuses are adult learners. Adult learners are going back to school to retrain/improve skills for current job or professional development. The library needs to address services to individuals that have not been previously served.

Dr. Jenkins outlined questions that librarians should address: 1) Who are the learners that libraries will serve in the future? 2) What services will be offered? 3) How will libraries pay for the library and new services that will be offered? 4) Who will pay for the library? 5) What will the paperless library be like? 6) What will the character of the library be? 7) How will libraries function? 8) What will the services include? 9) What will the collections include? 10) How will libraries reach out to serve those with whom we are unfamiliar?

The library's agenda is to determine the key role and core value. Librarians should stay in tune with the mission of the university. If the university's mission shifts then the library must make shifts in the services, programs, and collection. The library must be a change agent on campus.

Dr. Jenkins answered questions from the members.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

The Newsletter Editor position is vacant. Interested individuals should contact Tim Dodge.

Pat Henderson presented a plaque to Craig Beard for services rendered.

Installation of new officers.

New officers for 2000-2001:

President - Tim Dodge

Vice President/President-Elect - Jean Thomason

Secretary - Jennifer Long

Treasurer - Susan Herring

Member at Large - Michael Grace

Adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Margaret K. Alexander

AACRL Secretary