ALA won't go to Cincinnati in 1995

ALA will not hold its 1995 Midwinter Meeting in Cincinnati because of a recent amendment to the city's Human Rights Ordinance barring the City Council from enforcing laws that give legal protection to lesbian, gay, or bisexual citizens. The action to move the Midwinter Meeting was taken on Tuesday, November 30, by the ALA Executive Board. "The board action continues ALA's long tradition of support for equal rights and intellectual freedom," said ALA President Hardy R. Franklin. "We feel the passage of Issue 3 in Cincinnati violates basic human rights issues."

Paul Graller, ALA conference services director, said that ALA may be liable for an estimated $200,000 in hotel contracts with the Cincinnati cancellation. But, Franklin said, "You can't put a price tag on human rights. The issue is not special rights for a few but equal rights for all."

The cities of Chicago, Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C., are currently under consideration as alternate sites.

Cal Poly inaugurates "The Loan Arranger"

Many libraries are adding document delivery services. California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo has done so with a bit of whimsy. Dubbed "The Loan Arranger" (see the accompanying logo), the new document delivery service will get "any article, from any journal, from nearly any place in the world, delivered to your office for free" according to the university's recent newsletter. In addition to its subscriptions to nearly 2,300 periodicals, the library is offering access to UnCover, Expanded Academic Index, Magazine Index, and MUSTANG Server (access to electronic journals). David B. Walch, dean of library services at Cal Poly, said that the "service has been particularly well received by both faculty and students. Since Cal Poly is on the quarter system, quick turnaround time for Interlibrary Loan and Document Delivery is of particular importance. Both students and faculty have been unanimous in their praise of the system. It has taken a bit of the down side out of the problems experienced in having to cut and retrench periodicals."

Librarian positions endowed

The Carl and Lily Pforzheimer foundation has given $2 million to endow the directorship of the Schlesinger Library. Radcliffe President Linda S. Wilson said, "This endowment will help to assure the Library's continuing strength and vitality so that it will be able to respond to the expanded mission that will be demanded of it in the next 50 years." Patricia M. King, director of the Schlesinger Library since July 1973, was named the first Carl and Lily Pforzheimer Foundation Director.

The position of university librarian at the University of California, Berkeley, was recently endowed by Kenneth and Dorothy Hill of San Diego. The endowment will support an array of activities including scholarly programs and seminars, special buying and research trips, processing and research assistance, and the preparation of guides to UCB holdings.

Handheld computer links to library via cellular communication

The University of South Alabama Library linked its online public access catalog (OPAC) to a handheld computer using cellular communications. This is the university's first in a series of tests known as the "The Library Without a Roof" project. Project director Dale Foster said, "Much has been made of the 'virtual library' or the 'library without walls . . . Our project takes this concept one step further. . . Researchers are no longer bound by
the physical walls of a library building. Indeed they do not even need an office or a telephone."

The project used an EO 440 handheld computer supplied by AT&T and equipped with a cellular phone/modem. The EO has no keyboard; the user writes on the screen using a magnetic pen and the EO translates the handwriting into machine-readable text. Notable Technologies, Inc., provided the communications software, Mobile Access-Personal, for the project. This is the first software package that allows users of the EO to communicate directly with remote mainframe computers. Using this combination of hardware and software, project participants were able to call SOUTHcat, the library's catalog, and search for books. The project will continue to explore practical applications of this technology in an educational and library environment.

New OPAC at Univ. of New Orleans
This fall the University of New Orleans' (UNO) Earl K. Long Library brought up its online catalog called "Lafitte." Lafitte is part of Louisiana's automation project for academic libraries, dubbed LOUIS: The Louisiana Online University Information System. The goal of LOUIS is to present the online catalogs of all of Louisiana's colleges and universities through a single NOTIS-based network and eventually to place search terminals in public and school libraries throughout the state. Libraries at Louisiana State University, Nicholls State University, and Louisiana Tech University are already up. UNO's catalog was named after the campus' mascot "Lafitte the Instigator" represented by a gator in a pirate costume. A logo of Lafitte

Clarification
Some hyphens were missing from the e-mail addresses in Jeff Coon's article, "Internet resources for religious studies" (December 1993). The correct addresses are: AIBI-L@acadvm1.uottawa.ca; OBJ-REL@emuvml.cc.emory.edu; and to subscribe to the Religious Studies Publications Journal- CONTENTS send the message "Subscribe Review-L YourName" to listserv@uottawa or listserv@acadvm1.uottawa.ca. Also, The Electric Mystic's Guide to the Internet is authored by Michael Strangelove but his name is not part of the title.

Presenters on networking sought for 1994 ALA Annual Conference
Have you been successful with teaching network skills or integrating networked information into your services? Abstracts for posters on the general topic of networking are now being solicited to be presented during ACRL's 'conference within a conference' at the 1994 ALA Annual Conference in Miami. Poster sessions might deal with topics such as the innovative use of networked information in bibliographic instruction or in professional development, gender issues relating to networked communication, etc. Poster sessions will be ongoing during the all-day conference on Monday, June 27. The 150-word abstract should describe the research study, program, instructional methodology, or practical problem-solving effort. Abstracts should also include title, author(s), and institution(s). The submission deadline is March 1, 1994, to: John Culshaw, Central Reference Librarian, University of Colorado at Boulder, Campus Box 184, Boulder, CO 80309-0184; fax: (303) 492-1881; e-mail: culshaw@spot.colorado.edu. Note: Please submit an abstract only if you plan to attend the conference in Miami.

Visit the Huntington at Midwinter
Visitors to Midwinter are cordially invited to visit the Huntington Library, a 20-minute cab ride from the Los Angeles Convention Center. In addition to its remarkable botanical gardens and art collections, the library is displaying two major exhibits that are interesting both for content and for a practical demonstration of library exhibition principles.

The University of New Orleans' logo for its new OPAC "Lafitte."
“This Faire Paper, This Goodly Booke” explores the impact of the Gutenberg revolution and contains a number of “monuments” ranging from such handwritten books and documents as the Magna Carta and the Ellesmere copy of Chaucer’s Canterbury Tales.

The other exhibit, called “The Last Best Hope of Earth: Abraham Lincoln and the Promise of America,” is a rich essay on the life and political philosophy of Abraham Lincoln and includes an 1824 schoolboy rhyme decorating a page of long division, the Gettysburg Address written in Lincoln’s own hand, and the handwritten note that sent Lincoln’s bodyguard on a mission to Virginia on the night of his fateful visit to Ford’s Theater.

A private tour for ACRL members has been arranged for Monday afternoon, February 7, with bus transportation and a box lunch provided. To reserve a place, send a check for $6.00 to Laura Stalker, Associate Director, The Huntington Library, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA 91108. Those who cannot make the bus tour or who want to make other arrangements should call Marilyn Bressler, assistant to the director, at (818) 405-2175.

College library mentor program

The first year of the ACRL/College Libraries Section Library Director Mentor program ended with 13 first-year college library directors attending a three-day seminar at Loyola University, New Orleans, prior to the ALA Annual Conference in June 1993. Mignon Adams, Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, and Evan Farber, Earlham College, led the seminar. Mary Lee Sweat, library director at Loyola University, and her staff handled local arrangements. W. David Penniman, Council on Library Resources (CLR) president, addressed the group and discussed, along with Julia Blixrud, CLR program officer, issues facing college libraries and higher education.

This program, funded for two years by the Council on Library Resources, is intended to enhance the leadership capabilities of newly appointed college library directors by matching them with experienced college library directors. During the first year, 14 first-year college library directors were matched with experienced college library directors. This fall, as the program enters its second year, 15 first-year college library directors have been matched with experienced library directors. The program funds site visits to the first-year and experienced directors’ respective campuses and related expenses. In addition, it partially funds the seminar, with the transportation costs the responsibility of the participating first-year directors.

To date, the response of the participants has been overwhelmingly positive. Accounts of day-long, nonstop discussions between mentee and mentor were common in the first-year reports. While the benefits to the mentees may be obvious, often the mentors have commented on the benefits to them. One summed up his experience with the following words, “I’ve felt that I was doing something of real value to the profession through the program.”

For additional information about the program contact Larry Hardesty, Director of Library Services, Eckerd College, P.O. Box 12560, St. Petersburg, FL 33733-2560.—Larry Hardesty, Eckerd College
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LET ME COUNT THE WAYS...

Search by poet
(we have the
works of more
than 1,300)

Search by place
of publication

Search on
bibliographic
information
(more than
4,500 volumes
represented)

Search by words
in the title

Search for words
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(from the
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late nineteenth
century)

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database

Search for
phrases

Search for any
two words in a
poem