



*Connections:*  
*The Quarterly Newsletter of ACRL / NY*

**Volume 21, Number 1**  
**Spring 2002**

## *Message From the President*

**Harriet Hagenbruch**

---

I wish to extend an enthusiastic greeting to the members of ACRL/NY.

As the current President, I have been giving a lot of thought to the importance of professional involvement. I know that when I speak to fellow librarians the one thing I hear constantly is that they find themselves increasingly busy in the performance of their day-to-day responsibilities. The feeling is that they are expected to accomplish more and more while, at the same time, being pulled in many different directions. Therefore, it may seem as if involvement in professional organizations is not quite as essential or may simply be put on a "back burner." However, for this very reason, professional involvement may be more important than ever. It is extremely gratifying to work with librarians from other institutions and realize that they, too, face many of the same problems and concerns. Moreover, it is by working through our library organizations on the local, regional and national level that we as librarians can address the very issues that confront our profession as well as establish a vision for its future. Finally, professional involvement provides the opportunity to serve as mentors to those people who are still either library school students or are new to our profession.

ACRL/NY encourages all of its members to become active in the work of the Chapter. Truthfully, there are no shortage of opportunities. For example, the Symposium Planning Committee is the group involved in preparing for the annual Symposium — a prestigious event which focuses on a topic of current interest and that draws many librarians from the metropolitan area and beyond. Right now, the Symposium Planning Committee is working on the Symposium 2002. So far, they have met three times and are well on the way to narrowing down a topic (or topics) that will be both timely and informative.

In addition, we are always interested in welcoming new members to our Executive Board. Elections are scheduled for Fall of 2002 and there are a number of positions for which we will be seeking candidates. Among these are the office of Vice President / President Elect, Treasurer, and Recording Secretary. Also, there are three Geographic Sections that are represented on the Executive Board: New York City, Westchester / Lower Hudson Valley, and Long Island; ACRL/NY will be seeking candidates for Vice Chair / Chair Elect for all three of these sections.

## PROFILES IN MEMBERSHIP

*In this issue we profile Marsha Spiegelman, Membership Secretary.*

**Q.** *When did you first become interested in librarianship?*

**A.** I have always been interested in librarianship, having considered libraries to be akin to candy stores of knowledge! Throughout high school and college I

had part-time jobs in libraries. When I decided to get a second masters, it seemed a worthwhile endeavor to try librarianship so that I could interact with students on a different level.

**Q.** *How long have you been a librarian?*

**A.** I have been a librarian since 1985, having received my MLS from St. John's University after a successful career in teaching. I was first hired at Nassau Community College as an adjunct media librarian in part because of my experience with language labs, having taught foreign languages and been a department chair in a NYC school. In 1993 I applied for and was ultimately offered a position as a fulltime reference librarian / instructor at Nassau, where I remain today.

**Q.** *How did you first get involved with ACRL/ NY?*

**A.** I got involved with ACRL/NY at the urging of Marilyn Rosenthal, our immediate past president and a colleague at NCC, who asked if I would chair the Long Island Bibliographic Instruction group. Since then I have chaired the Long Island geographic section, participated in Symposium planning, acted as Symposium Registrar, and am now Membership Secretary.

**Q.** *What are your duties and responsibilities as Membership Secretary?*

**A.** As Membership Secretary I receive all membership applications and maintain a database of all

**Volume 21, Number 1**  
**Spring 2002**

*Connections* is published quarterly by the Greater New York Metropolitan Area Chapter / Association of College and Research Libraries, Inc. for its members.

**ACRL/NY**  
**P.O. Box 8331**  
**New York NY 10116-4652**

Edited by:

Jennifer Schwartz  
Bobst Library, Mezzanine  
New York University  
70 Washington Sq. South  
New York, NY 10012

Comments and submissions may be sent to  
[jennifer.schwartz@nyu.edu](mailto:jennifer.schwartz@nyu.edu)

**Annual Membership Dues:**

ACRL National Members: \$10.00  
Members of Other State and Local Academic  
Institutions: \$15.00  
Non-members: \$20.00  
Students: \$5.00  
Institutional Members: \$25.00

Previous issues of *ACRL/NY Connections* may be found  
on the chapter's website:  
<http://www.nyu.edu/library/bobst/acrlny/acrlny.html>

## **President's Message, *cont'd***

*(Continued from page 1)*

Furthermore, ACRL/NY has always been known for its various Discussion Groups. These are groups organized around a particular area of interest that usually meet at least twice a year and, in many instances, plan related programs and workshops. Anyone can volunteer to chair a Discussion Group and these same chairs serve as nonvoting members of the Executive Board. Among the Groups that have been recently active are the Education / Curriculum Center Librarians, the Information Literacy / Instruction Group (formerly Bibliographic Instruction), and Access Services. Other Groups are: Collection Development, Cultural Diversity, and Electronic Resources. Moreover, if Chapter members are interested in starting a totally new Discussion Group that option is open to them.

Beyond sponsoring the Symposium and other workshops and events, ACRL/NY seeks to reach out and, when appropriate, join forces with other library organizations in the region. Recently, we have co-sponsored two important events.

The first was the annual spring reception of the New York Technical Services Librarians. This was held in the Trustees Room of the New York Public Library and, as always, provided a forum for librarians, archivists, and information professionals from the metropolitan area to share information as well as meet with current library school students. Addie Armstrong, the Vice Chair / Chair Elect of the New York City Section, represented our Chapter at this reception.

The other event that we co-sponsored, along with several other library organizations, was brought to us by the Long Island Library Resources Council (LILRC). It was entitled *Licensing and Managing Electronic Resources*, and took place on April 5 at the New York Institute of Technology deSeversky Center.

As you can see, ACRL/NY is a busy and vital Chapter. There are many opportunities to become involved and to make a difference. I urge all of you to do so. If you have any question regarding ACRL/NY do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached by e-mail at [libcmhah@hofstra.edu](mailto:libcmhah@hofstra.edu) or by telephone at

---

## **REPORT FROM NYTSL SPRING RECEPTION**

On Friday, March 15, 2002 ACRL/NY co-sponsored the NYTSL (New York Technical Services Librarians) annual spring reception for librarians and information professionals in the walnut-paneled Trustees Room of the landmark Humanities and Social Sciences Library at Fifth Avenue and 42<sup>nd</sup> Street. A sumptuous display of cheese, fruit and various beverages welcomed guests into this elegant setting of The New York Public Library. Patrick Callahan, the current NYTSL president, spoke briefly about the dozen other regional library association co-sponsors and introduced their representatives in attendance. The event provided a unique opportunity for library school students and new members of the library community to gather information and share cheerful conversation with diverse, seasoned professionals.■

*Addie Armstrong*

The Greater New York Metropolitan Area  
Chapter/Association of College and  
Research Libraries, Inc.  
P.O. Box 8331  
New York NY 10116-4652

---

## Profiles in Membership, *cont'd.*

*(Continued from page 2)*

ACRL/NY members. In addition, as liaison for subcommittees, discussion groups and geographic sections, I provide contact information and mailing labels as necessary. Recently I have begun outreach to lapsed members and am exploring other ways to invigorate membership.

***Q. What are two good reasons to join ACRL/NY?***

**A.** First, ACRL/NY provides academic librarians with professional development opportunities on the local and national level. Whether participating in one of our groups, taking an active role in leadership, or availing oneself of the learning and networking opportunities our events offer, membership in ACRL/

NY will foster career growth and enhancement to anyone in the field. New librarians in particular have the advantage of working with the more experienced as they seek to learn more about their chosen profession.

Second, strong active membership and participation in associations such as ACRL/NY bring recognition and respect to the profession as a whole. The greater our involvement in these activities, the more our status as professionals will be valued by those in academia and

