

The 143rd  
Association of Research Libraries

Membership  
Meeting 

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUPPORT STAFF: A REPORT ON RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE 3RD CONGRESS ON PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

**CONCURRENT DISCUSSION SESSION  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2003  
3:45—4:45 P.M.  
DUPONT ROOM**

**Discussion with David Ferriero, Duke University, Camila Alire, University of New Mexico and Virginia Steel, Washington State University**

In May 2003, 135 delegates representing library workers, administrators, educators, and association leaders gathered to give voice to support-staff concerns at the American Library Association's third Congress on Professional Education.

Among the key issues named were certification, accreditation of library technical assistant programs, career ladders, pay equity, and inclusion of support staff in ALA publications, committees, and campaigns.

This discussion session will be a report by three of the delegates to the Congress on the recommendations that came out of the COPE III meeting. The recommendations, described in the attachment, are grouped in five areas:

- Association Life
- Workplace
- Credentialing
- Education and Continuing Professional Development
- Valuing People
- Marketing and Public Relations

A full report on the Congress is available on the American Library Association Web site.

[ALA 3rd Congress on Professional Education: Focus on Library Support Staff. Report of the Steering Committee. June 2003.](#)

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