



The Top 10 Ways to Get Involved with ACRL

ACRL provides members with meaningful opportunities to become active and to engage with colleagues. Our members give back to the association and gain essential experience in return. ACRL encourages members to form social and professional relationships that last a career and a lifetime. Here's how to get started:

1. Volunteer

Volunteer to Serve on a Committee: ACRL has more than 30 standing committees and task forces to address special projects, issues, and activities. Committees work to fulfill the strategic goals of the association. *Submit a volunteer form to the chair of the Appointments Committee.*

The form is available at www.ala.org/ala/acrl/aboutacrl/resourcesforwork/acrlforms/comvol.pdf

2. Contribute

Contribute to a Section: The 17 ACRL sections help members individualize their membership experience through interest-specific newsletters, electronic discussion lists, specialized programming, preconferences, recognition, and focused activities. *To join a section, submit a volunteer form to the vice-chair of the section.*

The form is available at www.ala.org/ala/acrl/aboutacrl/resourcesforwork/acrlforms/secvol.pdf

3. Join

Tap into ACRL Communities (Virtually and Face-to-Face):

More than 54 discussion groups meet at the ALA Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference to discuss issues, trends, and best practice in all areas of academic and research librarianship. These forums serve as informal networks, where members explore emerging issues, and gain new understanding of challenges, opportunities, and strategies. Members can also join virtual communities by subscribing to section discussion lists. *To get involved, contact a discussion group leader.*

Contact information is available at www.ala.org/ala/acrl/aboutacrl/acrlcomm/discussiongroups.htm.

To join a section list, visit www.ala.org/ala/acrl/aboutacrl/acrlsections/sectionaldiscussion.htm.

4. Attend Conferences

Attend ACRL National Conferences: Discover and explore cutting-edge issues in the field, while interacting with the best and brightest in the community. The biennial ACRL National Conference is the foremost conference dedicated to meeting the interests of academic and research librarians. *Save the date: the 13th National Conference will be held in Baltimore, Maryland, March 29-April 1, 2007 and the 14th National Conference is scheduled for Seattle, March 2009.*

5. Start Learning Online

Start Learning Virtually: Academic and research librarians are interested in advancement and continuous learning, so ACRL offers a wide range of online seminars and conference program Webcasts designed to meet the demands of members' schedules and budgets. *Refer to the "Professional Tools" section of the ACRL Web site for more information at www.acrl.org.*

6. Keep Learning

Keep Learning Face-to-Face: ACRL constantly strives to add intensive educational programming for members, including the Institute for Information Literacy Immersion Program and the ACRL/Harvard Leadership Institute as well as workshops and preconferences at ALA Midwinter Meetings and Annual Conferences. *Check the "Events and Conferences" section of the ACRL Web site for the most current information.*

7. Stand Up

Stand up and be Recognized: ACRL's prestigious awards program annually honors the brightest stars of academic and research librarianship with awards for contributions and achievement. ACRL awards enhance professional growth, set benchmarks for achievement, and strengthen ACRL's image in the eyes of employers, leaders, and the academic community. *Nominate yourself or a deserving colleague!*

Check the "Awards" section of the ACRL Web site for application procedures.

8. Participate

Participate in ACRL's Mentorship Programs: ACRL provides mentoring opportunities, including the College Library Directors' Mentor Program and the Spectrum Scholars Mentors Program. *Contact ACRL for more information at (800) 545-2433, ext. 2523.*

9. Inform

Add to the Knowledge Base: Write an article, propose a new book, become a reviewer, submit your institutional best practices to the ACRL Effective Practices clearinghouse, or serve on an editorial board. Editorial Boards serve in an advisory capacity to publication editors and guide development of print and nonprint media publications.

Visit the "Publications" section of the ACRL Web site for more information or call (800) 545-2433 ext. 2523.

10. Become a Friend

Become a Friend of ACRL: Friends of ACRL enable the association to make a stronger commitment to the future of our profession. Donations provide scholarships, seed innovative new programs, support exemplary programs and best practices, and enhance opportunities for global connections among academic and research librarians. Friends of ACRL receive premier seats at National Conference events, the President's Program at ALA's Annual Conference, and recognition on the Web site and in the ACRL Annual report.

Become a Friend of ACRL today by going to www.acrl.org and clicking on "Give to ACRL."