

An ongoing concern of ACRL presidents has been a recognition of the impossibility of actively involving every willing member in the affairs of the division. One of the prime objectives of my term in office has been to facilitate the involvement in division affairs of minorities, women, and others who have not previously had the opportunity to participate. I am satisfied that, to a modest degree, I succeeded in the implementation of this objective.

The president's ceremonial duties this year involved attending the inauguration of President James Brickley at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti; the ACE Conference in Washington, D.C.; and speaking engagements to chapters in Madison, Wisconsin, and St. Louis, Missouri. I am grateful that Beverly Lynch, Connie Dunlap, Richard Olsen, A. P. Marshall, and others were able to help out by absorbing some other ceremonial assignments.

Also, I've called together a committee to evaluate the ACRL executive secretary. The evaluation report is to be presented to the ACRL Directors Board in July. This committee is chaired by Joanne Harrar and the other members are: Richard Ducote, Mel George,

and Avery Williams. I am duly grateful that Dr. Harrar accepted this assignment on top of all her other numerous duties and in spite of the fact that she was just getting used to her new position at the University of Maryland.

Lastly, I hope that I have been able to set the tone for a healthy and meaningful organizational dialogue to start taking place concerning the role and relationship of the division office and the executive secretary with the ACRL Directors Board, the ALA Headquarters, and the ALA Executive Board.

Thank you for electing me your ACRL president. It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve you. And it has been a year of growth and development for me. The year was saddened by the illness and death of Allie Beth Martin. Since it was she who selected the theme "Celebrate!" for our Centennial Conference, it is my hope that the implementation of all of our program plans will be successful enough to serve as a fitting celebration to her spirit.

*Louise Giles*  
President, ACRL

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## Richard Gilman Folsom Library Dedicated



The Richard Gilman Folsom Library at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, New York, was dedicated on May 15, 1976. Named for the recently retired president in recognition of his accomplishments as Rensselaer's twelfth president, the library construction was made possible through a multi-million-dollar enabling gift from Rensselaer alumnus Erik Jonsson. According to James C. Andrews, director of libraries, the design capacities include 500,000 volumes, seating for nearly 900, and 66 private

study rooms. Construction consumed 10,000 cubic yards of reinforced concrete. Energy-saving features include tinted insulating glass windows and recirculation of heat generated by lighting fixtures and equipment. The building was designed by Quinlivan Pierik & Krause, architectural firm, Syracuse, New York. The functional design of this handsome new library building is the result of countless hours of collaboration among Rensselaer's librarians and faculty members.

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