

# ACRL, 1978 National Conference

## New Horizons for Academic Libraries

Take the excitement generated by reliving part of our heritage—from Concord and Lexington to Bunker Hill and the Old North Church; combine that with the setting of a modern metropolis; throw in the fact that this is the center of the educational universe—with over 70 institutions of higher education in the metropolitan area, add to all of this a provocative four-day conference with outstanding speakers and a liberal distribution of contributed papers and time for visiting exhibits, and one finds a perfect setting for the November 8–11 ACRL 1978 National Conference at the Boston Sheraton Hotel in the HUB of activity. Conference and hotel registration information will be mailed in early summer, but please reserve those dates now!

For further information, please contact Julie A. Carroll Virgo, executive secretary of ACRL, at ALA headquarters, or George Parks, conference chair, at the University of Rhode Island. ■■

*At right, the Sheraton-Boston Hotel, headquarters for the ACRL 1978 National Conference.*



## Continuing Library Education—II

*This month's guest editor is Julie A. Carroll Virgo, executive secretary of ACRL. Before coming to ACRL, Virgo was the director of education with the Medical Library Association. She currently serves on the board of directors of the Continuing Library Education Network and Exchange (CLENE).*

The term "continuing education" encompasses a large variety of activities. Most commonly thought of, perhaps, are the short-term workshops or institutes that are presented by associations, library schools, and commercial organizations. As conceptualized by the ACRL Continuing Education Committee, the term includes not only these more formal activities but also experiences such as on-the-job problem solving, keeping up with the literature in the field, discussing a problem with a colleague, preparing a budget in a new or different way, writing a report, working on a project-oriented committee, developing interpersonal skills, and even visiting the exhibits at a professional meeting.

Continuing education is any experience that helps the individual perform better or with in-

creased satisfaction in a present job, or in a job to which he or she aspires.

Sometimes one hears the argument, "Why should I bother with professional development or growth? I do not receive additional salary increases or promotions if I do these things and my colleagues do not; or, my employer does not pay my way to meetings."

Such rewards as increased salaries, promotions, and tenure are external rewards that are certainly nicer to have than not to have. But more important are the internal rewards. The ever-changing interest in one's job, the intellectual stimulation of attacking old problems in imaginative better ways, the challenge of attempting new situations and stretching one's skills, contributing to a profession that is moving, fluid, and responsive—it is for these reasons that we need to develop continuously, to continue our education.

For some library staffs it is difficult to attend meetings because of cost, geographical distance, or because there is no one else on staff to provide service if someone is gone. Formal programs are not the only ways in which to nurture a fertile mind. Consider establishing a staff development

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OHIONET

The Executive Director of OHIONET is responsible for the administration, development and management of a statewide library cooperative network that will provide a wide variety of services to all types of libraries. The Executive Director's responsibilities include planning, budgeting, implementing, coordinating, controlling, evaluating and monitoring services and operations, consistent with the overall objectives and goals of OHIONET.

Qualifications include an M.L.S. degree or equivalent credentials, ten years of professional experience and demonstrated successful performance in positions of progressively greater administrative responsibility. In addition, the Executive Director shall have an extensive knowledge of librarianship with strong interest in all types of libraries and library networks. Evidence of significant professional accomplishment is desirable. Previous relevant experience should include: budgeting, program planning and implementation, library automation and/or library networking and data processing. The ability to communicate effectively is essential. Experience with the OCLC system or similar system is highly desirable.

Benefits include social security, retirement, life and health insurance, holidays, vacation and sick leave.

Salary commensurate with education and experience, minimum \$30,000. Position available September 1, 1978. To be assured full consideration, nominations and applications (including resume citing 3 references) should be submitted by July 1, 1978 to:

Mrs. Hannah McCauley  
Chairperson, OHIONET  
Ohio University  
1570 Granville Pike  
Lancaster, Ohio 43130  
"An Affirmative Action,  
Equal Opportunity Employer"

program in your own library. Explore a topic of use to your library. Form a journal club or discussion group. Borrow films or kits that have been developed by others and use them as the basis for your group's activities.

An example of such a kit is one titled *The Librarian's Game*, which was developed under a grant from USOE. It was designed to help train librarians in improving library service and includes a set of participant manuals and administrator manuals, budget and performance sheets, grant application forms, an assortment of "client demands," and a map of the hypothetical region within which the game is played. It is available for \$27.50 from Harwell Associates, Pinnacle Rd., Harvard, MA 01451.

Many community college libraries have excellent film collections dealing with management skills, budgeting, human relations, and other topics relevant to effective librarianship. And do not overlook the books in your own library. Involvement does take time and effort, but the investment can make your job personally much more interesting.—Julie A. C. Virgo, Executive Secretary, ACRL. ■■

## Continuing Education for College Librarians

A Continuing Education Committee of the College Library Section met for the first time at the Midwinter Conference. Although there appears to be a sudden proliferation of groups dealing with continuing education, this committee is the only one that has involved itself entirely with the needs of college librarians. There are many concerns that all academic librarians share, and yet certain areas do exist that are unique to the college library setting. It is to this aspect of continuing education that the committee plans to address itself.

At the ALA Summer Conference the membership of the College Library Section will have an opportunity to express its views on the types of activities that the section should be engaged in in the future. This input will be valuable to the Continuing Education Committee as well. There are many people, however, who will be unable to attend the conference. Furthermore, numerous ideas occur during this interim period that might not be remembered by June or discussed at that time. As a result, the committee is asking that college librarians send any suggestions about continuing education to the chairperson, Gretchen Redfield, 16717 Kenyon, Shaker Heights, OH 44120. All input will be greatly appreciated.