CLS Committee on Research in Librarianship Minutes  
December 2, 2002

Members present: Inga Barnello, Chair; Richard Hart, Damon Hickey, Marilyn Martin, Michael McLane, Kathleen Murphy, John S. Riddle, Bill Nelson. Absent: Kate Hickey, Jessica Placke, Ravil Veli

Minutes of June 17, 2002 (Atlanta): Approved without additions or corrections.

Participation of college librarians at ACRL conferences:
The members read over Kate Hickey's report on the Charlotte conference, and also the older report about prior conferences put together by former chair Christopher Millson-Martula. Data from past conferences were inconclusive as to how well college librarians fared against others on acceptance rates. Yet overall, college librarians appear to be accepted at about the rate at which they apply. There appeared to be a problem for past conferences with identifying college librarians. This was not a surprise to one committee member, as the panel selection committee pretty much ignored the institutional origins and picked the best proposals regardless. In a blind review process, reviewers are not considering names and institutions. The feeling was a number of years ago that college librarians were less likely to be accepted. These data don't appear to support that. Mike McLane pointed out that the real issue is the fact that college librarians submit less than 20 percent of the proposals to begin with. One of the problems with the data so far is that not much is known about the number of submissions. Also, it would be important to know what percentage of all librarians who are members of ACRL, and attend ACRL conferences, are college librarians. The chair will request that Kate Hickey of our committee follow up on this. In addition, Richard Hart will find out how many libraries and librarians there are per Carnegie Classification.

Research Mentoring Program—Proposed
Inga Barnello reminded the group that regardless of the statistics that are unearthed, the charge of the committee is to encourage college librarians to conduct research and to write and to present at conferences. The plan is to begin a mentoring program to help college librarians publish and present at conferences. It can be modeled on the existing mentoring program for new directors, and be timed and linked to upcoming conferences. Mentoring would be for all types of work, even poster sessions. If approved by the executive committee of CLS, the first stage will be to build a database of volunteer college librarians in order to match researchers with a subject expertise. To begin, a call for mentors will go out on Collib-l discussion list. Richard Hart will be the contact for mentors and he will create a database listing that will include areas of expertise. Inga Barnello will draft the call. Secondly, an electronic discussion group of those that have presented and written and want to help will be established. The third component will be a pre-conference at a national conference. In light of the CLS task force on new initiatives (Mike McLane is on it representing our committee, but it has not yet met.), a mentoring program such as this may be of interest to the task force to see if there is an interest in pursuing a vendor to help fund it. Damon Hickey suggested that our committee liaise with the CLS Leadership Committee about this idea.

Co-sponsorship of ACRL New Publications Advisory Board’s Toronto program
ACRL’s Toronto program "Get Me to the Press on Time" is co-sponsored by ACRL New
Publications Advisory Board and our committee. It is on Sunday, June 22nd at 10:00AM. It includes a panel followed by roundtable/breakout groups. One roundtable/group called something like "First Journal Article will be facilitated by our committee." I. Barnello, M. Martin, and a third person from an editorial board will facilitate. I. Barnello will contact Patricia Libutti, the chair, for more details.

**InPrint**
Ravil Veli recently reported to the chair that InPrint was selected by ACRL to be its first publication to be “bundled” as both a print and electronic version. Hugh Thompson suggested we resume a print version for which the e-version would be a supplement keeping the publication current. Ravil also reported that because the updating this summer was a bit late, he would like to complete the winter update and then send it to ACRL. John Riddle offered to assist Ravil if he needs it.

**ACRL’s Research Committee at Midwinter 2003/Philadelphia**
This committee meets at 9:30AM on Saturday at the Radison-Warrick’s Spruce Room. It has a new chair, Mary Sellens. They are to draft a process regarding the distribution of research funds by ACRL. I. Barnello or her designee will attend. I. Barnello will contact M. Sellens to see where the committee is with the ACRL research funds process.

**Next Meeting**
The committee’s next meet in Toronto, Monday, June 23, at 9:30-11AM at a place TBA.

Respectfully submitted,

Inga H. Barnello
December 10, 2002