ACRL’s 12th National Conference in Minneapolis is just around the corner. “Currents and Convergence: Navigating the Rivers of Change” offers the unique opportunity to explore the key issues facing academic and research librarians and learn about new trends in the field. If you’re going to be in Minneapolis, you’ll want to read “Shopping and dining in the twin cities,” which provides a list of eateries and must-visit stores in the Twin Cities. Complete information about the 12th National Conference, including information on the virtual component of the conference that is being offered for the first time, is available on the ACRL Web site at www.acrl.org/minneapolis.

This month’s Creativity and Leadership article focuses on subject librarianship and creative ways to strengthen relationships with faculty and students within a librarian’s area of expertise. In “The Must List” (p. 203), Jessica Albano shares a number of easy-to-implement, yet high-impact methods for reaching out to academic departments.

To keep you abreast of the new business and initiatives of the association, a list of actions taken by the ACRL Board of Directors at the Midwinter Meeting is included on page 225. To ensure the future sustainability of the association, the Board approved a resolution to change the dues amount for personal members of ACRL. The proposed dues increase will be up for vote on the spring 2005 ballot. For background information and answers to the larger questions surrounding the proposed dues increase, see the article “Why ACRL needs a dues increase” (p. 179) and the accompanying FAQ (p. 183).

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