

ACRL initiated a strategic planning process in 2003, with a goal of developing a new strategic plan that will guide the association for the next five to ten years. After spending a considerable amount of time reflecting on member input, conversations with ACRL staff, and their own experiences with the association, the ACRL Board drafted a draft strategic plan, which was shared with the membership at the Midwinter Meeting. The final plan will be presented at this year's Annual Conference and implementation will begin in summer 2004.

The article on page 258 provides background on the strategic planning process and an overview of the insights provided by membership that drove the development of this new plan.

The Scholarly Communication column offers an international perspective with The view from Europe (p. 265). David Prosser,

the director of SPARC Europe, informs on European initiatives in the area of scholarly communication, as well as provides an overview of the differences between the scholarly communication landscape in the U.S. and Europe.

Also in this issue is the revised draft of Guidelines for Loan of Rare and Unique Materials (the original guidelines were approved in 1994). A hearing on the guidelines will be held at the ALA Annual Conference, Saturday, June 26, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

For a complete listing of ACRL pre-conferences, programs, meetings, and special events at Annual Conference (June 24-30, Orlando, Florida), see the preliminary program (p. AC-1 to AC-16). Don't forget to take this pull-out guide to conference for easy reference.

Stephanie Orphan, Editor-in-chief
sorphan@ala.org