

ARL Membership Convenes

The 135th ARL Membership Meeting, held October 13 and 14 in Washington, D.C., experimented with a new design. In response to the ARL Board of Directors' directive to reduce the cost of meetings, the focus was on conducting business through committee meetings and the ARL Business Meeting. The Business Meeting was structured to allow the membership time to discuss in detail three issues: Internet2 activities; progress on developing new measures to describe research libraries; and a new ARL Initiative to Recruit a Diverse Workforce. The Federal Relations Luncheon program included a briefing on the negative impact of efforts to push adoption of the Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act (UCITA) in each of the 50 U.S. states.

Elections

At the ARL Business Meeting, membership elected three new representatives to the ARL Board of Directors: Fred Heath (Texas A&M), Paul Mosher (University of Pennsylvania), and Sarah Thomas (Cornell University). Each will serve a three-year term on the Board, October 1999 to October 2002.

ARL President Betty Bengtson (University of Washington) acknowledged the contributions of Board members whose terms expired this October—Jim Neal (Johns Hopkins) and Bill Potter (University of Georgia)—and presented each a certificate of appreciation. She also announced that Shirley Baker (Washington University, St. Louis) had been elected Vice-President/President-Elect of ARL by the ARL Board of Directors. Ms. Baker serves as Vice-President for a year before becoming President in October 2000.

At the conclusion of the Business Meeting, Ms. Bengtson handed the gavel to Ken Frazier (University of Wisconsin), who began his term as President of ARL. The one and one-half day ARL Membership Meeting was followed immediately by the SPARC Membership Meeting.

A summary of the ARL Business Meeting and the [presentation by Robert Oakley \(Georgetown University Law Center\) on UCITA](#) will be posted on the ARL website. The Board will review the reactions from Meeting attendees to determine whether to repeat this design at future October Membership Meetings.

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