

O K L A H O M A C H A P T E R

of the Association of College
and Research Libraries, Inc.



March 2006

NEW OFFICERS AND BOARD

With regret, the OK-ACRL Officers and Board wish Audrey Defrank “happy trails” as she plans her departure to Nebraska. Just as the new year began, it became necessary to reorganize the Officers and Board, and it was accomplished on February 10 at the monthly Board Meeting. The new Officers and Board are:

Kate Corbett President

Lauren Donaldson Past President

Kristi Dye Treasurer

Helen Clements Board Member

David Oberhelman President Elect

Laura Teske Secretary

Rhonda Harris Taylor Board Member

Edwin Wiles Board Member

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

This year promises to be an exciting one for Oklahoma librarians. The results of last year's COIL survey of instruction programs and staff will be an interesting project to finalize and share. Also coming up is the program on the ACRL Standards being sponsored by OCALD. OLA has an excellent conference schedule lined up for the end of March.

There's some new energy out there and we will all benefit from it!

My goals for the year 2006 are to increase membership in OK-ACRL at least 10% and to create a second “special interest group” for Technical Services Librarians.

Although OK-ACRL is a chapter of national ACRL (which is an ALA Division), you don't need to be an ALA member to join our state chapter. You can join by paying \$15.00 per year. (If you attend our Fall Conference, you will save that much on registration!) OLA-UCD members can join for just \$10.00 a year. What have you got to lose?

COIL has been a small but energetic community which has held two annual workshops on a shoe-string and created a comprehensive statewide survey of instruction. As a new Technical Services Librarian, I have a need for information and innovative ideas that can surely be filled by my Oklahoma colleagues.

If you are new to your area, let me know. Maybe I can help you connect with some librarians who can help you learn the ropes.

Let's all collaborate our way through 2006!

Kate Corbett President

OCALD WORKSHOP

by Kate Corbett

An upcoming meeting will be of interest to library administrators as well as library faculty and professionals. OCALD (Oklahoma Council of Academic Library Directors) has scheduled a day-long program to introduce the ACRL Standards for Libraries in Higher Education. It will be held at Oklahoma Christian University on April 27, 2006.

For further information, contact:

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OK ACRL TABLE

AT OLA

by Kate Corbett

Calling all members! OK ACRL will have a vendor table at the Oklahoma Library Association Annual Conference in Tulsa, March 29-30, 2006, to help spread our message of high quality professional development. And we need some "live wires" to staff the table during the conference. If you would like to help by giving an hour or two, please email Kate Corbett at kcorbett@lunet.edu.

MAKE A NAME FOR YOURSELF: HOW TO GET PUBLISHED IN LIS JOURNALS

The Oklahoma Chapter of ACRL held its annual conference on November 18, 2005 at Rose State College in Midwest City, Oklahoma. The theme of the program was "Make a Name for Yourself: How to Get Published in LIS Journals." Dr. David F. Kohl, Dean and University Librarian Emeritus, University of Cincinnati, presented an all-day workshop on publishing for librarians. Dr. Kohl presently serves as Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Academic Librarianship which allowed him to bring a unique perspective to this event. The day was broken into four sessions: "Overview and Topic Selection", "Research Design and Manuscript Preparation", "Journal Selection and Manuscript Submission", and "Understanding the Editors Perspective."

This year's conference was attended primarily by academic librarians interested in writing for publication for the first time. Participation was encouraged and the audience benefited from the time allowed after each session to ask questions about a subject that at times can seem overwhelming for those new to the process. Dr. Kohl's informative and interactive presentation was able to clear up some of the mystery that often surrounds this subject.

Lauren Donaldson

OK-ACRL President 2005

University of Central Oklahoma

▲ NEWBIE'S ▲ ALA EXPERIENCE

I've gone to plenty of conferences in my time, but hadn't attended an ALA conference in decades, if ever. The 2006 Midwinter meeting was held in late January in San Antonio (and since I could drive there in my sleep except for the eighteen-wheelers), I was curious about what the conference would be like. It was a revelation. Midwinter serves as a planning meeting for ALA's Annual conference, to be held in New Orleans this June.

The ALA conference website is a good resource. When you register, take advantage of the online planner to search for the meetings that interest you (as always you'll find that you want to attend at least three sessions that take place at the same time at different hotels). Take the time to print copies of your corrected itinerary, so you can file your travel report and find the meetings.

Midwinter is a good time to see committees in action, and to see what issues your colleagues across the country are facing. Among the sessions I attended were a discussion group for sociology librarians, a focus group on the content of Reference and User Services Quarterly, LIRT (library instruction), reference services in large research libraries, women's studies, and performance issues for reference librarians. I also spent a fair amount of time in the vast exhibit hall and came home with a metric carload of stuff.

In the plethora of details, a few of the meetings stand out. The issues we face in Oklahoma aren't unique to us. Several schools, especially in the East, are collecting graphic novels with women's topics, and they find that one of the best ways to publicize their collections is direct contact with faculty and students. RUSQ may not be the most-often-read library journal, but librarians care about its content and would perhaps like to see more articles on practical issues. American Libraries is probably the most frequently read, at least by ALA members. A family and consumer studies librarian who had lived in China recounted her experiences and shared recipes. Many libraries around the country are facing the challenges of millennial students with different study-cultures; many are expected to have additional degrees beyond the MLS; and about half of them seem to have faculty status. In other words, ALA Midwinter can be an experience in overload, and for a first-time attendee, it can be a bit daunting to make connections. That doesn't mean that it's not worth the experience.

Helen Clements
OSU-Stillwater

