

ANNUALREPORT 2024



Message from the President

Beth McNeil ACRL's 84th President

What a privilege it was to serve as ACRL president. My term sped by so quickly and I believe that was largely due to the great work of our association. Our members are committed to ACRL and their work in it, as evidenced by the significant initiatives and products coming out of committees, conference programming, and publications. To borrow from the philanthropy field, our members share their "time, talent, and treasure" and keep ACRL



not just alive but thriving. I am grateful to have served with such a talented group of library workers on committees, the Board of Directors, and with the experienced and always excellent ACRL staff.

This was a year of uncertainty and change, as we continued to work to understand how to help ALA move forward to financial stability and the related implications for ACRL. Much credit goes to ACRL Councilor Kara Whatley, ACRL Past-President Erin Ellis, ACRL Budget and Finance Chair Joe Mocnik, and ACRL Interim Executive Director Allison Payne. This work will continue. I am pleased that ACRL units and sections can now offer honoraria to speakers and the Board reaffirmed discounted registration for speakers at biennial ACRL conferences. The Board also lifted the pause on awards and formed an ACRL Awards Coordinating Committee to work with sections and committees moving forward.

I owe much thanks to my President's Program Committee, led by ACRL members Lauren Pressley and Michael Flierl. Our program took place during the ALA Annual Conference in San Diego and continued the tradition of recent past President's Programs to focus on an equity, diversity, and inclusion, with this year specifically on belonging. Dr. Terrell Strayhorn, a professor, center director, and founder of Do Good Work Consulting Group, presented "Workplace Belonging Matters: Key Insights for Library Professionals." Strayhorn had the standing-room-only crowd enthralled; we laughed, some cried, and we all clapped wildly.

Through personal anecdotes as well as his important and timely research on college students' sense of belonging Strayhorn held attendees' attention in ways I have rarely seen at an academic conference presentation. I am eager to read his upcoming book on workplace belonging, promised for spring 2025, a topic of ongoing interest for me and if the crowd at his presentation is any indication, also for library workers. Kudos to the program committee!

Message from the President

ACRL staff and member leaders do excellent work in support of our members and library workers in academic and research libraries. ACRL's programming, including the biennial conference, publications, service opportunities, and advocacy are such a significant benefit for members and for our field. I strongly believe ACRL's work makes important contributions both financially and programmatically for ALA and all its members. During this time of great change in our society, higher education, and our professional associations I remain confident that ACRL will continue to be the place for academic and research librarians. It has been my honor to serve.



http://www.ala.org/acrl/give

The Friends of ACRL donations support ACRL's mission in key areas, including the ACRL Advancement Fund, ACRL Conference Scholarship Fund, and RBMS Scholarships Fund. Since the establishment of the Friends of ACRL in 1998, 1,674 donors have become Friends and contributed more than \$565,00 to provide support for ACRL initiatives. Money from the Friends Funds has been used to provide scholarships for ACRL professional development activities, support for the Library Copyright Alliance Project, Project Outcome, Benchmark: ACRL Metrics & Trends, and providing open access for *C&RL News* backfiles.

Thanks to our 137 donors who contributed more than \$27,000 to the Friends of ACRL in FY24 (September 1, 2023—August 31, 2024). A complete list of Friends of ACRL is available on the ACRL website at https://www.ala.org/acrl/friends-acrl-2024.

ACRL also expresses its sincere appreciation to its sponsors for their generous donations to the various programs and events the association has offered throughout the year. Thanks to your support, ACRL members benefited from enhanced programs and services this year.

Annual Conference Programs

ACRL Programs at the 2024 ALA Annual Conference —San Diego, CA—

- 2024 President's Program—Workplace Belonging Matters: Key Insights for Library Professionals
- Centering the Student: Gathering Student Perspectives and Creating Content on Generative AI
- Developing Data Literacy Champions: Building a Culture of Critical Engagement with Data
- Developing Immersive Experiences from Library Collections
- Inclusive Scholarly Publishing: Demystifying Processes & Empowering New Scholars
- Introducing LibParlor Online Learning: An Open-Source Curriculum for LIS Researchers
- Marked for Death? Challenges to the Humanities and Humanities Librarianship
- One More Hat: Community College Librarians as AI Leaders on Campus
- Open Science Conversations: Academic Library Engagement, Outreach & Services in the Year of Open Science
- Our Diverse Characters Book Club: Discussing Divisive Concepts in Red States
- Reengineering Research: Integrating Generative AI and Prompt Engineering into Information Literacy Programs
- Resilient Learning Landscapes: Exploring Post-Pandemic Student Perspectives on Information Literacy
- "Superior Performance": How Can Librarians Set Boundaries Without Clear Expectations of Labour?
- Team Up! Building Student Community with Trivia Nights in the Academic Library
- When copyright and contracts collide: Advocacy to advance library and user rights
- Working Towards Equitable Access for Blind, Visually Impaired, and Print-Disabled Students

Message from the Vice-President

Leo S. Lo Vice-President/President-Elect

Serving as the vice-president/president-elect of ACRL during the 2023–2024 fiscal year has been an honor and an invaluable experience. Working alongside a dedicated team of ACRL staff, Board of Directors members, and volunteers, we've navigated a rapidly changing landscape in academic libraries. Throughout the year, we focused on several key areas to ensure that ACRL remains relevant, resilient, and forward-looking as we approach the challenges of the future.



One of the major initiatives during my term as vice-president was establishing a task force to develop a set of AI competencies for library workers. As AI technology continues to evolve rapidly, this task force's work is pivotal in ensuring that our profession remains at the forefront of technological advancements. The competencies will help guide library workers in adopting and integrating AI into their daily practices and services, preparing them for an AI-driven world.

Additionally, I worked closely with the Appointments Committee to fill ACRL committee positions, ensuring diverse and inclusive representation across the association. By prioritizing ACRL's Core Commitment to Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI), we continued building a workforce that reflects the diverse communities we serve.

As an ex-officio member of the ACRL Budget & Finance Committee, I participated in essential discussions about the financial health of the organization, particularly in light of ongoing changes within ALA. Our focus remained on balancing financial sustainability with delivering valuable member services, ensuring ACRL continues to thrive while aligning with necessary ALA governance adjustments.

Looking forward, as ACRL president, I will continue to build on the AI initiatives started during my vice-presidency. This year, we are establishing a new AI Discussion Group that will serve as a platform for exploring the ethical, practical, and innovative uses of AI in academic libraries. My priority is advancing ACRL's role as a leader in AI literacy and workforce upskilling, positioning libraries to prepare students and faculty for the future of work. I believe academic libraries should be at the forefront of this transformation.

Message from the Vice-President

Additionally, we will continue to expand ACRL's commitment to EDI by integrating it into all aspects of our work, ensuring that we not only foster a more inclusive profession but also advocate for systemic change in the broader higher education community.

Finally, I'm excited to look ahead to the ACRL 2025 Conference in Minneapolis, where our community will once again come together to share ideas, learn from one another, and celebrate the remarkable work being done across academic libraries. The conference will be a key moment for reflecting on our progress and charting the course for the future of the profession.

The upcoming year presents exciting opportunities for ACRL to position itself as a central player in shaping the future of academic libraries. With the support of our vibrant membership, I am confident that we will continue to innovate, collaborate, and lead in advancing learning, scholarship, and research.

Message from the Interim Executive Director

Allison Payne ACRL Interim Executive Director

It has been a pleasure to serve as the ACRL interim executive director this past year. I am fortunate for this experience and for the trust of our members and staff in serving as a division leader. While I have worked at ACRL for more than a decade, this role has given me deeper insight and appreciation for the members and staff who implement high-quality, timely, and engaging programs and services to support the goals and objectives outlined in the



ACRL Plan for Excellence. This past year, I have been delighted to work more closely with the ACRL Board of Directors and ACRL Budget and Finance Committee, and I would like to express my gratitude for their leadership and commitment to service. It has been a highlight to carry out the important work of the association with ACRL members, leaders, and staff.

ACRL supported its Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion goal area by continuing to provide ALA and ACRL memberships for those from and those serving underrepresented groups. This past year, ACRL provided memberships for up to 25 library workers who identify as Black, Indigenous, and/or People of Color (BIPOC) and 15 library workers who identify as persons with disabilities. ACRL also developed professional development opportunities for the ACRL/ALA/ARL/PLA Cultural Proficiencies for Racial Equity: A Framework; awarded subsidized RoadShows; and included questions on accessibility as a special section on the 2024 ACRL Academic Library Trends and Statistics Survey as part of our support of EDI.

The ACRL awards' program pause was lifted and the ACRL Awards Coordinating Committee was established to provide leadership and oversight for the ACRL awards program. The committee will work closely with the ACRL awards' committees to adopt new policies and procedures to ensure increased equity and cohesiveness for the program. It is expected that nominations will be collected, and awards will be issued in 2025–2026.

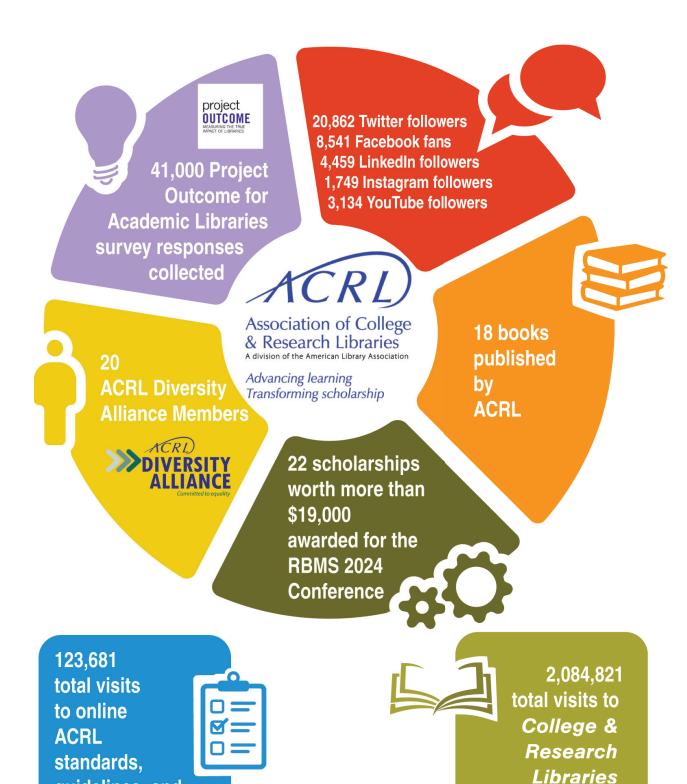
ACRL celebrated the fifth anniversary of Project Outcome for Academic Libraries, which is a free online toolkit designed to help academic libraries understand and share the impact of essential library programs and services. ACRL and Core laid the groundwork for the re-launch of ACRL/Core Academic Library Facilities Survey, which opened in September 2024. For ACRL Benchmark: Library Metrics and Trends, the division continues to explore new opportunities, partnerships, and ways that the survey can fill the

Message from the Interim Executive Director

anticipated gap due to the proposed elimination of the Academic Libraries component from the IPEDs survey.

ALA, ACRL, and the profession are at a place of much change and some uncertainty. While change can be uncomfortable, I see the organization and profession at a crossroads that can, and will, lead to new opportunities, increased collaborations, and creative endeavors. I believe this will happen through championing our achievements, expanding our successes and reimagining an organization that best fits the needs of the current and future academic and research library profession. I'm hopeful for the years to come and can't wait to see the amazing accomplishments that I know will take place in the coming years.

By the Numbers



C&RL News

guidelines, and

frameworks

online

ACRL Bylaws Revisions

Five proposed amendments to the ACRL Bylaws were adopted by the ACRL membership in the spring 2024 ALA/ACRL election. The revisions align the ACRL Bylaws with current ALA and ACRL policies along with defining action for special elections:

- Article VII Budget and Finance Committee Chair: Revised to reflect current Board-approved term length of up to ten consecutive appointed years on the Budget and Finance Committee and five consecutive years on the Board.
- Article IX Board of Directors, Section 5: Removed references to "Midwinter" and replaced language to reflect quarterly meetings. Revised language regarding "virtual meetings."
- Article XI Nominations, Section 1: Added language to reflect Leadership Recruitment and Nomination Committee (LRNC) actions for special elections.
- Article XIII Elections, Section 2: Added language in a new sub-section regarding special election actions for Vice-President/President-Elect and Councilor positions.
- Article XVIII Mail and Electronic Votes, Sections 1, 2, and 3: Updated language to align with ALA's policy/protocol regarding mail ballots for membership votes.

ACRL's Plan for Excellence

This report highlights ACRL's many accomplishments during the 2023–24 fiscal year across the five strategic goal areas highlighted in the Plan for Excellence—the value of academic libraries; student learning; research and scholarly environment; new roles and changing landscapes; and equity, diversity, and inclusion—along with the association's enabling programs and services.

The Value of Academic Libraries

ACRL made significant progress on the association's goal of assisting academic libraries in demonstrating alignment with, and impact on, institutional outcomes this year. The association provides support and training to ACRL liaisons to other higher education organizations and disciplinary societies so that they are prepared to talk about the value of academic libraries in those contexts.

Project Outcome for Academic Libraries continues to be a vital part of the association's Value initiatives. Based on a model developed by the Public Library Association



(PLA), this free toolkit is designed to help academic libraries understand and share the impact of essential library programs and services by providing simple surveys and an easy-to-use process for measuring and analyzing outcomes. The standardized surveys allow libraries to aggregate their outcome data and analyze trends by topic and program type. This winter, ACRL published the fiscal year 2023 report for the Project Outcome for Academic Libraries toolkit. Data in this report includes all immediate and follow-up surveys and responses from institutions in the United States and covers the period September 1, 2022 – August 31, 2023.

This year, Project Outcome for Academic Libraries published a new toolkit resource Accessibility and Project Outcome, created through grant funding from the ALA Public Programs Office. ACRL also worked with our technical partner, Community Attributes, to ensure that the toolkit remains accessible to both users and survey participants, including improvements to make the Project Outcome surveys and toolkit easier to use with a screen reader to benefit those who are blind or have low vision.

ACRL and PLA held a free webcast in December 2023 to discuss how the data and assessment products Project Outcome and Benchmark can help groups, consortia, or state library administrative agency. As of August 2024, Project Outcome for Academic Libraries 5,692 users and 850 academic libraries have created surveys and collected more than 225,000 responses.

ACRL's Standards for Libraries in Higher Education (SLHE), another important component of the Value of Academic Libraries work, has been visited more than 9,500 times this year. At the request of the ACRL Board of Directors, the VAL Committee began

the process of reviewing and revising the Standards for Libraries in Higher Education. The review and revision process is scheduled for completion in June 2025.

The virtual workshops "Putting the Standards for Libraries in Higher Education into Action" and "Assessment in Action: Demonstrating and Communicating Library Contributions to Student Learning and Success" continue to help academic library professionals tackle value and assessment issues facing the profession today.

Developed by a joint task force comprised of members from the VAL and New Roles and Changing Landscapes Committees, the ACRL Academic Library Advocacy Toolkit is a curated collection of resources that can help equip academic library administrators and library professionals with the resources they need to advocate for the value, roles, and contributions of academic libraries to their campus communities. The toolkit has garnered more than 6,500 views this year.

The Learning Analytics Toolkit, a freely available professional development resource developed by the VAL Committee, provides an avenue for library professionals to learn more about learning analytics and how they intersect with academic libraries. There have been more than 1,300 visits to the toolkit during the fiscal year.

National Center for Education Statistics Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System/ACRL Benchmark

The ACRL Academic Library Trends and Statistics Survey System (IPEDS) Academic Library Component and makes the results available through ACRL Benchmark: Library Matrice and Trends. The 2023 survey closed on April 8, 2024. 1,435



institutions completed the 2023 survey for a 43% response rate, and the survey data, including trends data on equity, diversity, and inclusion, is expected to be published in summer 2024. The survey also enabled participants to easily transfer their IPEDS responses to the institutional keyholder for the IPEDS survey. ACRL joined ALA, the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), and the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (ASERL) in a comment objecting to the proposed elimination of the Academic Libraries component from IPEDS, the interrelated surveys conducted each year by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES).

December 2024 C&RL News

Student Learning

The following activities are examples of ways ACRL moved towards meeting the association's goal of assisting librarians in transforming student learning, pedagogy, and instructional practices through creative and innovative collaborations during my term. The ACRL Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education has introduced a new way of thinking and practicing to the academic library community and continues to bring both inspiration and challenge to librarians as they explore new directions in information literacy practice and research.

Based on the ACRL Framework, the Threshold Achievement Test for Information Literacy (TATIL), is a simple, easy-to-use standardized test that measures the achievement of the information literacy education



the achievement of the information literacy education THRESHOLD ACHIEVEMENT outcomes, regardless of a student's major or research focus, across four modules which address learning across all the frames. TATIL reports help educators identify student areas of strength and areas that need improvement, supporting evidence-based decision-making and inform actions for strengthening student outcomes. Following a redesign and rebuilding period, TATIL relaunched under the ACRL brand in summer 2023. As of August 2024, TATIL has been used by 21 schools to administer 111 tests and collected 17,078 responses.

A free ACRL Presents webinar on TATIL was presented in June 2024 to demonstrate how the tool can help facilitate conversations throughout the profession about what information literacy means to students today and into the future.

The ACRL Framework Sandbox, an openly accessible platform and repository for librarians and their educational partners to discover, share, collect and use ongoing work related to the ACRL Framework in practice and professional development, was visited more than 60,000 times this fiscal year. The Framework itself was viewed more than 96,500 times this year.

At the request of the ACRL Board of Directors, the Student Learning and Information Literacy Committee and Instruction Section began collaborating to review and revise the ACRL Framework for Information Literacy this year. The review and revision process is scheduled for completion in June 2025.

ACRL published a number of books including *Information Literacy and Social Media: Empowered Student Engagement with the ACRL Framework, Spatial Literacy in Public Health: Faculty-Librarian Teaching Collaborations, Unframing the Visual: Visual Literacy Pedagogy in Academic Libraries and Information Spaces, and Universal Design for Learning in Academic Libraries: Theory into Practice related to student learning and information literacy issues this year.*

A variety of Online Learning offerings focused on student learning and information literacy topics were presented this year, including "Exploring AI with Critical Information Literacy;" "Developing Signature Pedagogies;" "Transforming Information Literacy Instruction through the Lens of Our Instructional Identities" (three-part series); "Building an Information Literacy Micro-Course in Six Weeks;" and "Making Connections: Strategies for effective, engaging one-shot library lessons." The virtual workshop "Engaging with the ACRL Framework: A Catalyst for Exploring and Expanding Our Teaching Practices" continues to help academic library professionals tackle student learning-related issues facing the profession today.

Perspectives on the Framework, a column focusing on the Framework and edited by the Student Learning and Information Literacy Committee, continues to appear bimonthly in *C&RL News*. Column topics this year have included "It's not just us: Sharing the ACRL Framework with writing tutors," "Where does ChatGPT fit into the Framework for Information Literacy? The possibilities and problems of AI in library instruction," "Six frames, four moves, one habit: Finding ACRL's Framework within SIFT," "Pairing Texts and Podcasts: Teaching Scholarship as Conversation in First-Year Seminar," "Teacher Education and Information Literacy: Introducing the Instruction for Educators Companion Document," and "Incompatible with the Framework: State Laws Targeting DEI, LGBTQIA2s+, and CRT."

Information Literacy Immersion Program

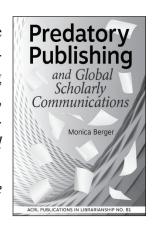
The ACRL Immersion Program has been on hiatus since March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Over the past four years, however, the Immersion facilitator team has stayed connected and collaborative. As part of this process, the facilitators launched a five-part blog series, "Discussing the Four Pillars of Immersion," in April 2024 on ACRLog. The series delves into information literacy, the educational role of librarians, leadership, and critical reflection, sparking conversation and reconnection with these core tenets of Immersion. The program is relaunching in next fiscal year with the 2025 Immersion Program, to be held July 23–25, 2025, in Chicago, along with a new regional Immersion in a Box program.

Research and Scholarly Environment

ACRL's scholarly communication program actively promotes a commitment to the greater good through the transition to a more open system of scholarship.

The free, virtual ACRL/SPARC Forum "Editorial Board Resignations to Align Journals with Community over Commercialization" was held in October 2023. This ACRL/SPARC Forum featured a discussion among representatives from editorial boards that have recently resigned in protest over publisher policies. As a lead-in to International Open Access Week, the forum provided important context for this year's theme of "Community over Commercialization" and examples of researchers using their power to better align a community's journals with that community's interests.

Articles on scholarly communication issues and trends edited by the Research and Scholarly Environment Committee (ReSEC) for publication in *C&RL News* continue play an important role in disseminating a body of knowledge for the field. ACRL also published four books, *Digital Humanities in the Library, Second Edition; Predatory Publishing and Global Scholarly Communications; Rethinking Institutional Repositories: Innovations in Management, Collections, and Inclusion, and Scholarly Communication Librarianship and Open Knowledge on scholarly communication-related topics this year.*



The Scholarly Communication Toolkit, developed and maintained by ReSEC, continues to provide content and context on a broad range of scholarly communications topics and offers resources and tools for the practitioner. The freely available toolkit features sections on topics such as fair use, public access mandates, and library publishing in addition to more fully developed sections on open access publishing and repositories. The toolkit has been visited more than 16,500 times this year.

The ACRL Scholarly Communication Discussion Group and Scholcomm discussion list continue to be important venues for strengthening the association's role in supporting new models of scholarly communication.

New Roles and Changing Landscapes

The New Roles and Changing Landscapes (NRCL) goal focuses on assisting the academic and research library workforce in effectively navigating change in higher education environments.

The NRCL Committee User Experience subcommittee, working with the Value of Academic Libraries (VAL) Committee, held a Trend Talk in April 2024. Building on the success of their initial collaborative Trend Talk in June 2023, the session discussed how to use the ACRL Academic Library Advocacy Toolkit created by the committees last fiscal year.

At the request of the ACRL Board of Directors, the NRCL Committee is additionally working with the VAL Committee to review and update six ACRL documents related to the status of academic librarians—Joint Statement on Faculty Status of College and University Librarians; Statement on the Certification and Licensing of Academic Librarians; Statement on the Terminal Professional Degree for Academic Librarian; Standard for the Appointment, Promotion, and Tenure of Academic Librarians; Standards for Academic Librarians without Faculty Status; and Standards for Faculty for Academic Libraries.

The ACRL books *Critical Library Leadership: Managing Self and Others in Today's Academic Library, Toward Inclusive Academic Librarian Hiring Practices,* and *Toxic Dynamics: Disrupting, Dismantling, and Transforming Academic Library Culture* related to the changing landscape of academic and research librarianship were published this year. The virtual workshop "Open Educational Resources and Affordability" continues to help academic library professionals interested in learning about OER and/or developing OER initiatives.

ACRL Consulting Services

Delivered by a knowledgeable, experienced team of consultants, ACRL Consulting Services works with libraries to design and assist with library reviews and planning activities, organizational change and development initiatives, staff retreats, and campus collaborations. In June 2024, Ari Zickau joined the ACRL staff as program manager for consulting and professional development to develop and expand the Consulting Services program, along with the ACRL RoadShows.

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

As the higher education association for librarians, ACRL is dedicated to creating diverse and inclusive communities in the association and in academic and research libraries. This core commitment permeates the work of the association, cutting across all ACRL sections, committees, interest and discussion groups, and communities of practice by acknowledging and addressing historical racial inequities; challenging oppressive systems within academic libraries; valuing different ways of knowing; and identifying and working to eliminate barriers to equitable services, spaces, resources, and scholarship. This commitment permeated all aspects of the association during my term in office.

This year, the ACRL Board of Directors approved funding for one year of ALA and ACRL membership for up to 25 library workers who identify as Black, Indigenous, and/or People of Color (BIPOC) and 15 library workers who identify as persons with disabilities. This membership amounts to annual savings ranging from \$106 to \$236 per membership for the recipient. Funding for the memberships will be provided for two years (July 2024 – June 2026). The ACRL EDI Committee will request an additional year of funding from the ACRL Board for recipients interested in continuing for a second year.

As part of ACRL's commitment to supporting institutions serving diverse communities, the association offered subsidized RoadShows to Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribal Colleges or Universities, and other minority-serving institutions this fiscal year. Through a cost-sharing model, ACRL covers the majority of the workshop expenses, requiring only a minimal contribution of \$2,000 from successful host institutions.

ACRL published three books—Supporting Student Parents in the Academic Library: Designing Spaces, Policies, and Services; Toward Inclusive Academic Librarian Hiring Practices; and Toxic Dynamics: Disrupting, Dismantling, and Transforming Academic Library Culture—on EDI-related topics this year. The Academic Library Workers in Conversation column in C&RL News moved to a monthly format starting in January 2024. The column focuses on minimizing barriers to traditional publishing with an accessible format through the sharing of conversations about transforming libraries with ideas from the frontlines, often focusing on EDI-related topics.

A free ACRL Presents webinar, "Cultural Proficiencies for Racial Equity Framework," was held in February 2024 and four-part webcast series exploring the CPRE Framework

and its practical applications in libraries was presented in April 2024. ACRL also offered the Online Learning webcast "Exploring AI with Critical Information Literacy" this year.

The ACRL Dr. E.J. Josey Spectrum Scholar Mentor Program paired five ALA Spectrum Scholars interested in careers in academic librarianship with ACRL members to mentor them this year. The program has matched more than 200 pairs of mentors and Scholars since its establishment in 2003.

The ACRL Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion LibGuide contains a wealth of information on ways ACRL has implemented the association's Core Commitment, including the ACRL Diversity Alliance; standards and guidelines; information on conference and online learning programming; links to books, articles, and other publications focusing on EDI topics; a calendar of association activities; and suggestions on ways the community can get involved in this important work.

"ACRL places a strong emphasis on promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion within the library profession. By actively advocating for equitable access to information and resources, ACRL strives to create inclusive library environments that serve the diverse needs of all users. This commitment to social justice aligns with the core values of libraries as democratic institutions and contributes to the overall betterment of society."



- Alyse Jordan, ACRL Member of the Week

ACRL Diversity Alliance

The ACRL Diversity Alliance unites academic libraries who share a commitment to increase the hiring pipeline of qualified, talented individuals from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups. The ACRL Diversity Alliance grew out of an initiative led by founding members American University, the University of Iowa, Virginia Tech, and West Virginia University. At the beginning of the fiscal year, the ACRL Diversity Alliance moved from management by an ACRL Task Force to an ACRL division-level committee. The committee hosted an open conversation for all DA institutional coordinators on April 16, 2024, as part of its focus on rebuilding community among alliance members.

Enabling Programs and Services

In addition to the five Plan for Excellence goal areas, ACRL serves its members, along with the academic and research library community, through a wide variety of programs and services. Highlights of the regularly recurring operations relevant to the ability of ACRL to lead academic and research librarians and libraries in advancing learning and scholarship are reported below.

Member Engagement

ACRL's membership activities build on retaining core membership while recruiting from new and diverse communities. At the end of the fiscal year, ACRL had 7,959 members. The association continues to look for ways to partner with ALA to enhance member recruitment and retention efforts.

ACRL sections offer 15 vibrant and dynamic communities that nurture individual development and foster a deeper connection to the profession. Sections continue to offer successful mentoring opportunities along with programming and social events to create community among new and continuing members. In addition, ACRL's 13 interest groups address emerging areas of interest in academic librarianship and our 18 discussion groups provide avenues for members to connect around issues through informal networks for exchanging ideas and problem-solving.

ACRL's social media presence continues to grow to provide membership with a variety of avenues to connect with colleagues and the association. The association held a virtual orientation session this summer for incoming leaders and offered a webcast to help members volunteer for ACRL committees. A number of ACRL committees, interest groups, discussion groups, sections, and the Board of Directors are working virtually and taking advantage of ALA Connect and other virtual meeting systems to keep the work of the association moving forward year-round.

ACRL Committee Members 2023–24

The association is pleased to acknowledge the ACRL leaders and volunteers who have worked hard to move the profession and the association forward in 2023–24. ACRL could not accomplish as much as it does without the passionate commitment and expertise of its volunteers. Thanks to all the member volunteers for their service.



"My favorite thing about ACRL is the communities of practice, especially as a librarian fairly new to the field. I've learned a lot by connecting with people through ACRL and through its many publications that I always look forward to. The people that make up this organization are passionate about the open exchange of ideas and information, advocacy, and collaboration, which is inspiring to me both professionally and personally."

– Jaycee Chapman, ACRL Member of the Week

Awards

Since 1923, the ACRL Awards Program has recognized and honored the professional contributions and achievements of academic libraries and librarians. This special recognition by ACRL enhances the sense of personal growth and accomplishment of our members, provides our membership with role models, and strengthens the image of our membership in the eyes of employers, leadership, and the academic community.

The ACRL Awards Process Implementation Task Force has completed its work and the ACRL Board of Directors approved the task force's recommendations at their January 26, 2024, virtual meeting. Included in the approved recommendations was the establishment of the ACRL Awards Coordinating Committee, lifting of the awards pause, ending cash awards, and aligning awards policies and procedures to ACRL's Core Commitment to Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. These recommendations included that, during the 2024–2025 program year, each awards committee be charged with reviewing the description, selection criteria, and selection process for the award(s) it juries.

Publications

Monographs

ACRL's monograph publishing program was very active during 2023–24, releasing 18 new books. Titles focused on information literacy, scholarly communication, digital humanities, inclusive hiring, critical library leadership, empathy driven marketing, and more. A complete list of titles is available in the table on page 510.

Samantha H. Peter, chair of research and instruction and instructional design librarian at the University of Wyoming Libraries, was named the next editor of ACRL's Publications in Librarianship (PIL) book series. Peter began serving a three-year

term July 1,2024, succeeding Mark E. Shelton, director of library services at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts, as PIL editor.

The full back catalog of ACRL monograph publications is available in a variety of formats through the ALA Store and Amazon. E-books of ACRL monograph titles are also available for purchase by libraries through EBSCO and ProQuest.



Serials

ACRL continues to make enhancements to the online versions of ACRL's *College & Research Libraries* (*C&RL*), *College & Research Libraries News* (*C&RL News*), and *RBM: A Journal of Rare Books, Manuscripts, and Cultural Heritage* in the Open Journal Systems (OJS) platform.

Michelle Demeter, head of instruction and undergraduate services at New York University, was appointed to the post of editor for *C&RL*. Demeter began serving as editor-designate for the journal on July 1, 2024, and will begin an initial three-year term as editor on July 1, 2025, succeeding Kristen Totleben, open publishing librarian at the University of Rochester, as editor.

A special issue of *C&RL* published in January 2024 spotlighted new research advancing the priority areas established by ACRL's 2019 research agenda "Open and Equitable Scholarly Communications."

"I value the exchange of information from ACRL. There's always an item that piques my interest in the ACRL Update emails and listserv digest, whether it's a fascinating piece about slow librarianship, a professional development webinar, or a new publication on scholarly communication. I continuously learn something new when reading articles in C&RL News. Overall, ACRL is a great benefit to new, midcareer, and veteran academic librarians alike, and membership in ACRL has made me a well-informed and open-minded librarian."

Chelsee Dickson,
 ACRL Member of the Week



ALA JobLIST

ALA JobLIST is the online career center for job seekers and employers in library and information science and technology run cooperatively by ACRL's *C&RL News* and ALA's *American Libraries* magazines. Job ad volume in 2023–24 was significantly cooler than the previous two record-setting years, falling by 25% to a historically moderate level.

Staff continue to work with JobLIST's platform provider to develop improvements to the service to serve job seekers and employers well in any hiring environment, including the implementation of a more efficient ad viewing interface. Following years of productive discussions with the provider, an ACRL staff member was invited to join a new customer advisory board to offer direct feedback and ideas to the platform's product development team.

By providing employers with an effective, competitively priced means of reaching the most qualified and engaged candidates in the profession with their opportunities, revenue earned by ALA JobLIST helps to fund programs and initiatives throughout ACRL and ALA, including a direct contribution to the ALA Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment (HRDR) in support of the ALA JobLIST Placement and Career Development Center at the ALA Annual Conference and ACRL conference.

CHOICE

Choice continues to provide the academic library community with recommendations on what to read, what to collect, and how to navigate the constantly changing information technology landscape. In FY24, Choice concentrated on understanding AI in higher education and reworking its Toward Inclusive Excellence blog offerings.

After three years at the helm, Alexia Hudson-Ward, the editor in chief of Toward Inclusive Excellence (TIE), Choice's equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) channel, decided to step down. Although her vision and hard work is very much missed, Choice editor Fatima Mohie-Eldin stepped in, focusing on recruiting new writers for the blog and developing resources that help academic librarians diversify their collections. TIE has a roster of four regular contributors including Sam Berry-Sullivan (reference librarian at Gannett Library, Utica University), Brea McQueen (student success librarian, Rentschler Library, Miami University), Jamia Williams (consumer health program specialist with the Network of the National Library of Medicine Training Office), and Ashleigh Coren (a content strategist, educator, and curator based in the Washington, D.C. area).

This past year has been a period of rapid growth for LibTech Insights (LTI), Choice's library technology blog. Choice editor Daniel Pfeiffer manages this content vertical and has developed a vision that provides a multimedia look at technology trends in higher education. Choice began working with Gary Price of InfoDOCKET and ARL Day in Review to develop content that empowers academic librarians in the face of rapidly changing technology needs in higher education.

The Beyond the Job Title series cuts through the jargon of library job postings and speaks directly to the skills and expectations of positions. Choice additionally published a whitepaper on AI literacy, "Building an AI Literacy Framework: Perspectives from Instruction Librarians and Current Information Literacy Tools," researched and written by Sandy Hervieux Amanda Wheatley, both librarians at McGill University.

2024 marked the sixtieth anniversary of Choice and the unit has used this opportunity to take a moment to reflect on how Choice (and the higher education landscape) has changed since 1964. It was also a sad year for Choice as the decision was made to shut down Choice Reviews on Cards, first published in 1968 due to a rapid decrease in subscriptions during the COVID-19 pandemic. Choice is looking to the future with a new project: reviewing AI products for higher education. Knowledge about AI on campus should be centered in the library and Choice working hard to provide resources for librarians to assess generative AI tools.

Choice's reviews, which include *Choice* magazine (print), Choice Reviews (digital), Resources for College Libraries (RCL), and licensing business brought in more than 70% of Choice's revenue in FY24. The remaining 30% came from webinars and other sponsored content advertising vehicles, including newsletters, eblasts, whitepapers, and case studies. Although business has diversified, Choice is still very much committed to bibliography and collection development, producing content verticals centered in providing actionable advice for academic librarians across an array of subjects. These editorial products, combined with Choice's innovative sponsorship packages, have put the unit on track to contribute \$181,000 to the ALA general fund in FY24.

Reports, Papers, Online Publications

The ACRL Research Planning and Review Committee is responsible for creating and updating a continuous and dynamic environmental scan for the association that encompasses trends in academic librarianship, higher education, and the broader environment. As a part of this effort, the committee develops a list of the top trends that are affecting academic libraries now and in the near future. The 2024 Top Trends in Academic Libraries appeared in the June 2024 issue of *C&RL News*.

Keeping Up With..., ACRL's online current awareness publication series, continued issuing concise briefs on trends in academic librarianship and higher education. Each edition focuses on a single issue including an introduction to the topic and summaries of key points, including implications for academic libraries. The series' offerings this year included information on Cultural Heritage Crowdsourcing, Peer Tutoring, Predatory Publishing, Primary Source Literacy, Slow Librarianship, Burnout, and Appreciative Inquiry, along with highlighting ACRL activities.

ACRL Publications

New ACRL Books in 2023-24

- Comic Books, Special Collections, and the Academic Library
- Creators in the Academic Library (two volume set)
- Critical Library Leadership: Managing Self and Others in Today's Academic Library
- Digital Humanities in the Library, Second Edition
- Empathy by Design: Empathy-Driven Marketing for Libraries
- Everyday Evidence-Based Practice in Academic Libraries: Case Studies and Reflections
- Information Literacy and Social Media: Empowered Student Engagement with the ACRL Framework
- Predatory Publishing and Global Scholarly Communications
- Practicing Privacy Literacy in Academic Libraries
- Rethinking Institutional Repositories: Innovations in Management, Collections, and Inclusion
- Scholarly Communication Librarianship and Open Knowledge
- Spatial Literacy in Public Health: Faculty-Librarian Teaching Collaborations
- Supporting Student Parents in the Academic Library: Designing Spaces, Policies, and Services
- Toward Inclusive Academic Librarian Hiring Practices
- Toxic Dynamics: Disrupting, Dismantling, and Transforming Academic Library Culture
- Unframing the Visual: Visual Literacy Pedagogy in Academic Libraries and Information Spaces
- Universal Design for Learning in Academic Libraries: Theory into Practice

(Publications continued next page)

(Publications continued from previous page)

ACRL Serials

- College & Research Libraries (https://crl.acrl.org) The official open access, online-only scholarly research journal of ACRL.
- College & Research Libraries News (https://crln.acrl.org) Publishes articles on the latest trends and practices affecting academic and research libraries and serves as the official newsmagazine and publication of record of ACRL.
- RBM: A Journal of Rare Books, Manuscripts, and Cultural Heritage (https://rbm.acrl.org) ACRL's journal covering issues pertaining to special collections libraries and cultural heritage institutions.

CHOICE Publications

- *Choice* magazine Each monthly issue offers 600 new reviews, a bibliographic essay, and upcoming titles worth knowing.
- *Choice* Reviews on Cards Choice reviews, and just the reviews, on cards.
- Choice Reviews The completely rebuilt Choice Reviews gives subscribers immediate access to a comprehensive archive of nearly 200,000 reviews representing a quarter-century of scholarship.
- Resources for College Libraries Copublished with ProQuest, Resources for College Libraries helps undergraduate institutions identify the essential titles for learning.

Blogs/Online Publications

- ACRL Insider (http://acrl.ala.org/acrlinsider) ACRL Insider keeps the world current and informed on ACRL activities, services, and programs.
- ACRL LibGuides (http://acrl.libguides.com) ACRL LibGuides allow membership units to advance the work of ACRL by providing resources for the profession, such as toolkits and bibliographies.
- ACRLog (http://acrlog.org/) The issues blog of ACRL features posts on current issues in academic and research librarianship from the blog team.
- *Keeping Up With*...(www.ala.org/acrl/publications/keeping_up_with) Online current awareness publication featuring concise briefs on trends in academic librarianship and higher education.

ACRL Social Media

- Facebook (www.facebook.com/ala.acrl)
- Instagram (www.instagram.com/ala_acrl)
- LinkedIn (www.linkedin.com/company/alaacrl/)
- Threads (www.threads.net/@ala_acrl)
- Twitter/X (www.twitter.com/ALA_ACRL)
- YouTube (www.youtube.com/user/ALAACRL/)

Standards, Guidelines, and Frameworks

The development of standards and guidelines for all areas of academic and research librarianship is a core service of ACRL. These standards, guidelines, and frameworks are a key ACRL contribution to the profession. The ACRL Board of Directors approved a new Companion Document to the ACRL Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education: Instruction for Educators along with new Competencies for Academic Library Outreach Work this year. The Board also approved revised Guidelines for Loans of Special Collections Materials for Exhibitions and Resource Sharing, Guidelines Regarding the Security of Special Collections Materials, and Proficiencies for Assessment in Academic Libraries.

Education

ACRL continues to offer a wide range of professional development programs and events to meet the needs of today's academic and research librarians.

ACRL Conference

The ACRL 2025 Conference will be held April 2–5, 2025, in Minneapolis and online. Themed Democratizing Knowledge, Access, and Opportunities, ACRL 2025 will be a platform to engage in critical conversations and explore solutions-centered approaches to the challenges facing our profession, focusing on themes like embedded bias, inclusive excellence, and the role of technology. The conference is planned as a hybrid event with live-stream sessions, as well as in-person and virtual-only programs.

Ruha Benjamin, professor of African American Studies at Princeton University, will be the conference opening keynote speaker. Author of the award-winning book *Race After Technology: Abolitionist Tools for the New Jim Code* and recipient of a 2024 MacArthur Fellowship, her work investigates the social dimensions of science, medicine and technology with a focus on the relationship between innovation and inequity, health and justice, knowledge and power. Poet and literary activist Saeed Jones will serve as the closing keynote speaker. An essential author, Jones has shaped his platform into a tool for social awareness, breakthroughs and connections with his no-holds-barred personality and unforgettable voice. His most recent collection, *Alive at the End of the World*, was published in 2022 and awarded the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award for Poetry. Conference registration opened in November 2024.

ACRL @ ALA Conferences

The ACRL President's Program at the 2024 ALA Annual Conference, "Workplace Belonging Matters: Key Insights for Library Professionals" featured professor Terrell

Strayhorn, one of the foremost authorities on sense of belonging in living, learning, and workspaces emphasizing the significance of building community, strengthening relationships, and fostering a strong sense of belonging in the workplace. Strahorn explored how libraries can create an inclusive environment where all employees feel valued, respected, and connected, drawing insights from his newest book, *Workplace Belonging*.

ACRL sponsored an additional 15 section, committee, and individual programs at the conference on topics such as artificial intelligence. inclusive scholarly publishing; equitable access for blind, visually impaired, and print-disabled students; LibParlor; setting boundaries in the workplace; challenges to humanities librarianship; and more.

RBMS Conference

The RBMS 2024 Conference, "Momentum," was held June 25–28, 2024, in Costa Mesa, California, and virtually. The conference featured an immersive exploration of how we can leverage the invaluable lessons, experiences, and progress of the past three years to propel our profession towards greater equity, diversity, inclusivity, and community engagement. RBMS 2024 delved into critical questions: How do we reignite and sustain vital initiatives in both physical and virtual realms? How can we maintain momentum in a landscape where change often comes in small steps? Attendees discovered the keys to fostering and sustaining momentum in collaborative partnerships with fellow librarians, special collections experts, booksellers, and museum curators. More than 400 in-person and virtual registrants, along with nearly 50 bookseller companies, participated in the conference.

RoadShows

The ACRL RoadShow program brings high quality workshops directly to campuses covering a wide range of topics that help academic librarians tackle the greatest issues facing the profession today. Following a hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, ACRL's traveling RoadShow workshops are beginning to resume, along with the ongoing Off RoadShow virtual experiences. In-Person RoadShows include "Assessment in Action," "Engaging with the ACRL Framework," "OER and Affordability Research Data Management," "Scholarly Communication," and "Standards for Libraries in Higher Education." Off-RoadShow online experiences feature "Building Your Research Data Management Toolkit," "Engaging with the ACRL Framework," "OER and Affordability," and "Putting the Standards for Libraries in Higher Education into Action."

Online Learning

The ACRL Online Learning program offered 20 total events consisting of 4 webcasts, 3 multi-part webcast series, and 6 multi-week courses this year on a variety of topics including AI, signature pedagogies, transforming information literacy instruction, one shot lessons, digital preservation, building an information literacy micro-course, and more. More than 800 attendees participated in our Online Learning events this year.

ACRL Presents ... Webcasts

The ACRL Presents... program offers free occasional webcasts on issues of broad interest and importance to the academic and research library community. ACRL Presents... webcasts offered this year included "Cultural Proficiencies for Racial Equity Framework" (January 2024), "Youth Services to Academia – Transitioning Positions within Librarianship" (March 2024) "Voices from the Stacks: Lived Experiences of Library Folks with Disabilities" (June 2024), and "The Threshold Achievement Test for Information Literacy (TATIL)" (June 2024).

ACRL-Choice Webinars

The ACRL-Choice webinar program provides a venue for publishers, library vendors, and education technology companies to speak directly to the Choice audience. In FY24, Choice hosted 37 programs (up from 27 programs in FY23) and had an average registration of 1,193 (up from 852 in FY23). The webinar that saw the most registrations this year was Toward Inclusive Excellence's "Inclusive and Ethical AI for Academic Libraries" in December 2023, with a registration of 3,292. Other popular offerings included Elsevier's "Unlocking Insights with Generative AI: How to Enhance Research Efficiency in the Library" with 2,615 registrants, Springer Nature's "Research Integrity and AI: Navigating Challenges and Leveraging Potential" with 2,484 registrants, and LibTech Insights' "CLEARer Dialogues with AI: Unpacking Prompt Engineering for Librarians" with 2,437 registrants.



"When I was still in library school, I received a scholarship to attend an RBMS conference, which was so informative and engaging. In the years since I've been a full-fledged librarian, ACRL has given me opportunities for committee and interest group membership and leadership, professional development, presenting at conferences, and publishing. All these opportunities have been and continue to be valuable for my learning and engagement in the field, and for the chance to meet and work with other librarians"

– Jessica Epstein, ACRL Member of the Week

Scholarships

Knowing that professional development is essential to the success of academic and research librarians, the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section (RBMS) awarded 22 scholarships for the RBMS 2024 Conference worth more than \$19,000.

ACRL Speaks Out

Continuing the association's focus on advocacy, ACRL aims to increase its communication on major trends and issues in libraries and increase its influence in public policy affecting higher education.

Legislative Advocacy

Public policy issues affecting higher education remain an essential focus of ACRL. We acted on this focus in a number of ways this year.

Each year, the ACRL Government Relations Committee, in consultation with the ACRL Board of Directors and staff, formulates an ACRL Legislative Agenda. Drafted with input from key ACRL committees, ACRL leaders, and the ALA Public Policy and Advocacy Office, the ACRL Legislative Agenda focuses on issues at the national level affecting the welfare of academic and research libraries. The 2024–25 ACRL Legislative Agenda focuses on five issues that will be the focus of ACRL's advocacy efforts, listed in priority order, Upholding Intellectual Freedom, Federal Funding for Libraries, Net Neutrality, Safety and Security of Artificial Intelligence, Open Access to Federally Funded Research, and the Affordable College Textbook Act

The agenda also includes a watch list of policy issues of great concern to academic librarians. The 2024–25 watchlist includes Proposed Elimination of the IPEDS Academic Libraries Survey, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA)/Immigration Issues, Environmental Impact of Data Centers and Emerging Technologies, Consumer Data Privacy, Accessible Instructional Materials, and Pending Cases.

In May 2024, ACRL joined the ALA, Association of Research Libraries (ARL), and Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (ASERL) in a comment objecting to the proposed elimination of the Academic Libraries component from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), the interrelated surveys conducted each year by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). The associations strongly object to the elimination of academic library data from IPEDS, believing it is essential to understanding the value of libraries and their contributions to the mission of higher education.



"ACRL holds significant value in my academic librarian role, providing exceptional opportunities for professional development, grants, recognition, and advocacy to help me excel in my mission to serve students and faculty. ACRL plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of academic libraries and higher education."

Lorely Ambriz, ACRL Member of the Week

Partnerships with Higher Education

ACRL continues to work with higher education associations to strengthen both partnerships and the profession. The association maintains liaison relationships with a number of higher education associations through the Liaisons Assembly. ACRL currently has liaison relationships with the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), American Association of Community Colleges (AACC), American Sociological Association (ASA), Council of Independent Colleges (CIC), Modern Language Association (MLA), International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), National Resource Center for the First-Year Experience (NRC-FYEST), National Women's Studies Association (NWSA), and more.

Organizational Effectiveness and Vitality

ACRL sustains the fiscal resources, staff expertise, and organizational structure necessary to advance the association's Plan for Excellence.

ACRL Staff

Ari Zickau was hired as ACRL's new program manager for consulting and professional development this year, leading and managing both ACRL's Consulting Services and RoadShow licensed workshops. They oversee ACRL's team of experienced adjunct consultants and work to expand Consulting Services through strategic marketing and outreach. Ari also ensures high-quality professional development for academic and research libraries through ACRL's online and in-person RoadShow program.

Sara Goek rejoined the ACRL staff as project manager, data and research, a position she splits between ACRL and the Public Library Association (PLA). Sara leads key data-related initiatives for both divisions, including the annual surveys, Benchmark tool, and Project Outcome. She also develops related research and training materials.

Program Officer for Member Services Lauren Carlton and Program Coordinator Aleah Price both left the association to pursue other opportunities this year.

Many of you have had phone and email contact with ACRL's staff in Chicago and at the Choice office in Middletown, Connecticut. Take a minute to "meet" ACRL's diverse staff on the association website at www.ala.org/acrl/aboutacrl/staff/contactacrl.

ACRL Board of Directors, 2023—2024



ACRL Board 2023–24 (I to r): (back) Yasmeen L. Shorish, Kara M. Whatley, Jessica Brangiel, Rebecca Miller Waltz, Walter Butler, Joe Mocnik, Tarida Anantachai; (front) Beth McNeil, Erin L. Ellis, Allison Payne. Not pictured: Amy Dye-Reeves, Leo Lo, Mary Mallery.

ACRL Board of Directors, 2023–2024

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Purdue University

Vice-President/President-Elect

Leo Lo

University of New Mexico

Past-President

Erin L. Ellis

Indiana University

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Amy Dye-Reeves

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Mary Mallery

Brooklyn College CUNY

Yasmeen Shorish

James Madison University

Rebecca Miller Waltz

Pennsylvania State University

Financial Report

Joe Mocnik Budget & Finance Committee Chair

Due to the timing of the ALA/ACRL financial closes, our usual budget report for FY24 was not available at press time. ACRL's full FY24 financial report will be added to the ACRL website when data is available, with a notice posted in a future issue of *C&RL News* and on additional ACRL communications channels. Thank you for your patience.



Budget & Finance Committee, 2023–2024

Joe Mocnik, Kansas State University, chair

Tracy Bicknell-Holmes, Boise State University

Jessica J. Boyer, Mount St. Mary's University

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