

In the

news

Welcome to the December 2008 issue of *C&RL News*. The current era of electronic publishing impacts academic and research libraries in a myriad of ways. Scholarly research has moved from searching multiple volumes of paper indexes and dusty bound periodicals to aggregated online databases and full-text article access. Keeping faculty and students up to date on journal literature has also moved from print title lists and reading rooms to the online world. Derik A. Badman and Lianne Hartman describe how Temple University and Gwynedd-Mercy College are using new technologies, such as RSS and Yahoo! Pipes, as tools in "Developing current awareness services."

Negotiating licensing agreements to provide access to electronic resources can be a daunting task. In this month's Scholarly Communication column, "Breaking the bottleneck," Clinton K. Chamberlain provides an overview of SERU, a new initiative to streamline the licensing process for both librarians and publishers. Of course the

old ways of researching can still have value as an instructional tool, as Mary Murray and John Mumford describe in their article "Periodical indexes on the edge of time."

The December issue of the *News* historically provides a look back at the past year through the ACRL Annual Report. This year is no exception. Beginning on page 703, the 2007-2008 Annual Report highlights your accomplishments as an association over the fiscal year. We also look ahead to the future with a preliminary listing of ACRL meetings and events at the 2009 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver, January 23-28.

Make sure to take a look at all of the other great articles and columns, including ideas for "greening" your library, Internet Resources on "African American cultural collections and museums," and ways to extend your natural and cultural experience during your visit to the ACRL 14th National Conference in Seattle. Thanks for reading the *News*!

—David Free, *editor-in-chief*
dfree@ala.org

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