

ACRL's 2017 Awards Program

Honoring outstanding achievements in academic librarianship

Every year, ACRL celebrates the opportunity to honor the outstanding achievements of academic and research librarians across North America. From a community college library's information literacy team that integrated information literacy tutorials and instruction within many key academic and workforce programs on campus, to the science librarian who bridged the gap between science and the humanities by having students use the walls of the science library to draw their final projects, to the consortium library effectively supporting teaching, learning, and research at four different institutions, the innovations of our community have continued to demonstrate the notable impact librarianship has in the academic landscape.

Made possible by generous corporate support, the annual presentation of our prestigious awards, grants, and fellowships to these and other deserving individuals and institutions enables ACRL to honor the very best in academic librarianship. This year, ACRL once again seeks to celebrate and recognize the accomplishments of our peers.

ACRL members are an integral part of our successful awards program. Please consider acknowledging those who have influenced your thinking, your practice, and your growth as an academic or research librarian. We urge you to nominate colleagues whose work you admire, and whose contributions merit recognition by the profession. Your nominations will ensure that the pool of candidates for each award remains both competitive and distinguished.

Complete information about the ACRL awards program, including nomination pro-

cedures, past winners, criteria, and contacts, is available in the "Awards & Scholarships" section of the ACRL website at www.acrl.org. December 2, 2016, is the deadline for most of the awards to be presented in 2017. A brief description of each award is listed below.

Achievement and distinguished service awards

- **Excellence in Academic Libraries Award** (sponsored by YBP Library Services): \$3,000 for each type of library award (college, community college, and university). Recognizes academic libraries that are outstanding in furthering the educational missions of their institutions.

- **Academic/Research Librarian of the Year Award (sponsored by YBP Library Services)**: \$5,000 award. Recognizes an outstanding member of the academic or research library profession.

- **Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Award** (sponsored by ACRL, Association for Library Collections and Technical Services, Library Leadership and Management Association, Library and Information Technology Association): Cash award. Recognizes outstanding achievements (including risk-taking) in the areas of library automation, management, or development and research.

- **Law and Political Science Section Marta Lange/SAGE-CQ Press Award** (sponsored by SAGE-CQ Press): \$1,000 award. Recognizes a librarian who has made distinguished contributions to bibliography

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and information service in law or political science.

- **Miriam Dudley Instruction Librarian Award** (ACRL Instruction Section): \$1,000 award. Recognizes an individual librarian for significant contributions to the advancement of instruction in a college or research library environment.

- **Instruction Section**

Innovation Award (sponsor pending): Honors librarians who have implemented innovative approaches to information literacy at their respective institutions or in their communities.

- **College Libraries Section Innovation in College Librarianship Award** (sponsor pending): Honors librarians who demonstrate a capacity for innovation in working with or serving undergraduates or instructors in the areas of programs, services, and operations; or creating innovations for library colleagues that facilitate their ability to better serve the library's community.

- **Community College Learning Resources Leadership/Library Achievement Awards** (sponsored by EBSCO Information Services): \$750 for each of two awards recognizing outstanding achievement in library programs or leadership.

- **Routledge Distance Learning Librarianship Conference Sponsorship Award** (sponsored by Routledge/Taylor & Francis Group): \$1,200 conference sponsorship award to honor any individual ACRL mem-



Hudson County Community College (HCCC) receiving the 2016 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award. Pictured in foreground: ACRL President Ann Campion Riley and HCCC Associate Dean for College Libraries Carol Van Houten. Pictured in background: Eric Friedman, vice president for academic affairs; Glen Gabert, HCCC president; Patricia Adams, senior collection development manager, YBP Library Services; and Paula P. Pando, vice president for the North Hudson Campus and Student Affairs at HCCC. Photo credit: Jersey Pictures.

ber working in the field of, or contributing to the success of, distance learning librarianship or related library service in higher education.

- **Distinguished Education and Behavioral Sciences Librarian Award:** Honors outstanding contributions to education and behavioral sciences librarianship

through accomplishments and service to the profession.

- **Women & Gender Studies Section Award for Career Achievement:** Recognizes career achievement in the area of women and gender studies librarianship.

- **Women & Gender Studies Section Award for Significant Achievement:** Honors a distinguished academic librarian who has made outstanding contributions to women and gender studies through accomplishments and service to the profession.

- **University Libraries Section Outstanding Professional Development Award** (sponsored by Library Juice Academy): \$1,000 award to recognize librarians, archivists, or curators whose contributions to providing professional development opportunities for librarians have been especially noteworthy or influential.

Research awards and grants

- **WESS-SEES De Gruyter European Librarianship Study Grant** (sponsored by the Walter de Gruyter Foundation for

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experience, including personal safety. This will continue to be a key concern of our academic libraries.

A high proportion of North American universities need to maximize research dollars as well as tuition fee revenues, so our future is also closely connected to our ability to support this increasingly multidisciplinary, global, technology-based enterprise. Shifting resources towards effective research data management and addressing the prohibitive cost of providing access to scholarly content are two big structural challenges that researchers, students, and administrators all want us to solve. Unless we find effective ways to lobby our content providers and legislatures, we will be doing so in an unhelpful copyright and licensing environment.

Such issues should be tackled by consortia, associations, and ad hoc groups working together at the network level. The Internet provides us unprecedented opportunity to seek out new partnerships, local and international, with those who share our values but achieve them in different ways. We will be better placed to excel if we are

a diverse and inclusive profession that has moved beyond the tradition of minimizing our differences and is ready to take its next steps on the difficult but fruitful path to true intercultural competency.

Lastly, in order to hold on to the resources granted to us, we need to communicate our value, which is a critical challenge in a world where information is both too cheap and too expensive at the same time. North American academic libraries have no birth-right to their traditional place at the heart of the academy—though I strongly believe they can continue to earn it.

Conclusion

These insights provided by six librarians represent a snapshot in the world of academic libraries rather than a survey of the field. The similarities and differences enable us to continue an international conversation and reveal areas of needed support and opportunities for collaboration. These insights offer a view from the ground, that exhibit the authors' experiences with academic libraries and their professional engagement. *ZZ*

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Scholarship and Research): €2,500 grant supports research in European studies with an emphasis on librarianship, the book trade, resource documentation, and similar information-science related topics.

Publications

• **Katharine Kyes Leab and Daniel J. Leab Exhibition Catalogue Awards** (sponsored by Katharine Kyes Leab and Daniel J. Leab, *American Book Prices Current*): Recognizes outstanding catalogs published by American or Canadian institutions in conjunction with library exhibitions. Deadline: October 15, 2016.

• **Ilene F. Rockman Instruction Publication of the Year Award** (sponsored by Emerald Group Publishing Limited): \$3,000

to recognize an outstanding publication related to instruction in a library environment published in the last two years.

• **Science and Technology Section Oberly Award for Bibliography in the Agricultural or Natural Sciences:** This biennial award is given in odd-numbered years for the best English-language bibliography in the field of agriculture or a related science.

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We welcome your nominations and look forward to celebrating achievements in academic librarianship in 2017. *ZZ*