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C&RL is the scholarly journal of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL); its mission is continuing education for association members through the publication of the best research and thinking about academic librarianship. In surveys, the members of ACRL have consistently ranked C&RL and C&RL News as the most important ACRL activities. I thank the ACRL Board of Directors for appointing (and reappointing) me, for giving me the opportunity to serve in this capacity for the past six years, and for their support during my tenure. I also extend my thanks to the five ACRL presidents who, during their presidential year, wrote an editorial for C&RL.

The journal is financially stable, supporting itself through advertising and sales of subscriptions, and generally ends each fiscal year with a net revenue that is available to ACRL to support services and programs. However, rising costs may mean that some members’ dues will be needed to support the journal. Should this occur, I encourage the ACRL Board to provide the necessary financial support.

Penn State University and its libraries, under the leadership of dean Nancy Cline, have provided generous support of the journal through most of the six years I’ve been editor. Office space, equipment, the editorial assistant’s salary, and my time have constituted a major gift from Penn State to ACRL.

The third major support for C&RL is the volunteered time of numerous ACRL members who serve as authors, book reviewers, referees, editorial board members, interns, and editors. The authors are the ones who create the journal by envisioning research projects, obtaining results, and sharing those results with their colleagues; the rest of us add value to the authors’ original contribution. I thank the authors and those who refine the articles for their continuing commitment to the journal.

The Publications Committee, with its mixed membership of member editors, staff editors, and members, provided a collegial atmosphere for molding ACRL’s publications program. We had a succession of strong leaders with Ruth Person, Pamela Snelson, Karen Siebert, and Richard Hume Werking. This year, at the request of the C&RL Editorial Board and the ACRL Publications Committee, the ACRL staff assumed responsibility for the production of C&RL. I thank the Board and the staff for making this positive change a reality. This arrangement is an excellent one: communications have improved, flexibility has increased, and overall quality has been enhanced. In making the move to new people and a new computer platform, the new ACRL team, the editor, and the editor-designate made several stylistic alterations. Key ACRL staff members working on C&RL this year are Mary Ellen Davis, Hugh Thompson, and Pam Spiegel. This team is excellent, and I’ve really enjoyed working with them. I particularly want to thank Althea Jenkins. ACRL’s executive director; she was an ongoing source of encouragement and good advice.

Larry Oberg, the Research Notes editor, and Stephen Lehmann and Bob Walther, the Book Review editors, have been an innovative and entertaining sounding board for ideas and problems on the journal. Throughout the past few years, all three have refined their portions of the journal and have worked with me to create the whole. I had never met any of them when we began our work together and now I consider them my most trusted colleagues.

I also want to thank Eldon Tamblyn and Kit Dusky who have generously provided an annual author/title index to C&RL.
My editorial assistants have made wonderful contributions to the effective production of the journal. Successively, Mary Steckel, John Antinori, Jill Schwartz, Martha Anandakrishnan, and Karen Gerboth have worked with authors, coordinated with the publisher, organized manuscript flow, and offered practical advice on a myriad of topics. Without their commitment, C&RL could not have been produced.

Thoughtful and conscientious refereeing is the most important element in producing a superior academic journal. The members of the Editorial Board are responsible for advising the editor on issues about the journal, for enhancing the journal’s reputation by their own standing in the field, and for providing the most cogent and balanced referee reports. These Editorial Board members have offered outstanding service over two three-year terms: Karyle Butcher, Larry Hardesty, Rod Henshaw, Irene Hoadley, James Neal, Larry Oberg, Emma Perry, Ruth Person, and Donald E. Riggs. Serving single three-year terms were Ross Atkinson, Margaret Holleman, and Peter Hernon for the first three years, and Robert K. Baker, Jinnie Y. Davis, and Michael Ryan for the last three years. Interns included: Cheryl Metoyer-Duran, Mary Beth Fecko, Fred J. Hay, Chris Nolan, and Julie Todaro.

In order to have more ACRL members participate in the decision-making for the journal, when librarians asked what they could do to help, I have asked them to be referees. Over the years, many, many individuals have read and commented on one or more articles submitted to C&RL. The breadth of opinion gained from increasing the number of people reviewing articles has improved the diversity of the journal and contributed to ACRL’s strategic initiative on diversity. I know that some people’s names have been missed in compiling this six-year list; I thank them, too.

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