

# National Library Week—making it happen

By **Linda K. Wallace**

*Director  
ALA Public Information Office*

ALA's 1992 "Your Right to Know: Librarians make it happen" campaign presents an exciting opportunity for academic librarians to speak out for their profession and for the American public.

America's libraries are unique in their dedication to serving the public's Right to Know information they need to live, learn, work, and govern effectively. And no one plays a more important role in making that happen than academic librarians.

Plan now to use the ALA theme for National Library Week (April 5–11, 1992) and as an umbrella to promote your services throughout the year.

## What you can do

1. Host a Great American Read Aloud/Night of a Thousand Stars. ALA will again sponsor the nation's largest pro-literacy event on Wednesday, April 8, 1992, with guest readers rallying around libraries and their Right to Know. Many college libraries, including Michigan State University, Bowling Green (Ohio) State University, and White Pine (N.H.) College have been among the thousands of libraries hosting successful events.

2. Participate in the "Call for America's Libraries" radio rally being launched on Freedom of Information Day, March 16, and running through National Library Week (see sidebar, page ??).

3. Expand the library's regular bibliographic instruction or orientation program to include the right to know.

4. Identify major issues of concern on your campus—drugs, free speech, the homeless, rape, the environment. Plan a series of Right-to-Know forums, booklists, and exhibits around these topics.

Invite faculty and administrators from departments such as health services and campus security to participate. Involve foreign students in planning programs to focus on cultural diversity.

5. Organize an election year "Right to Know" campaign to provide voter registration and information for students.

6. Develop fact sheets and booklists with the Right to Know logo. Spotlight federal and local government documents, reference works, videotapes, and other specialized library resources available to help faculty and students exercise their Right to Know.

7. Conduct workshops for college students and faculty on information literacy and the Right to Know.

8. Post ALA posters with the campaign theme in cafeterias, campus bulletin boards, and other gathering points outside the library. Ask to have the message posted on outdoor marquees.

9. Invite your library users to share how librarians have helped them exercise their Right to Know and how that made a difference in their lives. Award prizes—gift certificates for campus book, record, or clothing stores—for the best entries.

10. Publish regular updates announcing new articles/materials of special interest imprinted with the Right-to-Know logo. Send to faculty and administrators. Provide a column for the student newspaper.

11. Talk to student groups about the special study and career resources your library offers to help them plan their futures.

12. Provide "Right to Know" public service ads available from the ALA Public Information Office

**When you  
need to know,  
when you  
want to know,  
you have the  
Right to Know.**

**Ask your  
librarian**

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