ACRL will host three preconferences prior to the ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. this June. The Rare Books & Manuscripts and Instruction Sections' preconferences have been previously reported in C&RL News and can be read in more detail there; the issues are indicated in parentheses at the end of each description. Detailed information on each preconference is also available on the ACRL homepage at http://www.ala.org/acrl/annconf.html (then select the appropriate preconference). Questions? Call (800) 545-2433 ext. 2515.

How to register
Download a registration form from the ACRL homepage at http://www.ala.org/acrl/annconf.html. Mail the completed form and payment to ACRL, Name of Preconference, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611, or fax it to (312) 280-2520.

Advocacy training
"Advocacy training for academic librarians: From ivory towers to halls of power," will acquaint academic librarians with federal legislative issues and equip them with skills to advocate for their libraries, whether on campus, locally, or on the state or federal level. The preconference will begin at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday evening, June 24, 1998, and continue through Thursday, June 25.

"Advocacy is one of the most powerful skills that academic librarians can learn to prepare for the political and economic environments of the 21st century. I consider advocacy expertise and legislative awareness essential components of the academic librarian tool kit," said ACRL President W. Lee Hisle.

Speakers: Robert Oakley, director, Georgetown University Law Library, will give the keynote address. Oakley frequently testifies before congressional committees. Other speakers include Margo Crist, director of libraries, University of Massachusetts; Anne Beaubien, head, Cooperative Access Services, University of Michigan Library; Laila Van Eyck, assistant director, Federal Relations-Higher Education, National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges; Rick Weingarten, senior policy fellow, ALA Washington Office; Lynne Bradley, deputy executive director, ALA Washington Office; Adam Eisgrau, legislative consultant, ALA Washington Office.

Librarians will learn about the relationship of federal legislation to academic libraries; current legislative issues affecting their libraries; formulating messages for Congress, and techniques for delivering them effectively. On Thursday afternoon, preconference registrants will walk to Capitol Hill and deliver their messages to the staff of their representatives and senators.

Registration is limited to the first 125 participants and the fees are $50 for ACRL members and $75 for non-members. Registrants should complete the accompanying registration form or download it from the Web. Registrants will receive an issues briefing and a list of Congressional contacts and be asked to contact their Congressional offices prior to the preconferences.

Questions: Contact Michael Godow, ACRL, (312) 280-2510; e-mail: mgodow@ala.org.

IS: "Learning to Teach"
ACRL's Instruction Section (IS) will offer "Learning to Teach: Workshops on Instruction," 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Friday, June 26, at an ALA Conference facility. Based on the
publication of the same name, the preconference is a collection of training modules covering instruction fundamentals to help librarians from a variety of environments improve their teaching. Attendees are encouraged to adapt the workshops and use them for training at their own institutions.

Speakers: Participants will be able to attend four of these six sessions: "The One-Shot Lecture" (Esther Grassian, UCLA); "Selecting a Teaching Technique" (Trudi Jacobson, SUNY-Albany); "Presentation Skills and Classroom Management" (Mary Pagliero Popp, Indiana University); "Developing Effective Library Assignments" (Christina Woo, UC-Irvine); "Instruction in a Multicultural/Multiracial Environment" (Karen Downing, University of Michigan); and "Evaluation" (Lynn Westbrook, Texas Woman's University).

Registration is $105 for ACRL members, $155 for ALA members, $95 for full-time library school students, and $220 for nonmembers. There will be a $35 late fee for those registering after May 15.

Questions? Contact Doris Jui, University of Miami at (305) 284-3937; e-mail: djui@umiami.ir.miami.edu (C&RL News, Jan. 1998, p. 9).

RBMS: "Getting Ready for the 19th Century"

"Getting Ready for the Nineteenth Century: Strategies and Solutions for Rare Book and Special Collections Librarians" is the theme of the 39th Preconference of the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section of ACRL to be held in Washington, D.C. from June 23–26, 1998. The preconference will explore strategies and solutions for the acquisition, preservation, and research use of published and un-

Registration: Advocacy training for academic librarians

Registration is limited to the first 125 participants. Registrations must be received by May 15. Late registration will be accepted as space permits, subject to a $35 late fee. Written cancellations will be accepted up to June 5 and are subject to a $35 cancellation fee; refunds will be processed after the preconference. No refunds will be made for cancellations after June 5.

Please type or print:

Name (as it should appear on your badge)

Title

Organizational name (as it should appear on badge)

Mailing address

City State/Zip

Telephone (daytime) Fax

E-mail address

9-digit home zip code (for identifying your representatives)

ALA membership number

Registration fees:

☐ $50 ACRL member
☐ $75 ALA member
☐ $35 late fee

Total amount paid

Payment method (please check one):

☐ Check enclosed (payable to ACRL)
Please put note on check that it is for the ACRL/Advocacy preconference.

☐ Visa
☐ MasterCard
☐ AmEx

Expiration Date

Card Number

Signature

Send registration form with payment to:
ACRL/Advocacy Preconference, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611; or fax to: (312) 280-2520.
published materials from the nineteenth century. These scholarly materials—often not found within the current purview of rare book repositories, archives, and special collections—present a significant and growing intellectual, financial, physical, and administrative challenge to librarians, archivists, and scholars.

The program includes a diverse array of plenary addresses, seminar sessions, paper presentations, and workshops designed to foster the investigation of collection development, preservation, public service, technical service, and administrative issues central to the work of rare book and special-collection librarians and information professionals.

Speakers: Plenary session speakers—including John Cole, Center for the Book, Library of Congress; Nancy Gwinn, Smithsonian Institution Libraries; Alice Schreyer, University of Chicago; Paul Conway, Yale University Library; Sandria Freitag, American Historical Association, and others—will address key issues relating to the development, research use, and preservation of nineteenth-century materials.

Registration is $175 for ACRL members; $210 for nonmembers. There is a $50 late fee for registrations received after May 15.

Questions: Contact William E. Brown, Jr., University of Miami, (305) 284-3247; e-mail: wbrown@umiami.miami.edu. (C&RL News, November 1997, p. 690.)

Council represents membership. If the council is not representing the “will” of the membership, then those who are in opposition to current policy should run for Council, or not reelect those who do not represent their viewpoint. Membership meetings should be held. They are the only forum in which members can communicate with each other and association leaders on issues of concern. The Council’s recent action at Midwinter to schedule membership meetings immediately before Executive Board and Council-information sessions will improve attendance at membership meetings.

We’ve entered the national debate on many fronts. Overall, this is good for the association. The issues that ALA is concerned with are becoming more complex. The arenas in which ALA is participating are wider. Yet ALA’s structure is adapting well to the increasing demands from the growing influence of information technology in society.

Focusing on the cogent initiatives in Goal 2000 is the best way for us to strengthen our role in the development of public policy. To remain focused we have to increase the ways in which members communicate. There is no doubt that electronic communication tools will assist us to create strong ties within the library community and among association members. An aggressive outreach, bringing in leaders and participants through our members meetings, conferences and programs, will strengthen our voice in the public policy arena.

Long: ALA’s growth and complexity call for creative new initiatives to increase member awareness of the important issues confronting our profession and to grant them greater input and involvement in the formulation of policies and programs reflective of their priorities and views. In that regard, I believe there are several examples that illustrate what good leadership can accomplish. President Barbara Ford has proposed greater use of the Internet to permit more members who are unable to attend ALA conferences to participate in committee work, and the ALA Council has waived existing restrictive policies to permit this to be tested. President-Elect Ann Symons has adopted as her goal the development of a new intellectual freedom statement for the electronic age. To gain broad input from all sectors of the membership, she has initiated an innovative drafting and revision process.

There are many other examples of creative leadership in the ALA, ACRL, and the other ALA divisions. It would be my intent to draw upon these successful programs, as well as my own experience as a multitype library system administrator in gaining input from a diverse and talented constituency. Large and complex organizations are capable of achieving major goals, if they have creative, energetic leadership committed to effective communication with the membership.
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