ACRL honors the 2001 award winners

Recognizing professional achievement

by Meredith Parets

Frye named winner of Atkinson Award

Larry Frye, head librarian at Wabash College in Crawfordsville, Indiana, has been named the 2001 winner of the Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Award. Named in honor of one of the pioneers of library automation, the Atkinson award recognizes an academic librarian who has made significant contributions in the area of library automation or management, and has made notable improvements in library services, library development, or research.

In nominating Frye, his colleagues noted that “In his vision for library service, his leadership of networking initiatives . . . his service on behalf of colleagues, and his practical, persuasive effectiveness at achieving cooperative goals, Frye exemplifies both the spirit and accomplishments of Hugh Atkinson.” Further, his contributions to librarianship and library networking “have been [made] through his drive, intelligence, and keen insight without direct control over human or capital resources.”

“Frye’s leadership/action in advancing library services via cooperation and the use of technology epitomizes the essence of the Atkinson Award,” said Donald Riggs, chair of the award selection committee. “As a result of Larry Frye’s risktaking . . . the Indiana Spectrum of Information Resources (INSPIRE) became reality. INSPIRE is a statewide virtual library permitting access by every citizen and library in Indiana to a multidisciplinary package of online scholarly and general resources.”

Riggs also noted Frye’s leadership in forming the Private Academic Library Network of Indiana (PALNI), a consortium of 26 private colleges, universities, and seminaries with a combined catalog of 4.4 million items.

Prior to joining the faculty of Wabash College as head librarian in 1980, Frye was library director and college archivist at Bethany College in West Virginia. He earned his B.A. at Bethany College, and was Woodrow Wilson Fellow in Theology at the Yale University Divinity School. He received his MLS from Rutgers University, and his archivist certificate from Case-Western Reserve University. He is a previous recipient of the West Virginia Library Association Distinguished Service Award (1979). In 1985 he received the Outstanding Service to Indiana Libraries Award for his direction of the statewide retrospective conversion project for Indiana’s private colleges, and he received the Indiana

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Larry Hardesty, college librarian at Austin College in Sherman, Texas, is the 2001 ACRL Academic/Research Librarian of the Year. The award, sponsored by YBP Library Services, recognizes an outstanding member of the library profession who has made a significant national or international contribution to academic research librarianship and library development.

In announcing their selection, the award committee remarked, “The breadth of Hardesty’s publications over the years has made an impact on academic librarianship. Many of his publications have become standards in the field. In addition, his creation of in 1991 and continued involvement in the College Library Directors’ Mentor program over the last eight years has been an unqualified success.” To date, more than 200 librarians have participated in the College Library Directors’ Mentor Program as either first-year directors or mentors.

“I, of course, am extremely honored to receive this award,” said Hardesty. “Over the years, I have seen many of the major contributors to our profession receive this award. Frankly, I never considered that I might receive it.

“Academic librarianship has contributed so much to me. In return, I have tried to contribute to the profession and give back some of all the help I have received. Along the way, it has been my distinct pleasure to serve with so many caring and giving colleagues—to whom I owe so much. I hope through receiving this award that it will bring attention to the fact that college librarianship can be a rewarding and productive career.”

Hardesty has demonstrated his leadership qualities through his dedicated service to the academic library profession. A life member of ALA, Hardesty has served as president of the Florida Chapter of ACRL (1986–87), chair of the College Libraries Section (CLS), (1995–96), a member of the ACRL Board of Directors (1987–91, 1999–01), and as ACRL President (1999–00). In 1999, he conceived and established the ACRL Excellence in Academic Libraries Award, the first ACRL award to celebrate institutional excellence.

The selection committee also recognized Hardesty’s impressive publication record. Recent publications include Books, Bytes and Bridges: Libraries and Computer Centers in Academic Institutions (ALA Editions, 2000); “Reflections on 25 Years of Library Instruction: Have We Made Progress?” (Reference Services Review, 1999); Bibliographic Instruction in Practice: Dedicated to the Legacy of Evan Farber (Pierian Press, 1993); and Faculty and the Library: The Undergraduate Experience (Ablex Publishing, 1991). “Bibliographic Instruction and Faculty Culture,” Library Trends 44 (Fall 1995), received the ACRL Instruction Section Publication of the Year Award in 1996.


Hardesty received his B.A. and M.S. in education from Kearney State College. He earned his MLS from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and at Indiana University received his M.S. in Instructional Systems Technology and Ph.D. in Library and Information Science. He served as head of the reference department at DePauw University from 1975 to 1983, and as director of Libraries at Eckerd College from 1983 to 1995. He joined the faculty of Austin College as college librarian in 1995.

Hardesty will receive a cash award of $3,000 and a citation at a ceremony and reception to be held on Monday, June 18, during the ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco. The reception is sponsored by YBP Library Services.
Excellence in Academic Libraries winners

The winners of the 2001 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award are the Austin Community College Library Services, the Earlham College Libraries, and the University of Arizona Library.

Sponsored by the ACRL and Blackwell’s Book Services, the award recognizes the staff of a community college, a college, and a university library for exemplary programs that deliver exemplary services and resources to further the educational missions of their institutions.

"The creativity and quality of the applications for the 2001 Award indicate the high regard in which it is held by the profession," said Althea H. Jenkins, ACRL executive director.

Austin Community College

The Austin Community College (ACC) Library Services, winner in the community college category, emphasized its creative strategies for meeting the needs of a diverse student body, its flexibility, and its Connections Resource Center—a national model of excellence in providing a broad range of services to parents and childcare providers.

"ACC exemplifies the commitment to service and contribution to student learning that can occur when staff collaborate to achieve results even when resources are limited," said Award Selection Committee Chair Maureen Sullivan.

Julie Todaro, director of ACC Library Services, said, "The ACC Library Services faculty and professional/technical and classified staff members are the reason why we won this award. In the 16 plus years I have been here, I have witnessed incredible commitment to service, seemingly unending talent, ongoing learning, great humor, and a willingness to take risks and continuously reach out to the academic and local community. I am thrilled that the organization as a whole has been recognized, especially because—as a highly focused but greatly decentralized institution—we seldom have an opportunity to look at the complete picture. To win an award, especially this award, for our 'big picture' is a great honor."

Earlham College

The Earlham College Libraries, winner in the college category, were commended by Sullivan and the selection committee for "almost 40 years of excellence in contributions to student learning; in partnering with faculty . . .; and in the transformation of the educational program of Earlham College. Earlham College librarians have made significant contributions to the college, to regional associations, to ACRL and ALA, and to the development of library instruction and information literacy programs across the nation."

Len Clark, provost of Earlham College, said, "All of us at Earlham have watched the great teaching and learning going on in the Earlham libraries, and are so proud of Tom Kirk, Sara Penhale, and their colleagues; they've honored Evan Farber's legacy and adapted his passionate commitment to library service in a decade of new challenges. We appreciate the chance this award from ACRL provides for us all to celebrate their outstanding work."

University of Arizona

The University of Arizona Library described its emphasis on teams, a culture of assessment, and the importance of outcomes in its winning application in the university category. Sullivan and the selection committee remarked, "[University of Arizona Library] has consistently been among the first to tackle the difficult challenges of changing systems, structure, work processes, and individual competencies. Its record of accomplishment consistently shows the creativity, innovation, leadership, and sustained excellence that this award recognizes."

"It is a great honor to win this award and a testament to staff at the University of Arizona Library," said Carla Stoffle, dean of the library. "It has been a privilege to work with colleagues who are creative, hard working, and committed to excellence. Each day staff gives 150 percent to reach our goal of being a user-centered organization. Our support from administration, the community, students, and faculty have made the ongoing journey to excellence adventurous and rewarding."

Each winning library will receive $3,000 and a citation, to be presented at ceremonies held on each recipient's campus. Special recognition of each winning library will also be made at the ACRL President’s Program during the ALA Annual Conference to be held June 14–20 in San Francisco.
Frye will receive an award of $2,000 and a citation at a ceremony and reception during the Library Administration and Management Association President’s Program on Sunday, June 17, 2001, during the ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco. The Faxon Company also awards a gold giraffe pin designed by Tiffany's to recognize the "sticking your neck out" aspect of the award.

The Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Award is jointly sponsored by ACRL, the Library Administration and Management Association (LAMA), the Library and Information Technology Association (LITA), and the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS)—four divisions of ALA.


Bonnici receives doctoral dissertation fellowship

Laurie Bonnici has been awarded the 2001 ACRL Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship for her proposal, "An Examination of Categorical Associations Through the Lens of Reference Group Theory." Sponsored by ISI, the fellowship fosters research in academic librarianship by encouraging and assisting doctoral students with their dissertation research.

Bonnici, a doctoral candidate at the Florida State University School of Information Studies, received her B.A. from Indiana University and her MLS from the University of South Florida. Her recent publications include "The Founding of the Library Leadership Institute at Snowbird: An Exercise in Leadership" (Library Administration & Management—in review) and "On the Shoulders of a Giant: Scientific Norms in the Education of Doctoral Students" with Elfreda A. Chatman (Library Quarterly—in review).

Rena Fowler, chair of the selection committee, said "[Bonnici's] project holds great potential significance to academic librarianship, and the committee sees in the candidate the potential for leadership in the field." Bonnici is a member of Beta Phi Mu and a 1999 graduate of the Library Leadership Institute at Snowbird.

The award, $1,500 and a plaque, will be presented to Bonnici during the ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco at the ACRL President's Program on Monday, June 18.

Chandler receives Lazerow Fellowship

Adam Chandler has been chosen to receive the Samuel Lazerow Fellowship for Research in Collections and Technical Services in Academic and Research Libraries for his project "An Application Profile and Prototype Metadata Management System for Licensed Electronic Resources." Sponsored by ISI, the award fosters advances in collection development and technical services by providing fellowships to librarians for travel or writing in those fields.

Chandler is currently an information technology librarian at Cornell University. His recent publications include "Mapping Essential Federal Geographic Data Committee Metadata to MARC21 and Dublin Core: Towards an Alternative to the FGDC Clearinghouse," with Dan Foley and Aladdin Hafez (D-Lib Magazine, 2000) and "Creating Relational Documentation Systems for Library Networks" (LLA Bulletin, 1999). He is a member of Beta Phi Mu, and a previous recipient of a U.S. Department of Education Title II-B Competitive Fellowship.

"Managing electronic resources grows more complicated each year, challenging librarians in every area of librarianship to come up with a collective solution," said Lynda Fuller Clendenning, the selection committee chair. "Chandler's research project tackles this issue and develops with others a broadly applicable metadata system for tracking the entire pro-
cess of acquiring, licensing and delivering electronic resources to library users.”

The award, $1,000 and a plaque, will be presented during the 2001 ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco at the ACRL President’s Program on Monday, June 18.

Nisonger receives K. G. Saur Award

Thomas E. Nisonger, associate professor of Library and Information Science at Indiana University, will receive the 2001 K. G. Saur Award for the most outstanding article in *College & Research Libraries*.

Nisonger’s winning article, “Use of Journal Citation Reports for Serials Management in Research Libraries: An Investigation of the Effect of Self-Citation on Journal Rankings in Library and Information Science and Genetics” appeared in the May 2000 issue of *C&RL*.

The selection committee noted that Nisonger’s article “adds to the literature on citation analysis and fully explores the trend of self-citation and its impact. Works like Nisonger’s promote the use of tools like the JCR and help refine the interpretative results. The research is carefully done, and the article is well written.”

Nisonger received his MLS from the University of Pittsburgh and his Ph.D. in Comparative Politics from Columbia University. An active member of ALA and ACRL, he has served on the ACRL Publications Committee (1994–98) and is the chair-elect of the Library Research Round Table. He is the previous recipient of the TERA Award for Teaching Excellence at the Indiana University School of Library and Information Science (2000) and was co-winner of the Lincoln Prize in Political Science at the College of Wooster.

The award, $500 and a plaque, is donated by K. G. Saur publishing company, and will be presented during the ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco at the ACRL President’s Program on Monday, June 18.

*Ed. note:* Winners of other ACRL awards will be announced in forthcoming issues of *C&RL News.*
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