Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Award recipient named

Richard De Gennaro, the Roy E. Larsen librarian at Harvard College is the 1993 recipient of the Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Award.

The award, $2,000 and a citation, recognizes outstanding accomplishments of an academic librarian who has worked in the areas of library automation or library management, and has made contributions (including risk-taking) towards the improvement of library services, or to library development or research.

It is jointly sponsored by the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), the Library Administration and Management Association (LAMA), the Library and Information Technology Association (LITA), and the Association for Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS).

"From his pioneering work in library automation in the 1960s to his current leadership of revitalization of the Harvard libraries, De Gennaro has undertaken some of the largest challenges the library world can offer," said Nancy McAdams, chair of the Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Award Committee. "His successes have demonstrated, for a wide variety of libraries, the value of strategic planning in positioning libraries for the electronic age."

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De Gennaro has held various administrative positions at the Harvard University libraries and has served as director of libraries and adjunct professor the University of Pennsylvania and director of the New York Public Library.

He is a past president of the Information Science and Automation Division (now the Library and Information Technology Association (LITA) and the Association of Research Libraries. De Gennaro has served on the editorial board of eight journals, has been a member of the library visiting committees for seven research universities and has conducted more than 60 consultations in the U.S. and abroad on library management, technology and building planning.


De Gennaro has a bachelor's degree from Wesleyan University and a master's degree in library science from the University of Paris (Sorbonne).

The award will be presented on Sunday, June 27, at 2 p.m., at the LAMA President's Program during the American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference in New Orleans.

ACRL, LAMA, LITA and ALCTS are divisions of the American Library Association.