Message from the President

Merry B. Schellinger

Congratulations to our newly elected Vice President/President Elect, Armanda Barone and Secretary, James Gold ~ and welcome to the 2004 ACTSS Board!

The Annual CLA Conference in Ontario, CA will be soon upon us and ACTSS will be well represented with the following programs.

On Saturday afternoon at 3:45, Steve Shadle, Serials Cataloger from the University of Washington Libraries will present a program titled Legacy of the Catalog. Come hear an overview of some of the major recent changes to AACR2. Two respondents, David Tyckoson, CSU Fresno, and Susan McGlamery, MCLS Reference Center will help us consider and discuss the broader implications of the changes for libraries and library users.

Three well-known panelists from California will present a session on Licensing Electronic Resources on Sunday at 3:00 p.m. Sybil Boullier, San Francisco Public Library, Kittie Henderson, EBSCO Information Services, and Stefanie Wittenbach, UC-Riverside will provide the latest information on the language of licensing, pricing models and strategies, and practical tools to help you negotiate license agreements with confidence.

Immediately after the program, from 4:30-5:30, the Access, Collections, and Technical Services Section will hold a general membership meeting. Please come and hear about the year's activities, share your ideas for future workshops and programs, and learn how you can become involved in ACTSS. We will also present our Annual Award at the meeting and recognize an individual who has made great contributions to technical services work in California.

There will also be a discussion of union listing in California on the agenda ~ since this has been a topic of different listservs during the past few months. This is an opportunity to bring your questions, share your answers, and learn about the changes that are occurring in this area.

For those of you who may be first-time attendees, please come to the Conference Kick-off on Saturday morning.
from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. Orientation will be provided and you will have the opportunity to hear about the activities of CLA sections and committees.

I hope to see many of you at the conference!

Report from the ALCTS/CRG Representative

Elaine Franco

The Council of Regional Groups (CRG) provides a link between the American Library Association’s Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS) and affiliated state and regional technical services groups (such as CLA ACTSS).

Continuing education continues to be a top priority for CRG. The Affiliate Relations Committee of CRG sought information on workshops and continuing education programs offered by the affiliated regional groups through a survey sent out in October 2003. The survey results will be used to help ALCTS in future program planning and in seeking partnerships with the regional groups in sponsoring programs.

A successful link from the CRG directory on the ALCTS web site to the CLA ACTSS web site was established this year, and for a brief time current ACTSS information was accessible through ALA/ALCTS/CRG. Then ALA brought up its new web site, which resulted in most divisional information becoming inaccessible. The ALCTS data, including the CRG directory of affiliate groups, will have to be reconstructed on the new site. At this writing, only sporadic very old activity reports from CRG affiliate groups can be accessed through the web site. At the ALA Conference it was announced that the CRG secretary would be trained to update the CRG information. Up until now, only the ALCTS staff could enter or update data, and there were delays and omissions in keeping directory information updated.

I am serving on the CRG Affiliate Relations Committee this year. I would like to see more communication between this committee and the state and regional affiliates. At the summer ALA Conference a suggestion was made to put the affiliates’ “sharing session” under the auspices of the Affiliate Relations Committee, rather than appending it to what has evolved into a business meeting for CRG representatives to ALCTS committees, with the emphasis on ALCTS, rather than on the state and regional activities. I will do my best to support this and to encourage the Affiliate Relations Committee in regional outreach. Any comments and suggestions that I can bring “from the field” will be appreciated.