

ACRL Divisional Appointments, 1972-73

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Committee on Appointments (1972) and Nominations (1973). Chairman (1971/73): Donald Anthony, Associate Director of Libraries, Columbia University, New York, NY 10027 (1971/73); Miss Yen-Tsai Feng, Assistant Director for Research Library Services, Boston Public Library, Boston, MA 02117 (1971/73); Walter Fraser, Systems Analyst, James J. Hill Reference Library, 76-80 W. Fourth St., St. Paul, MN 55102 (1971/73); Anthony Greco, Jr., Assistant Librarian, University of California, Los Angeles Library, Los Angeles, CA 90024 (1971/73); Robert P. Haro, Assistant University Librarian, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA 90007 (1971/73); James F. McCoy, Director of Library Services, Mercer County Community College, Trenton, NJ 08608 (1971/73); Barbara J. Williams, Box 1565, South Carolina State College, Orangeburg, SC 29115 (1971/73).

Committee on Appointments (1973) and Nominations (1974). (To be appointed.)

Audiovisual Committee. Chairman (1972/73): Mary B. Cassata, Assistant Director of University Libraries for Public Services, 121 Lockwood Memorial Library, State University of

New York, Buffalo, NY 14214 (1969/73); Gerald R. Brong, Assistant Director, Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99163 (1971/73); Dwight Burlingame, Centennial Hall, St. Cloud State College, St. Cloud, MN 56301 (1970/74); Evelyn G. Clement, U.S.O.E., Doctoral Fellow, Graduate Library School, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47401 (1969/73); Hubert E. Davis, Director, Learning Resource Center, Southwest College, Chicago, IL 60652 (1972/74); Janice Gallinger, College Librarian, Plymouth State College of the University of New Hampshire, Plymouth, NH 03264 (1971/73); Roy C. Marks, Coordinator of Library Materials, College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137 (1971/73); John H. Martin, Director, Houghton Junior Library, Corning Community College, Corning, NY 14830 (1971/73); David Nevin, Chief, Audio-Visual Department, Washington University Libraries, St. Louis, MO 63130 (1969/73); Nancy Olson, Non-Print Cataloger, Mankato State College Memorial Library, Mankato, MN 56001 (1972/74); James J. Simonis, Director of Libraries, Mansfield State College, Mansfield, PA 16933 (1970/74); Herman L. Totten, Assistant Dean, College of Library Science, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506 (1968/74); 1 to be appointed.

Ad Hoc Committee on Bibliographic Instruction: Chairman: (1971/—) Thomas G. Kirk, Earlham College, Richmond, IN 47374; Millicent Abell, Assistant Director of Libraries for Undergraduate Library Services, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98105; Hannelore B. Rader, Orientation Librarian, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI 48197; Dennis E. Robison, Assistant Director of Public Services, University of South Florida Library, Tampa, FL 33702; Sara Lou Whildin, Undergraduate Reference Librarian, W106 Pattee, University Park, PA 16802.

Committee on Community Use of Academic Libraries. Chairman (1972/74): Mary Lou Lucy, Librarian, Butler Library, Columbia University, New York, NY 60027 (1972/74); M. Clare Beck, Library Documents Office, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI 48197 (1970/74); Herbert Biblo, Assistant Librarian, John Crerar Library, 35 W. 33rd St., Chicago, IL 60616 (1972/74); Frederick Duda, Assistant Director of Administrative Services, Columbia University Libraries, New York, NY 10027 (1971/73); Ms. Yen-Tsai Feng, Assistant Director for Research Library

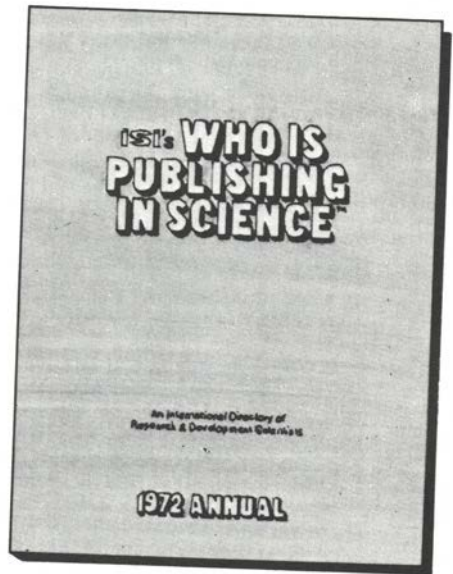
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Advisory Committee on Cooperation with Educational and Professional Organizations. Chairman: to be appointed; Frederick L. Arnold, Assistant University Librarian for Reference, Princeton University Library, Princeton, NJ

08540 (1970/74); William D. Cunningham, University Library, Howard University, Washington, DC 20001 (1971/73); Joan P. Diana, Reference Librarian, Corgan Library, Kings College, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711 (1972/74); Henry C. Koch, Associate Director of Libraries, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48823 (1971/73); Jeanne Osborn, Professor, University of Iowa, School of Library Science, Iowa City, IA 52240 (1971/73); Stephen Salmon, Director of Libraries, University of Houston Libraries, Houston, TX 77004 (1972/74); George W. Whitbeck, Assistant Professor of Library Science, School of Library Science, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 (1971/73); Executive Secretary, ACRL, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611 (ex officio).

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ACRL Representative to the ALA Membership Promotion Task Force. Mary Louise B. Cobb, Head, Cataloging Department, Earl Gregg Swem Library, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA 23185 (1972/74). ■■

Librarians Challenge "Harmful Matter Statute"

On May 5, 1972, library history was made by the filing in federal court of a class action suit—funded by the Freedom to Read Foundation—on behalf of all California librarians and library employees. This legal action marks the first time that librarians, themselves, have taken the offensive and have sought legal precedent for the *Library Bill of Rights*. The suit challenges the constitutionality of the state "Harmful Matter Statute" which makes librarians subject to prosecution for distributing to minors any publications deemed "harmful matter" under the definition set down in the statute.

Filed in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California, the civil action asks for an injunction restraining the California State Attorney General from prosecuting library employees under the Harmful Matter Statute. The suit also seeks a judgment declaring the statute to be unconstitutional because it acts as a prior restraint on the First Amendment rights of library employees and the public they serve, and is void for vagueness and overbreadth as applied to library employees.

The California Harmful Matter Statute became effective on Nov. 10, 1969. For a first offense, it provides for penalties of up to \$2,000.00 in fines and/or up to a one-year prison term for the "distribution" to a minor of

any matter deemed "harmful." Subsequent offenses are felonies and carry more severe penalties.

That the statute applies to librarians was made clear in statements by Roger Arnebergh, Los Angeles City Attorney and Brian Crahan, Los Angeles Deputy City Attorney, and in an opinion rendered by the Office of the Attorney General on January 21, 1972. Based on these clearly articulated threats of prosecution, the Freedom to Read Foundation concluded that the statute imposes serious and irreparable injury for library employees.

The complaint declares that:

As librarians are not qualified either by training or experience to act as censors, and since the inevitable tendency is to err on the side of caution, the public's access to the entire range of legal reading materials is unnecessarily curtailed. . . . The obligation that the statute seeks to impose on plaintiffs and members of the class constitutes an unconstitutional form of prior restraint. In order to comply with the statute, members of the plaintiff class are required to engage in a form of censorship and make an evaluation as to whether any given work constitutes "harmful matter" and, if so, prohibit a minor from borrowing