

# ACRL Delaware Valley Chapter Newsletter

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## *President's Report*

*Kristine E. Mudrick, Saint Joseph's University*

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*Looking Back...* What a great fall program we had!

- Reason 1. The weather cooperated with us, in contrast to the previous year, when we were forced to postpone the fall program to the spring (weather is always my biggest worry...).
  - Reasons 2a and 2b. The topic was thought-provoking and the speakers energized us and gave us lots of ideas to bring home.
  - Reason 3. Attendance was phenomenal! While nobody was turned away, it was awfully close.
  - Reason 4. The audience was great — participation matters!
  - Reason 5. Your evaluations were overwhelmingly positive. A huge “thank you” to everyone who helped make the fall program such a success — our Chapter Board members, our invited speakers, and everyone in the audience.
- Read more about the fall program inside this issue.

*Looking Ahead and Around...* Sometimes I find that moving to a different spot gives me a different perspective on my work. Working at a table instead of at my desk, looking out a window instead of at my computer screen, writing in longhand instead of typing on a keyboard are some other ways that I can change my perspective. I am also fortunate enough to be able to move away from my home library periodically. Maybe I am just traveling a couple of miles up the road. There I can chat informally with other librarians from the area about problems and challenges we have in common, gather some new ideas, and I hope, contribute some as well. Even attending our Chapter's Board meetings are refreshing to me. Sure, we talk about the business at hand, but we also take a few minutes before and after the meeting to reacquaint ourselves with each other and to share some ideas and to build some camaraderie.

In that vein, I hope that many Delaware Valley Chapter members will be able to make it to this year's national conference in Baltimore from March 29th-April 1st. In addition to keynote speeches by Michael Eric Dyson (University of Pennsylvania), John Waters (filmmaker) and Nina Totenberg (NPR), you can choose from close to 100 topical sessions. Many of the presenters are from our service area, including our own Board members Lisa Stillwell (Franklin & Marshall College) and John Shank (Penn State Berks). There will also be more than 200 exhibitors for you to chat with about their products and services. If your

wiki experience has been limited to searching in Wikipedia, try out the National Conference Wiki at <http://wikis.ala.org/acrlbaltimore>. While you are attending the conference, consider having some fun serving as a volunteer — to sign up, send an email to [acrl@ala.org](mailto:acrl@ala.org) — remember to include your name, mailing address, email address, phone number and dates you would be available to serve as a volunteer.

Finally, the Board hopes that you will be able to spend some time with us in Baltimore. Try to set aside 5:30-7:00 p.m. on Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup> to attend a social hour and our annual business meeting at 6:15. Among other things, we will be announcing this year's Stipend Award winner and the results of the year's election of officers. Make some new friends, greet some old friends. We will be making an announcement about the location and other details via email to the membership and via our Chapter website.

*Practical Matters...* Please check the mailing label on this issue of the newsletter. “2006” indicated that we have not yet received your dues for 2007. For your convenience, a renewal form can be found on page 7.

Hope to see you in Baltimore!  
~ Kristine Mudrick, ACRL/DVC President

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## 2006 Fall Program Review: The Future of the Catalog: Deconstruction or Reinvention?

Kristin Brumbach, Albright College

A near record crowd of 115 librarians (and friends) convened on a crisp November morning at The American College in Bryn Mawr, PA for ACRL-DVC's 2006 Fall Program, "The Future of the Catalog: Deconstruction or Reinvention?"

Promptly kicking off the day with a welcome, chapter president Kristine Mudrick congratulated DVC members who are also active in national ACRL governance: Pam Snelson, President; Debbie Malone, Director-at-large, and Stephen Bell, Vice-Chair of the College Libraries Section.

Mudrick informed us that the ACRL-DVC Board has decided that rather than competing with the ACRL National Conference in Baltimore next March, they wish to complement that meeting and so a DVC event will be scheduled to take place at National. Also, anyone who is attending ALA Midwinter or the ACRL National conference in Baltimore was invited to contact Debbie Malone to participate in a focus group for new librarians so that we may learn more about recruiting new members.

Completing the business portion of the meeting, Lisa Stillwell reminded the group that the nominations committee was accepting nominations for three positions open for Spring elections: Secretary, Director-at-large and Vice-President/President-Elect. She then introduced the first speaker of the day, Chief Scientist at OCLC, Thomas B. Hickey.

Hickey, as the founder of the research department at OCLC, has

been experimenting with library systems and overseeing the invention of new directions for library catalogs since 1994. He cited several influences currently shaping the future of the catalog including faceted searching, the needs of remote users, the rise of consortia, and of course, the ubiquitous Google. OCLC's role as the world's largest catalog is to help member libraries use their existing metadata in new ways that make the catalog more useful to users. Hickey also gave us a sneak preview of a new feature to be released soon called WorldCat Identities which provides users with detailed information about authors, including links to biographical information from openly accessible sites like Wikipedia.

Emily Lynema, Systems Librarian for Digital Projects at North Carolina State University presented her work on the implementation of the Endeca product, a layer of software over NCSU's existing ILS that allows faceted browsing; it allows users to search for materials using keyword or subject *recognition* as much as *recall*. Endeca provides an interface that is commonly used by retailers such as Home Depot and Lowe's to create easy and rewarding shopping experiences for customers. Lynema's experience at the reference desk, as well as behind the scenes in software development, has helped her create a catalog search which looks familiar to library patrons, while at the same time makes better use of previously "hidden" library metadata. A demonstration of NCSU's "futuristic" catalog was met with interest as everyone seemed to be able to recall a moment of frustration with their current OPAC systems.



Thom Hickey



Board members enjoy the beautiful scenery at American College  
Bruce Gottschall, Ann Upton, Lisa Stillwell

## 2006 Fall Program Review

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On a lighter note, Tim Spalding founder of LibraryThing.com introduced his approach to personal cataloging with LibraryThing and talked about how he created this biblio-social network. LibraryThing has so far helped 100,000 users catalog their personal book collections, pulling metadata from sites like Amazon and libraries' MARC records. Users also do their own classifying, not with strict LC subject headings, but with tagging. Tagging allows readers and book lovers to create their own subject headings to describe the books in their collections. Spalding pointed out that sometimes LCSHs can be too limiting. For example, the record for Michael Behe's *Darwin's Black Box* lists only Molecular Biology and Evolution (Biology) as subjects. However, users of LibraryThing have also included telling tags like creationism and intelligent design to reveal more about the school of thought behind the work. Users of LibraryThing can then browse others' collections, make personal connections based on shared holdings, and even download their personal catalogs to a cell phone or PDA so that they can be sure not to duplicate a purchase while shopping at the local bookstore. Spalding doesn't think that tags will ever replace traditional classification based on controlled vocabularies but his hope for the future is that the richness of description that tags can provide could be integrated into library catalogs.

Finally, Karen Calhoun of Cornell University shared her report on the catalog's future that she recently prepared for the Library of Congress. Calhoun approached her investigation by using an "unrelenting" user-specific perspective. Her research was not based simply on anecdotal evidence: she interviewed 23 experts in information science and then applied her experience as an administrator who knows that difficult choices must be made



Karen Calhoun

about how to distribute limited resources. Her findings indicate that the catalog will continue to be important, but it will remain only one "node" in the scholar's universe. Library systems vendors, for the most part, have not encountered pressure to change sufficient to overcome the financial challenge of reengineering their systems. To revitalize library catalogs, libraries of all sizes must play a role in innovation and expansion of catalog features and data and extension of that data to users and to other libraries. Calhoun predicts that the catalog will become more integrated with other discovery tools and that shared catalogs will democratize access to library collections, but not without overcoming resistance to change, interoperability concerns, outdated copyright laws, and limited resources.



Panelists (left to right)

Tim Spalding, Emily Lynema, Karen Calhoun, Thom Hickey

After lunch, our program concluded with a panel discussion moderated by recently-published author, Doug Cook (*Teaching Information Literacy to Social Science Students and Practitioners: A Casebook of Applications*). Librarians' questions focused on costs of implementing systems like Endeca, other changes to bring about improved library catalogs, and what skills librarians (and future librarians) need to develop in order to innovate and implement new ways to connect users to collections.

**PLEASE JOIN US!**

**ACRL National Conference in Baltimore**

March 29-April 1, 2007

Baltimore Convention Center

To register or to learn more about the Conference

visit: <http://www.acrl.org/baltimore>

**ACRL/DVC MEMBERS:**

Watch your email for details about the Delaware Valley Chapter's Social Event and Annual Business Meeting Friday, March 30 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. in Baltimore.

Note: Business Meeting will begin promptly at 6:15.

## News from ACRL Chapters Council at ALA Midwinter

Pat Newland, ACRL/DVC Chapters Council Representative

At each ALA Midwinter and Annual meeting, representatives from ACRL chapters meet to discuss matters of concern to chapter members. The Chapters Council Board, ACRL officers, staff members, section representatives, and ALA representatives update attendees on a variety of issues, which are then reported back to chapter members. Here are some highlights from the meeting held January 21 in Seattle.

- ALA Washington Office updates
- New ACRL opportunity, Legislative Advocate: 435 positions to fill
- Campus advocacy
- Restructuring ACRL: request for feedback
- ACRL National in Baltimore: volunteers needed

Larry Romans, Legislative Network Representative, distributed four ALA Washington Office updates, which are available at <http://www.ala.org/ala/washoff/washevents/midwinterwo/midwinwashoff.htm>.

They cover issues related to privacy, the Internet, and telecommunications; copyright court cases; issues for the 110th Congress; and e-government and government information.

Lee Hisle, Chair of the ACRL Government Relations Committee, announced the creation of the Legislative Advocate position.

This position is open to ACRL members, and the goal is to have one legislative advocate for each congressional district. Legislative advocates would become familiar with pending legislation affecting academic libraries, develop relationships with staff in the offices of their members of Congress, contact their legislators as issues affecting libraries arise, and work with campus leadership to enlist support on these issues. See <http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlissues/washingtonwatch/acrladvocates.htm> for further information. Applications, due by April 6, are available at <https://cs.ala.org/acrl/legadvocates/>; contact Lee Hisle at [wlhisl@conncoll.edu](mailto:wlhisl@conncoll.edu) if you have any questions.

Advocacy was the focus of two other speakers, as Cheryl Middleton and Barbara Jenkins described University Libraries Section (ULS) initiatives. "Campus Advocacy: Involving All Staff in Influencing Campus Dynamics" will be held at ACRL National on March 30 from 2:30 to 6:00 p.m. Workshop presenters include Camila Alire, James Lumpp, and Ann Viles. There is no charge for the workshop, but it is limited to 60 people. Workshop advance registration begins in February. Another ULS initiative provides financial support for chapter programs that focus on campus advocacy; instructional material on campus advocacy will be available on the web in the next two months. This initiative builds on the ACRL publication, *The Power of Personal Persuasion Toolkit*, mailed to ACRL members last year. The toolkit is also available online at [http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlissues/marketingyourlib/advocacy\\_toolkit.pdf](http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlissues/marketingyourlib/advocacy_toolkit.pdf). The ACRL President's Program at ALA Annual will continue the focus on campus advocacy. "The Art of Persuasion: Strategies for Effective Communication with Chief Academic Officers" will take place on June 25, 2007 from 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Pam Snelson, ACRL President and DVC member, described proposed ACRL structural changes. Two recommendations have been made, and you have an opportunity to participate in the process. Give your feedback at <https://marvin.foresightint.com/surveys/Tier1Survey/ACRL/148>. The survey contains the text of the proposed changes as well as rationales for the changes. Please respond to the survey by March 1, 2007.



Pam Snelson, ACRL President and DVC member, updates the Chapters Council

Mary Reichel, Chair of the ACRL National Conference Committee, gave an update on the conference to be held in Baltimore, March 29-April 1. Conference volunteer workers are still needed. Greg Szczyrbak, DVC vice-president/president-elect, has volunteered at ACRL conferences and reports that volunteering is very enjoyable. Contact Margot Sutton Conahan, ACRL Director of Professional Development, at [msutton@ala.org](mailto:msutton@ala.org) to volunteer. Early Bird registration ended on February 7. Advance registration is available until February 28, 2007. For more information, please contact me at [pnewland@wcupa.edu](mailto:pnewland@wcupa.edu).

ACRL-DVC members are cordially invited to register for the annual conference of the **Catholic Library Association** at the Sheraton Inner Harbor in Baltimore, Maryland on Tuesday-Friday, April 10-13, 2007. Sessions will include:

"The Study of the Legacy of Slavery in Maryland"

Christopher Haley, Maryland State Archives

"Library of Congress: News and Updates on the Forthcoming Cataloguing Code: RDA: Resource Description and Access"

Judith A. Kuhagen, Library of Congress

"Assessment of Information Literacy"

Barbara Burd, College Misericordia Library

For details, see [http://www.cathla.org/convention\\_2007.php](http://www.cathla.org/convention_2007.php)

## ACRL Presidential Candidates Forum

Pat Newland, ACRL/DVC Chapters Council Representative

The ACRL Presidential Candidates Forum was held at ALA Midwinter on Sunday, January 21, at a luncheon sponsored by EBSCO. Candidates running for president-elect, director-at-large, and councilor were introduced. The president-elect candidates, Erika Linke, Associate Dean of University Libraries, Carnegie Mellon University, and Scott Walter, Associate University Librarian for Services and Professor of Library Administration, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, answered a prepared set of questions, as well as questions from the audience. A podcast of their responses to the questions below is available at <http://blogs.ala.org/acrlpodcast.php>.

1. What do you think will be the key issues facing academic and research libraries in the next two years?
2. Of the various goals identified in the ACRL Strategic Plan 2020 document, which is the most important to you, and how do you propose to achieve its objectives?
3. How can ACRL help libraries increase their visibility on campus?
4. How can ACRL meet or understand the needs of small to medium size libraries, including community colleges and regional campuses?
5. How will the association assist in promoting "information literacy"?
6. Advocacy for scholarly communication issues has become a priority over the past few years. What role will ACRL play in this area over the next two years?
7. What are your greatest strengths and how will you use them to benefit ACRL? How will you assess your effectiveness as President?

Voting begins in mid-March and ends April 24, 2007.

## National Library Legislative Day 2007

John D. Shank, Penn State University's Berks Campus

This is your opportunity to participate in the 33<sup>rd</sup> annual National Library Legislative Day and have the opportunity to join other librarians from around the country to educate senators and representatives about the issues that are important to our community and how essential library services are to their constituents. National Library Legislative Day 2007 will be held Tuesday and Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, in Washington, D.C. This two-day event begins with a day-long advocacy training and briefing session on Tuesday, May 1<sup>st</sup> at the Holiday Inn on the Hill, 415 New Jersey Ave., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001 (800-638-1116).

The DVC will be offering a travel stipend for \$250 on a first-come first-served basis. If you are interested in being in the lottery please send John Shank (jds30@psu.edu) an e-mail as soon as possible indicating your interest. The recipient will be notified of the stipend award by Friday, April 13.

Pennsylvania librarians should use the registration form at the PALA website: [www.palibraries.org/ALALegDayReg.pdf](http://www.palibraries.org/ALALegDayReg.pdf). For further info, contact the PA state coordinator Debbie Malone at [debbie.malone@desales.edu](mailto:debbie.malone@desales.edu), (610) 282-1100 x1253. Debbie is also coordinating Pennsylvania's participation in Virtual Library Legislative Day, a campaign to contact members of Congress by phone, fax or email for those who can't make it to Washington. Send her an email, including the name of your congressional representatives or your district number. Information on specific issues and advocacy tips will be sent out throughout the spring.

To register from other states, or for additional information, see the ALA national website: [www.ala.org/washoff/legislativeday.html](http://www.ala.org/washoff/legislativeday.html). Travel and lodging arrangements are to be made individually.

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### Delaware Valley Chapter of the Association of College and Research Libraries 2006-2007 Board of Directors

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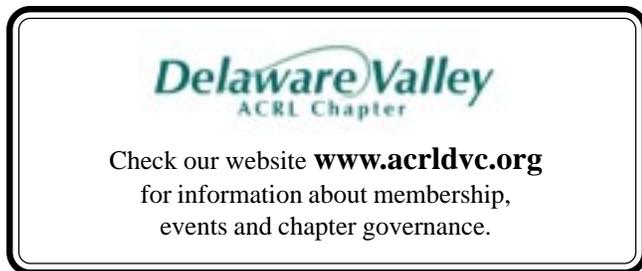
## Members in the News

**Steven J. Bell** is now the Associate University Librarian for Research and Instructional Services at Temple University Libraries. Previously, Steven was the Library Director at Philadelphia University. On October 27, 2006 Steven was a guest speaker on the Soaring to Excellence Teleconference on "Best New Technologies: Keeping Up With the Storm". At the November 15, 2006 meeting of the Tri-State College Library Cooperative Steven presented the session "Are You Feeling The Pressure? The Ratcheting Up of Academic Library Technology" as the first in a series of workshops for the group's "Solving the Puzzle of Library Technology ... Piece by Piece" program. The program took place at The American College in Bryn Mawr.

New ACRL/DVC member **Rebecca Metzger** is a Reference & Instruction Librarian at Lafayette College in Easton, PA. She joined Lafayette after graduating in January, 2006 from Simmons College's Graduate School of Library and Information Science.

**Robert Paustian**, formerly at Lebanon Valley College, has begun working as Project Manager in Preservation Microfilming at the OCLC Preservation Service Center in Bethlehem, PA.

**Scott Vine**, Reference Services Librarian at Franklin & Marshall College, presented a talk entitled "From IM to House Calls: Creating Nontraditional Reference Points" in November, 2006 at the Pennsylvania Library Association's Annual Conference in Pittsburgh.



## ACRL Proposed Governance Changes

The ACRL Board is engaged in a multi-year review process to enhance the ACRL governance structure to better advance the ACRL Strategic Plan <<http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/aboutacrl/whatisacrl/acrlstratplan/stratplan.htm>> and fulfill ACRL's core purpose "To lead academic and research librarians in advancing learning and scholarship."

As part of an ongoing process that includes membership assessment, program review, and structural evaluation, the Board is engaged in reviewing committees and sections as well as its own composition and process for nominations.

Two recommendations have been proposed: 1) Create interest groups as a new avenue for member involvement and exchange that is responsive, flexible, inclusive, and informal. and 2) Ensure ACRL Board is more knowledge-based by changing the nominations process. For more information and to comment on these changes, visit <http://www.acrl.org/ala/acrl/aboutacrl/whatisacrl/structfaqs.htm>

## Library News

### New Staff at Drexel University Libraries

Drexel's new Head of Library Systems, **Peter Ivanick**, started his position in October. Peter has responsibility for planning the library's technology initiatives and for supervising and supporting eight Systems staff that are located in Hagerty and in the Health Sciences Libraries. Before coming to Drexel, Peter was Director of Web and Instructional Technologies at Penn's School of Veterinary Medicine. He previously worked at PALINET and at Lehigh University.

**Gabe Farrell** has also joined the staff at Drexel as Special Systems Projects Librarian. Gabe is a recent MLS graduate from Pratt Institute who has experience working in archives (Brooklyn Historical Society) and academic libraries (Columbia University). He also has experience with website design and interface development.

### New Projects at Lehigh University Digital Library

September 2006 marked the launch of the Lehigh University Digital Library project The Vault at Pfaff's: An Archive of Art and Literature by New York City's Nineteenth-Century Bohemians <<http://digital.lib.lehigh.edu/pfaffs/>>. The site is devoted to presenting the poetry, drama, art, fiction and social commentary of the group of nineteenth-century bohemians who frequented Charles Pfaff's beer cellar in lower Manhattan. These creative and unconventional individuals include the likes of Walt Whitman, poet and actress Adah Isaacs Menken, journalist and social critic Henry Clapp, playwright John Brougham, and artist Elihu Vedder.

Also, last December, the Library launched History on Trial <<http://digital.lib.lehigh.edu/trial/>>. This site explores the controversies related to the representation of history from the 15th through the 21st centuries. These explorations include The Pocahontas Archive - a chronological listing of materials related to the study of Pocahontas from early America to the beginning of 2006; Literature of Justification - explores of how Europeans "justified" making war on and taking land from the Native Americans; The Enola Gay Controversy - examines the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum exhibit around the refurbished Enola Gay to mark the 50th anniversary of the end of the war in 1995 and the resulting controversy over how history should represent dropping an atom bomb on Japan; and The Vietnam Wall Controversy - enables users to experience the evolution of the Vietnam Wall controversy by reading through a chronological list of documents.

For more information, contact:

Julia Maserjian  
 Project Coordinator  
 Lehigh University Digital Library  
<http://digital.lib.lehigh.edu/>

# ACRL—Delaware Valley Chapter Membership Dues Form—Join or Renew Today!

*About your membership...*

- Your dues are paid for the calendar year noted on your mailing label. If you haven't yet done so, please forward dues through 2007 to Bobbi Jacquet.
- Members whose dues fall into arrears will be removed from the mailing list.
- Dues are payable on the first of the year and your membership is current for one calendar year. Your dues cover the costs of mailing newsletters and program announcements, as well as maintaining our web presence. The Chapter also supports an annual stipend to support the education of future librarians.
- Please notify us of address changes, employment updates, retirements, etc. Help us keep our mailing list current!

Please complete this form and mail it, along with your check, to Bobbi Jacquet, Treasurer. Please contact Bobbi ([jacquet@cabrini.edu](mailto:jacquet@cabrini.edu)) with any questions about your membership.

Make check payable to: **ACRL/DVC**

Mail to: **Dr. Roberta Jacquet  
Holy Spirit Library  
Cabrini College  
610 King of Prussia Road  
Radnor, PA 19087-3623**

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**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address (please include your 9-digit zip code):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

New member?       Renewal?       Change of address?

National ACRL Member?     Yes (pay \$10)     No (pay \$15)

## **ATTENTION FUTURE ACADEMIC LIBRARIANS: STIPEND AVAILABLE!**

The Delaware Valley Chapter of the Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL/DVC) announces the availability of a stipend, up to \$1,000, for a future academic librarian. Library school students living or working in the chapter's service area (eastern Pennsylvania, southern New Jersey, and Delaware) and who are currently enrolled in an ALA-accredited program, including distance education programs, are invited to apply.

Criteria for the award are:

1. Applicant must be a full or part time student at the Master's level
2. Applicant must demonstrate an interest in academic librarianship through employment, course of study, or research interests

To apply, please submit the following:

1. Resume
2. Cover letter that includes:
  - a. Name, mailing address, telephone number, e-mail address
  - b. List of courses completed and in progress this term, including special projects towards the degree
  - c. Description of any employment experience related to academic librarianship
3. One-page, double-spaced essay on an ethical issue currently facing academic libraries

The stipend will be awarded at the Chapter's Annual Business Meeting on March 30, 2007 (attendance not required) and the successful candidate will be asked to write a follow-up article for the fall 2007 ACRL/DVC newsletter.

Applications must be postmarked by February 28, 2007 or submitted electronically as a Microsoft Word document (featuring the .doc extension) or RTF by 5:00 p.m. on March 2, 2007 to:

Gregory E. Szczyrbak, Vice Pres. ACRL/DVC, c/o Ganser Library, Millersville University, PO Box 1002, Millersville, PA 17551  
[greg.szczyrbak@millersville.edu](mailto:greg.szczyrbak@millersville.edu)



*Naomi Cohen, Newsletter Editor*  
*Francis A. Drexel Library*  
*Saint Joseph's University*  
*5600 City Avenue*  
*Philadelphia, PA 19131*

### **VOTE!**

Elections for the DVC Board  
will occur next month!

Don't miss the opportunity to vote for:

SECRETARY

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE

VICE-PRESIDENT/PRESIDENT ELECT

Candidate information and  
ballots will be sent in early March.