

**Alabama Association of College and Research Libraries**  
Annual Dinner and Business Meeting  
April 8, 2009

**Date, Time, and Place of Meeting:** April 8, 2009, at 6:00 pm, at Zazu's Eclectic Eatery, Auburn, AL

**Call to Order:** Tim Dodge called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm.

**Officer Reports/Recognition of Outgoing Officers:**

*Past President:* Rosemary Arneson – no report

*President:* Tim Dodge presented the members of the Executive Board with certificates of appreciation, and recognized the efforts of the outgoing members, Susan Herring and Rosemary Arneson.

*Vice-President/President-Elect:* Rickey Best presented Tim Dodge with a certificate of appreciation and a gift in recognition of his service as president.

*Treasurer:* Tim Dodge presented Susan Herring's treasurer's report:

On April 23, 2008, the AACRL account balance was \$7,027.69. Since then, deposits of \$406.00 in dues, \$112.19 from ACRL for operating reimbursement, and \$390 for 2009 annual dinner registrations have been made. Disbursements of \$940.02 for the restaurant for the 2008 annual dinner, \$108.88 for other dinner expenses, \$500 for legislative day, and \$81.39 for web hosting have been made. \$7.31 in interest has accrued, and we received one bad check, costing us \$32 for the check and charges. The account balance, as of April 8, 2009, now stands at \$6,280.90.

*Secretary:* Ellen Wilson – no report

*Legislative Liaison:* Eric Kidwell reported that Lori Northrup will receive the \$500 stipend to attend National Legislative Day in Washington, D.C.

*Newsletter Editor:* Kathy Wheeler – no report

*Webmaster:* Jason Battles – not present, no report

*Member-at-Large:* Millie Jackson – not present, no report

**Election Results/Installation of New Officers:**

President	Rickey Best, Auburn University at Montgomery
Vice-President/President Elect	Charcie Pettway Vann, Jacksonville State University
Past President	Tim Dodge, Auburn University
Secretary	Ellen Wilson, University of South Alabama
Treasurer	Dena Luce, Faulkner University
Member-at-Large	Millie Jackson, University of Alabama
Legislative Liaison	Eric Kidwell, Huntingdon College
Newsletter Editor	Kathy Wheeler, University of South Alabama

**New Business:** Rickey Best presented two changes to the by-laws to the membership for voting.

1. Current Organizational Structure

*Committees:* AACRL presently has only two standing committees – Nominating and Program

*Proposed Changes:* Creation of the following committees as standing committees of the organization:

Membership Committee  
Committee on Government Relations  
By-Laws Committee  
Continuing Education and Training Committee

*Justification:* By establishing the above committees, the organization will establish opportunities for involvement of the membership, which will result in a more active organization and provide training for future officers. Such committees as are being proposed are consistent with those offered at other chapters of ACRL around the country.

*Results:* Changes approved by membership (15 Yes, 1 No, 1 Abstention)

2. Membership Dues Increase

*Current Status:* Membership dues are currently \$6/year.

*Proposed Changes:* Dues will be increased to \$10/year, with the following proviso: additional funds raised by this increase will be used to establish additional stipend(s) for AACRL members to attend National Library Legislative Day in Washington.

*Justification:* Academic libraries are badly under-represented in Washington during National Legislative Day. With the current economic environment, the academic library community needs to become more involved in meeting with the state legislative delegation. While AACRL provides a \$500 stipend from its operating budget for an individual to attend Legislative Day, the need for additional membership participation is critical.

*Results:* Changes approved by membership (14 Yes, 1 No, 1 Abstention)

**Significant Contribution Award:**

The 2008 Significant Contribution Award was presented to Sonja McAbee.

Sonja L. McAbee retired from her position as Full Professor and Head of Technical Services at the Houston Cole Library at Jacksonville State University at the end of 2008. Ms. McAbee began her career

as the cataloging assistant at JSU in 1977 and rose through the ranks, taking on increasing levels of responsibility and leadership until her retirement in 2008.

Ms. McAbee is a graduate of the institution she served throughout her career, having received her BA in Political Science and Economics in 1975. She received her Masters in Library Science from the University of Alabama in 1988.

Ms. McAbee authored or co-authored a number of publications, and she was a frequent presenter at state conferences.

Ms. McAbee was a member of AACRL and served as the AACRL liaison for JSU from 1992 to 2008. She had numerous offices in the Alabama Library Association and served as chair of the Handbook Committee (2004-2006) and the Awards Committee (2003-2004). She was the Secretary of the Association in 2002-2003.

Ms. McAbee was a member of the NAAL Resource Sharing Committee from 2005 to 2008, and she served on the Advisory Board for the Alabama Libraries Exchange Service (ALLIES). In these roles, Ms. McAbee was a tireless advocate for universal borrowing for the state's students. Even as she dealt with serious illness during this time, Ms. McAbee worked with the state's librarians, with the NAAL leadership, and with system vendors to make universal borrowing possible. The only obstacle in this process that Ms. McAbee was not able to overcome were changes in product focus by SirsiDynix after the merger of the two companies.

Ms. McAbee was a passionate advocate for libraries, librarianship, and for the populations we serve. She was tireless in her efforts to promote improved services for students throughout the state and to enhance the role of the library at her institution.

In recognition for her many contributions to academic librarianship in the state of Alabama, I nominate her to receive AACRL's Significant Contribution Award for 2008.

Rosemary Arneson

**Program:** Michael McLane, Visiting Program Officer for ACRL's Legislative Advocate program, spoke about ACRL's efforts in legislative advocacy and the Legislative Advocate program. He urged all librarians to think of themselves as advocates, and to reach out to legislators on the local, state, and federal levels. After his talk, Rickey Best presented him with a gift.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen K. Wilson, AACRL Secretary