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**Legislative Liaison: Eric A. Kidwell**  
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**From the AACRL President . . . .  
Robert Schrimsher**

This will be my last column as president of the Alabama Association of College and Research Libraries. It has been a good and productive year for the AACRL.

Although much of the board's activities may be transparent to its members, a lot has been accomplished and coordinated.

The board resolved the issue of a permanent address/location for the AACRL organization, which will be at Auburn University Library. This administrative endeavor could not have been accomplished without the assistance of Tim Dodge, Reference Librarian, Auburn University Library. The AACRL's

archives also reside at Auburn.

As most of you are now aware, AACRL's web site was relocated from Samford University to a commercial site. This major achievement was entirely achieved by Beth Ashmore, AACRL's Webmaster. Thanks, Beth, for a job well done.

There were no workshops held this past year by AACRL. Generally, workshops are held every other year, however, this custom is not necessarily locked in place. Many factors determine if a workshop is to be held.

I would like to personally thank all the board members for an excellent job this year.

**2007 Annual Business Meeting and Dinner**

The AACRL 2007 annual business meeting and guest speaker will be on Wednesday, April 18, 2007, 6:30 p.m. at Wintzell's Oyster House, 605 Dauphin St., Mobile, and in conjunction with the Alabama Library Association Convention. Attendees will be able to select their own dinners from Wintzell's famous seafood buffet. Visit Wintzell's web site for more information: [http://](http://wintzellsoysterhouse.com/index.php)

[wintzellsoysterhouse.com/index.php](http://wintzellsoysterhouse.com/index.php).

There will be a brief business meeting followed by Kate Nevins, Executive Director of SOLINET. Ms. Nevins will be speaking on Emerging Ideas: The Academic Library of the Future. We're all working to create the academic library of the future. There are lots of ideas about the future of library buildings, services and resources. There is even debate about the role of the library itself within the academic institution. We'll discuss some emerging models and think creatively about the future.

Those interested in attending the annual dinner meeting should return the enclosed reservation form by April 10, 2007. The reservation form is also available on the AACRL web site at <http://www.aacrl.org/annual/index.html#reservations>. One does not have to be a member of AACRL to attend.

*Rosemary Arneson, AACRL Vice-President/President Elect*

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## Legislative Update and Activities

### ACRL Legislative Advocates

At the 2007 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle, ACRL officially announced the new Legislative Advocate program under the auspices of the ACRL Government Relations Committee. The intent is to recruit highly motivated academic and research librarians who will work closely with the Committee, the ACRL Legislative Network, and other legislative advocates within their states on federal library-related legislative issues. Full details along with information on the application and selection processes are available on the ACRL web site at: <http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlissues/washingtonwatch>.

Advocates will serve two-year terms and may be reappointed. The application deadline is April 6, 2007.

### National Legislative Day

The 2007 ALA National Legislative Day will be May 1-2, 2007, (Tuesday and Wednesday), in Washington, D.C. Participants spend day one being briefed on current federal legislative issues by ALA officials. On day two, participants visit the Hill meeting with their state's congressional representatives and their staffs (most often with staffers). ACRL would like to see more academic/research librarians attending National Legislative Day and to this end, our chapter of ACRL will once again offer a \$500 stipend to help pay expenses and assist an Alabama academic/research librarian attend this year's event. In the past ACRL has hosted a luncheon on the first day specifically for academic librarians.

If you are interested in attending and applying for the AACRL stipend, please contact Eric A. Kidwell at [ekidwell@huntingdon.edu](mailto:ekidwell@huntingdon.edu). For further information about Leg Day go to: <http://www.ala.org/ala/washoff/washevents/nlld/nlld2007.htm>

### Recent Legislative News

The Bush Administration in early February released its fiscal 2008 budget totaling \$2.9 trillion. While there has been much discussion over the increase

in defense funding at the expense of domestic entitlement spending, the Bush budget not only doesn't recommend decreases for many federal library programs, but rather recommends some funding increases.

The Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) would receive \$226,182,000, which would include \$171,500,000 for state library agency grants. The Librarians for the 21st Century program would receive \$26,500,000 (a \$2,740,000 million increase over 2006); the National Leadership Grants for Libraries, \$12,930,000; and Improving Library Service to Native Americans, \$3,675,000.

The Improving Literacy Through School Libraries Program would receive level funding (this program is tied to the No Child Left Behind Act), the GPO would receive \$109,541,000 (including \$45,613,000 for the Superintendent of Documents). As of the writing of this column, word awaits on proposed funding for the EPA library system. And speaking of the EPA, ALA president Leslie Burger testified before Congress on February 6, on the issue of closure of EPA libraries. You can view Burger's testimony (as well as those of others who testified including EPA Administrator Stephen Johnson) on ALA Washington Office's web site (<http://blogs.ala.org/districtdispatch.php?cat=172>).

As for 2007 funding, ALAWON reported on January 30, that, "... U.S. House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Committee Chairmen have arrived at a final joint funding resolution for fiscal year (FY) 2007." While \$2.3 billion in additional funding over FY 2006 is included (\$1.17 billion specifically for education), no extra funding has been earmarked directly for libraries.

For more information, go to the new "District Dispatch" on ALA Washington Office's web site at: <http://blogs.ala.org/districtdispatch.php>, and click "ALAWON" on the right of the screen.

*Eric A. Kidwell*

## News from the Membership

**Tim Dodge**, Auburn University, has been appointed Chair of the Intellectual Freedom Committee of the Southeastern Library Association for 2007-2008.

**Amia Baker** has been named business librarian at Auburn University Libraries. She comes from Vanderbilt University's Walker Management Library, where she was a librarian for three years and served as the Reference and Collection Development Coordinator. Amia received both her master's degree in library and information science and bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Alabama. She is an active member of BRASS, the Business Reference and Services Section of the American Library Association. Her current research interests involve a study of the various technologies employed by business librarians to communicate with library users.

**Suzy Westenkirchner** has been named education librarian at Auburn University Libraries. She received her Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree from Eastern Michigan University and her MLS from University of South Florida. Prior to librarianship she worked as a Graphic Designer for design firms in both Ohio and Michigan. Suzy is involved with several ALA committees, including Instruction, Mentoring and New Members Round Table. She plans on continuing her education at Auburn University in curriculum and instruction with an emphasis in educational technology. Her current research interests include decreasing library anxiety for users, and the legibility and intuitive nature of instructional media and accessibility.

## 2007 AACRL Award Winner

The AACRL Executive Board is pleased to announce that the faculty and staff of the Houghton Memorial Library of Huntingdon College will be presented with the Significant Contribution Award at the annual meeting. The purpose of this award is to recognize achievements and contributions made to college and research libraries in Alabama by individuals and groups.

In his nomination, the Director of the Houghton Memorial Library Eric Kidwell states:

"In thinking about what qualifies this library faculty and staff for the award, it isn't that they have developed some innovative method of delivering library services or developed some new technology that has the promise of revolutionizing the profession, but rather it's their sincere and deep dedication to our users, in particular our students. Frequently in our profession the spotlight is shone only on those who do extra-ordinary things, and unfortunately, this rarely if ever includes just providing solid, dedicated every day library service to one's users. This isn't to say that what my faculty and staff do on a daily basis is run-of-the-mill. They go well above and beyond their stated job descriptions as a matter of routine."

He adds that "our recent mold

experience alone makes the faculty and staff worthy of an award, particularly because they had to literally live in the environment while the college made up its mind about what it was going to do to remedy the situation."

The faculty and staff of the Houghton Memorial Library include Nordis Smith (Reference, Instruction, and Interlibrary Loan Librarian), Brenda Kerwin (Systems, Periodicals, and Non-Print Resources Librarian), Margaret Kinney (Library Associate and Head of Circulation), Joel Godfrey (Administrative Assistant), Yvonne Williams (Library Associate and Technical Services), Flora Reese (Librarian Emerita), Linda Deal (Library Associate), Eddie McKinney (Library Associate), Sandra Donaldson (Library Assistant), Mary Ann Pickard (Library Associate and Certified Archivist), Sharon Tucker (Archivist Research Assistant), Jamie Allen (Library Assistant), Ryan Godfrey (Library Assistant), and Alyssa Godfrey (Library Assistant).

We are proud to recognize the faculty and staff of the Houghton Memorial Library of Huntingdon College. Please share your own congratulations.

*Jennifer Long,  
AACRL Past President*

## Treasurer's Report

On August 31, 2006, the AACRL bank account balance was \$5,350.82. Since that time, deposits of \$54.00 (dues) and \$472.26 (dues and annual reimbursement from ACRL) have been made, for a total of \$526.26. Disbursements of \$15.00 (reimbursement to Tim Dodge), \$76.91 (newsletter), \$71.40 (reimbursement to Beth Ashmore for site hosting), \$76.91 (newsletter), and \$23.40 (postage) have been made, for a total of \$263.62. \$5.49 in interest has accrued. As of February 15, 2007, the balance in the AACRL bank account was \$5,618.95. The annual reimbursement request was re-submitted to ACRL, was approved under the new guidelines, and the reimbursement check was received and deposited.

*Bethany Latham, AACRL Treasurer*

## Welcome New Members!

**Peggy Kain**, Electronic Resources Librarian, University of Alabama at Birmingham

**Elizabeth C. Suther**, Fine Arts Librarian, Jacksonville State University

## Best Practices Programs at ALLA

Going into its sixth year, the AACRL/CUS Best Practices Programs represent a wide variety of issues facing today's academic librarians and libraries. Be sure to plan on attending one or more of these informative and thought-provoking sessions during this year's ALLA Annual Convention in Mobile.

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

12:30 p.m.

Title: Using LibQual+ Data to Direct Change and Assess Success

Presenters: Rickey Best

2:00 p.m.

Title: A Harvest of New Ideas – The Mini-Sessions!

Presenters: Paula Barnett-Ellis; Lucy I. Farrow; Phyllis Tanner

Topics: Blogs and RSS Feeds: Keeping Current in Academe; Hands On! From Library Lecture to Library Workshop; GPO Access Awareness Update

3:30 p.m.

Title: Are Students Reaping What You Sow? Student Comments on Preferred Library Instruction Delivery Methods

Presenter: Jodi Poe & John-Bauer Graham

### THURSDAY, APRIL 19

1:00 p.m.

Title: Making Space for Art

Presenter: Dr. Richard Wood

For more information about AACRL events at the ALLA 2007 Convention visit the AACRL Annual Meeting web site at <http://www.samford.edu/groups/aacrl/annual/>.

*Beth Ashmore, AACRL Webmaster*

Keep current with all AACRL activities and news! Visit the AACRL web site at:  
<http://www.aacrl.org/>

# AACRL Chapters Council Report

The midwinter meeting of the ACRL Chapters Council was held on Sunday, January 21, 2007. Rosemary Arneson represented AACRL. The council heard reports from Mary Ellen Davis, ACRL Executive Director, and Pamela Snelson, ACRL President. Snelson discussed the changes that are being proposed in the composition of the ACRL Board.

The most significant change from the chapters' point of view would be that ACRL Board Directors would be nominated by a nominating committee which would be composed of representatives from the sections and councils within ACRL. The current procedure has those nominations coming from within the ACRL units. These changes are still under discussion and will possibly be revised several times before they are submitted to the membership for a vote.

Working with Mary Ellen Davis, the chapters have resolved a long-standing issue regarding membership

lists. Until now, when an individual joined or renewed membership in ALA/ACRL, the member could elect not to have his/her information given to third parties. Because the chapters are not divisions of ACRL, chapters fell under the heading of third parties, and they did not get all of their members' information when they requested member lists from ACRL. After much discussion of this issue over several chapters council meetings, we agreed to ask Mary Ellen Davis to work with the ALA membership office on changing the wording on the membership form so that members can indicate they want to receive information from their state chapters. Ms. Davis has reported back to the chapters list that ALA has agreed to these changes.

Chapters council will meet again during the 2007 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, DC.

*Rosemary Arneson, AACRL  
Vice-President/President-Elect*

Check the date on  
your label!  
Renew your  
membership  
at:  
<http://www.aacrl.org/membership/index.html>

Subscribe to the  
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## **AACRL Newsletter**

Jill Grogg, Editor  
The University of Alabama Libraries  
P.O. Box 870266  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0266

**AACRL OFFICIAL BALLOT 2007**

Vice-President/President-Elect

\_\_\_\_\_ Donna Chow

\_\_\_\_\_ Tim Dodge

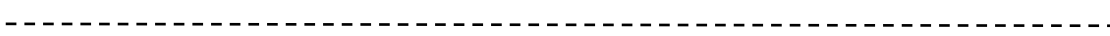
Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_ Maryellen Allen

\_\_\_\_\_ Susan Herring

\_\_\_\_\_ Lisa Yuro

Return ballot by April 10, 2007, to: Jennifer Long, Mervyn H. Sterne Library, University of Alabama at Birmingham, 917 13th Street South, Birmingham, AL 35294



**AACRL ANNUAL DINNER RESERVATION FORM 2007**

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

Wintzell's Oyster House

607 Dauphin Street

Mobile, AL. 36602

<http://wintzellsoysterhouse.com/index.php>

Meet/Mingle at 6:30 p.m., Dinner at 7:00 p.m.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Fee: \$30**

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return reservation form and check for \$30.00 payable to AACRL by April 10, 2007, to:

Bethany Latham, Houston Cole Library, Jacksonville State University, 700 Pelham Road North,  
Jacksonville, AL 36265-1602





## AACRL Candidate Biographical Information

### Vice-President/President-Elect

**Donna Chow**, Head Librarian, South University, 1999-

- Education:  
M.L.S., University of Hawaii; B.A. in English and French, University of Maryland (College Park); language proficiency certificates from the Goethe Institut, Germany; C.D.A. (Child Development Associate)
- Professional Memberships/Activities:  
American Library Association; Association of College and Research Libraries; Library Administration and Management Association; American Association of Law Libraries; Southeastern Library Association; Alabama Library Association: Reference and Adult Services Round Table Committee; Alabama Association of College and Research Libraries
- Publications/Presentations:  
*Annotated Bibliography of the Tsuzaki/Reinecke Collection of Pidgin and Creole Languages*; Panel Member at SELA Conference 2006 – Presentation on Juliette Hampton Morgan as an example of intellectual freedom and its costs

**Tim Dodge**, Reference Librarian, Ralph Brown Draughon Library, Auburn University, 1992-

- Education:  
Ph.D. in History, University of New Hampshire; M.A. in History, University of New Hampshire; M.L.S., Columbia University; B.A. in History, Swarthmore College
- Professional Memberships/Activities:  
Alabama Association of College and Research Libraries: President, 2000-2001; Program Committee Member, 1996-1997; and Member, 1992-present; ACRL Chapter Relations Council Secretary, 2001-2002; Alabama Chapter Representative to ACRL Chapter Relations Council, 1999-2002; Alabama Library Association: Legislative Development Committee Co-Chair, 2005-present; Public Relations Committee Co-Chair, 2006-present; Nominating Committee Chair, 2005-2006; Emeritus Council Chair, 2005-2006; President, 2004-2005; Public Relations Committee Chair, 2001-2003; Secretary, 2000-2001; CUS Research Committee Chair, 2002-2003 and 1996-1997; CUS Division Chair, 1998-1999; CUS Research Committee Member, 1993-1996; GODORT Moderator, 1995-1996; GODORT Secretary-Treasurer, 1999-2000 and 1996-1997; Publications Committee Chair, 1993-1994; and Member, 1992-present; Southeastern Library Association: Intellectual Freedom Committee Chair, 2007-present and Co-Chair, 2005-2006; and Member, 2002-present; Legislative Development Committee Member, 2005-2006; and Member, 1992-present; American Library Association: Member, 1994-present

### Treasurer

**Maryellen Allen**, Distance Learning/Reference Librarian, Gorgas Library, University of Alabama, 2006-

- Education:  
M.S. in Instructional Systems, Online and Distance Learning, Florida State University; M.A. in Library and Information Sciences, University of South Florida; B.A. in English, University of South Florida
- Professional Memberships/Activities:  
American Library Association: Member, 1998-present; REFORMA: Member, 1999-2002; Library Information and Technology Association: Member, 2000-present; Association of College and Research Libraries: Member, 1999-present; Florida ACRL Chapter: Board of Directors, 2005-2006 and Member, 1999-2006; Florida Library Association: Member, 1998-2006; REFORMA de Florida: Membership Secretary, 2000-2003 and Member, 2000-2003

- Publications/Presentations:  
 "Survey of the Usability of Digital Reference Services in Academic Health Science Library Web Sites," *Journal of Academic Librarianship* 32 (Jan 2006): 69-78; *Wireless Networking: A How-to-Do It Manual for Librarians*, New York: Neal-Schuman Publishers, 2006; "Supercharging Online Instruction: Amplifying Interactivity Using Interactive Simulation Software," presentation at International Society for the Exploration of Teaching and Learning Conference 2005; "Synergational Gap: Challenges and Opportunities for Recruiting and Harnessing Generational Diversity in the Library Work Environment," poster session at Florida Library Association Conference and Exhibition 2005; "Innovative Integration: Incorporating Library Resources into the University Portal," poster session at ACRL National Conference 2003; "Integrating Library Resources in an Academic Portal Environment," paper in Proceedings of the 2003 Computers in Libraries Conference; "Hype Over Hyperbolic Browsers," *Online* 26 (May/June 2002): 21-28; "Case Study of the Usability Testing of the USF Virtual Library Interface Design," *Online Information Review* 26 (2002): 40-53; "Usability Testing of Interface Design in the Virtual Library Environment," paper in Proceedings of the 2001 National Online Meeting; "Bluetooth Bites Information Retrieval," *Online* 25 (May/June 2001): 46-49; "Myth of Intelligent Agents," *Online* 24 (Nov/Dec 2000): 45-51; "Six Degrees of Affiliation: The Small World of Search Tools," *Online* 24 (Sep/Oct 2000): 49-52

**Susan D. Herring**, Catalog/Reference Librarian, Athens State University, 2002-

- Education:  
 Ph.D. in Information Studies, University of Alabama; M.A. in English, University of Alabama in Huntsville; M.L.S., University of Denver; B.A. in English, University of Alabama in Huntsville
- Professional Memberships/Activities:  
 American Library Association; Association of College and Research Libraries; Alabama Library Association: College, Universities, and Special Libraries Division: past Member-at-Large for Programs and past Member-at-Large for Bylaws; Government Documents Roundtable: past Moderator; Alabama Association of College and Research Libraries: past Treasurer; NAAL: Continuing Education Committee, 2005-present and past Member of Recruitment Committee, Publications Committee, and Collection Development Committee; Beta Phi Mu
- Publications/Presentations:  
 "Use of Electronic Resources in Scholarly Electronic Journals: A Citation Analysis," *College and Research Libraries* 63 (2002): 334-40; "Faculty Acceptance of the World Wide Web for Student Research," *College and Research Libraries* 62 (2001): 251-58; "The Value of Interdisciplinarity: A Study Based on the Design of Search Engines," *Journal of the American Society for Information Science* 50 (1999): 358-365; ALLA: "Behind the Magic: Effective Library User Surveys," 2005 (with Robert Burkhardt); "Use of Electronic Resources in Scholarly Publications: A Citation Analysis," 2001

**Lisa Yuro**, Reference Librarian, Gorgas Library, University of Alabama, 2000-

- Education:  
 M.L.S., University of Alabama; B.A., University of Montevallo
- Professional Memberships/Activities:  
 American Library Association; Association of College and Research Libraries; Anthropology and Social Science Section: Dinner with Colleagues Host, ACRL National Conference 2007; Nominating Committee Member, 2005-2007; Liaison Committee Co-Chair, 2004-2006; Alabama Library Association: Legislative Day Coordinator, 2004-2005; GODORT Member, 2001-2006; Alabama Association of College and Research Libraries: Member, 2002-present
- Publications/Presentations:  
 Resources for College Libraries, Subject Bibliographer, Journalism and Mass Communications, RR Bowker and Choice, 2006; "Collaborating for Success: Providing a Research Workshop for Doctoral Students," poster session with Rachel Fleming May and "Libraries as Lifeboats," roundtable discussion at ACRL National Conference 2005; "Working with Accrediting Agencies," poster session at Alabama Library Association Convention 2003