C&RL News submission guidelines

Editorial purpose

College & Research Libraries News (C&RL News) publishes articles written by practitioners addressing philosophy and techniques of day-to-day management of academic library services and collections. C&RL News provides current information relating to issues, activities, and personalities of the higher education and academic/research library field. User education, technology, professional education, preservation, government actions that affect libraries, public relations, acquisitions of special collections, grants to libraries, reports on meetings, products, and the business of ACRL are covered in C&RL News. Established in 1966, C&RL News is the official newsmagazine and publication of record of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL). It maintains a record of selected actions and policy statements of the association and publishes timely reports on the activities of ACRL and its units. It is published 11 times per year.

Content

The editor bears full responsibility for the content of each issue of C&RL News and selects material for publication. The editor also reserves the right to make appropriate revisions in material selected for publication in order to standardize style or improve clarity (except official ACRL documents). Note: Formal, theoretical, or research-oriented articles inappropriate for C&RL News will be forwarded to the editor of College & Research Libraries for review.

Material selected should fall into one of the following categories:

1. Reports on a project, program, or service dealing with a topic relevant to academic librarianship (e.g., “Teaching undergrads Web evaluation,” July/August 1998).

2. Reports for “Conference Circuit” that summarize the highlights of a recent conference, workshop, or meeting of interest to academic or research librarians (e.g., “Integrating information literacy into the curriculum,” May 1998).

3. Essays for “The Way I See It” that offer reasoned and informed speculation or comment on relevant topics (e.g., “Neither Pandora nor Cassandra: Library services and distance education in the next decade,” June 1998).

4. Topics for the “Internet Resources” column. Submit a topic idea and brief information about the compiler’s knowledge of the proposed topic. Compilers whose topics are selected will receive specific manuscript preparation information (e.g., “Distance Education,” May 1998).

5. Essays for “Focus on Libraries” which describe new and renovated libraries and innovative library services (e.g., “Renovating for technology: Partnerships produce quick results,” June 1998).

6. Essays that explore the ACRL President’s theme. The theme for 1998–99 is “Leadership and Learning” (e.g., October 1998).

7. Humorous essays and cartoons related to issues of academic librarianship and higher education (e.g., cartoons in the “News from the Field.”).

8. Essays for the “Scholarly Communication” column (new).

9. Standards, guidelines, or recommendations of an ACRL committee or other official ACRL group (e.g., “ACRL guidelines for distance learning library services,” October 1998).

10. Requests for the donation of books or materials to libraries. C&RL News may occasionally print requests for the donation of books or materials to libraries, especially foreign libraries, which have suffered extensive loss through fire, hurricane, or natural disaster. Other libraries soliciting contributions for other reasons will be referred to the rates for classified advertising in C&RL News.

Instructions to authors

1. Style. Articles should be practical and written in an informal, accurate, and informative manner. Manuscripts should be original and not published elsewhere. (Exceptions may be made for items previously published in institutional newsletters.) Footnotes, charts, and tables should be kept to a minimum.

2. Length. News notes may be 150–350 words; reports of meetings for the “Conference Circuit” should be 750–1,000 words; essays for “The Way I See It” should be 750–1,000 words; articles should be no more than 2,000 words.

3. Graphics. Whenever possible, photographs, illustrations, images from Web sites, etc., should accompany article submissions. Authors are responsible for obtaining permission to use graphic materials. Submit camera-ready artwork for all illustrations. On the back of each photograph include: a brief caption, credits (if appropriate), and your name, address, phone number, and e-mail.

4. Submitting manuscripts. Authors should submit two copies, double-spaced, following The Chicago Manual of Style, 14th ed., to C&RL News Editor, ALA, 50 E. Huron, Chicago, IL 60611. (Note: An e-mail note of inquiry may precede submission of the article.) If the manuscript is prepared on a word processor, please supply an electronic version of the manuscript as a text file in an IBM-compatible format, preferably in Microsoft Word 97, WordPerfect for Windows 6.0 or ASCII. Note: Please label 3½ disks with your name, phone number, e-mail, and filename. Manuscripts may also be submitted via the Internet: medavis@ala.org.

Ed. note: These guidelines were reviewed by the C&RL News Editorial Board at the 1998 Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. and adopted by it in the fall of 1998.
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