

AAU/ARL Rethink Strategy to Promote Electronic Scholarly Communication

ARL has worked for several years with the Association of American Universities (AAU) to address issues facing the future of research libraries and scholarly communication. This spring, the two organizations reached a significant turning point in the pursuit of their shared agenda. The AAU/ARL Research Libraries Steering Committee, alerted to the need to undertake a collective action to establish a new higher education network (Internet II), decided to recast its plan to support electronic scholarly communication in this broader framework. Encouraged by the Steering Committee's desire to explore a more broadly conceived collective action, the ARL Board appointed a working group to develop a proposal. A draft document was distributed for comment and will be discussed by the full ARL membership at its October Business Meeting. At the same time, AAU will be addressing issues of conduit, content, and conduct in the digital environment during its President's Meeting also held in October. Based on the discussions at both meetings, representatives of AAU and ARL will formulate a new strategy to advance electronic scholarly communication.

© *ARL: A Bimonthly Newsletter of Research Library Issues and Actions* 188 (October 1996).
Washington, DC: Association of Research Libraries.

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Last Modified: Tuesday, December 17, 1996 - 4:37:42 PM