Retirements

Tobeyllyn Birch has retired from Loyola Marymount University (LMU), where she served first as head of acquisitions and serials (2007–09) and then as associate dean of the William H. Hannon Library. Prior to LMU, she was the director of the Los Angeles Campus Library of the California School of Professional Psychology/Alliant International University and university librarian. Birch was also active in EBSS (2000–11), serving on the Instruction for Educators, Psychology/Psychiatry, 2008 Program Planning, and Membership and Organization committees.

Deaths

Michael Lawrence Nelson, long-time faculty member of the University of Wyoming Libraries (UW), has died. Nelson joined UW in 1984, after working in Montana libraries. He was hired in the reference department as the social sciences reference librarian and French bibliographer, and held that position until 2013, when he moved to the Collection Development Office to focus on selecting and ordering books in those same disciplines. In 2009, Nelson was awarded the Agnes Milstead Distinguished Librarianship Award for his outstanding contributions to UW. He was the libraries’ leading expert in constructing and executing complicated database searches. Nelson was respected as a thoughtful mentor to junior faculty members and a trusted source of institutional memory.

Larry Romans, long-time head of government information and media services at Vanderbilt University (1983–2013), has died. He was for a number of years the Leg-Net coordinator for the ACRL Chapters Council, which made him an ex-officio member of its Committee on Governance. He served on ALA Council since 1992 and was a member of the ALA Executive Board (2007–10), during which he was the liaison to the ACRL Board. In addition to his service to ACRL, Romans was chair of the Government Documents Round Table (1999–2000). He received the 1995 ALA/GODORT/ProQuest Documents to the People Award and the 2008 ALA/GODORT James Bennett Childs Award for lifetime contributions to government information librarianship. He also served on the U.S. Public Printer’s Depository Library Council (2012–15). Romans also served on the Board of Directors of ALA’s Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table (GLBTRT). He and his spouse helped endow the Mike Morgan-Larry Romans Stonewall Children’s and Young Adult Literature Award, given annually to an age-appropriate book of exceptional merit relating to the LGBT experience. Romans served on the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Library Association (TLA) for many years. He received the 2011 TLA President’s Award for outstanding service and the 2013 TLA Honor Award for “significant contributions to library service in Tennessee.” Romans was a member of the ALA Legacy Society, composed of members who have included ALA in their wills.

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