



Association for Library Collections & Technical Services Annual Report 2005–2006

By Rosann Bazirjian, 2005–2006 ALCTS President

The Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS) is committed to shaping and responding to all matters related to the selection, identification, acquisition, organization, management, retrieval, and preservation of recorded knowledge. ALCTS strives to provide this leadership to its members through education, publication, and collaboration. This year, the division focused its efforts and accomplishments in the following areas: education, collaboration through active involvement in policy formulation, publication, and organization.

Education

Continuing education has been a cornerstone of the services that ALCTS provides to its members. Because of its importance to ALCTS, the Education Committee (Karen Letarte, chair) sponsored an Education Action Summit during the Midwinter Meeting. Members from various division and section committees, the Council of Regional Groups, and other ALCTS leaders attended a half-day summit designed to move the ALCTS continuing education program into a higher gear. Maureen Sullivan facilitated for a thought-provoking afternoon, during which attendees talked about educational needs and the resources required to advance continuing education within ALCTS. We look forward to implementing some of the conclusions that were reached during the meeting.

A number of new workshops were developed and delivered in 2005 and 2006. Among them are:

- Basic Collection Development and Management
- Principles of Controlled Vocabulary and Thesaurus Design, an ALCTS and Library of Congress Workshop
- Metadata Standards and Applications, an ALCTS and Library of Congress Workshop
- Metadata and Digital Library Development, an ALCTS and Library of Congress Workshop
- Digital Project Management for the 21st Century, an ALCTS and Library of Congress Workshop

Continuing workshops include:

- Basic Subject Cataloging Using LCSH, an ALCTS/PCC Workshop

- Rules and Tools for Cataloging Internet Resources, an ALCTS and Library of Congress Workshop
- Web Course: Fundamentals of Acquisitions

Collaboration and Policy Formation

Collaboration and policy formation are key areas for ALCTS. Focusing on policy issues that affect our members is an important service that ALCTS provides. This year we passed two resolutions that address policy. The board passed the "Resolution on the Distribution of Government Information by the Government Printing Office," which encouraged the Government Printing Office to work in close collaboration with the library and information communities to develop efficient and effective mechanisms for the dissemination and preservation of government information in digital form. We also joined the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) and the Association of College and Research Libraries in endorsing the statement "Urgent Action Needed to Preserve Scholarly Electronic Resources," thereby acknowledging the importance of the preservation of electronic journal collections.

We extended a collaborative partnership with ARL in the area of digital preservation. This culminated in an ALCTS Forum on Digital Preservation at the 2006 Annual Conference in New Orleans. In the spirit of collaboration, the ALCTS board approved a new award, the ALCTS Outstanding Collaboration Citation, to encourage improvements and benefits in providing and managing library collaboration between libraries and individuals, vendors, and organizations that work with libraries. It should also be noted that title of the Bowker/Ulrich's Award has been changed to the CSA/Ulrich's Award.

Publications

Under the dynamic leadership of Publications Committee Chair Narda Tafuri, ALCTS produced a record number of publications in 2005/2006. They are:

- *Managing Electronic Resources: Contemporary Problems and Emerging Issues*
- *Preservation Manager's Guide to Cost Analysis*
- *From Catalog to Gateway: Charting a Course for Future Access*
- *Knowledge without Boundaries: Organizing Information for the Future*
- *Community Collaboration and Collections: The Writings of Ross Atkinson*
- *Cataloging Correctly for Kids*, 4th edition

Forthcoming titles include:

- *Copy Cataloging Done Smarter: Using Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) Records in Non-PCC Libraries*
- *LBI Guide to Library Binding*
- *SALSA de Tópicos/Subjects in SALSA: Spanish and Latin American Subject Access*

Web publications include:

- USPPPI (U.S. Periodical Price Index) 2005
- Serials Glossary, 3rd revised edition
- ALCTS@Glance e-mail updates
- Foreign Book Dealers Directory Database
- CRG Speaker's Directory
- Training Catalogers: A Checklist for Managers and Trainers

Mary Beth Weber was appointed as *ALCTS Newsletter Online* (ANO) editor and Nanette Donahue was appointed the assistant editor.

Organization

In addition to the superb work of the Planning Committee (Helen Reed, chair) on a new ALCTS Strategic Plan, a record number of task forces have been created to address new issues. To further the work of the Web Redesign Task Force (Stephanie Schmitt, chair), we created the Evolving Communications Technologies Task Force (John Duke, chair) to employ evolving technology to enhance and facilitate communication. The Task Force on Non-English Access (Beth Picknally Camden, chair) was appointed to examine our role in enabling access to library resources in all languages and scripts and in addressing the needs of users of these materials through the development of library standards and practices. We appointed the ALCTS 50th Anniversary Task Force and the Digital Preservation Task Force. We reviewed the membership of the Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access and created new constituency representation. These new membership groups represent areas, such as the book industry profession and metadata, that have emerged in recent years.

Due to the enormous response and the success of the Sage Support Staff Travel Grants and increased support from Sage, we have increased the number of recipients from three to six.

Overall, ALCTS has had a very busy year. We look forward to the fiftieth anniversary celebration and are planning activities for the 2007 Midwinter Meeting, with our big bash at the 2007 Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. We have moved forward in so many ways—it is an exciting time for ALCTS.