

other. Educom president Robert Heterick observed that "continuing maturation of the information technologies has greatly diminished the differences between administrative and academic computing, the original reason for two separate organizations, and the rise of networking has amplified the transformational potential of information resources throughout every nook and cranny of the higher education enterprise."

According to CAUSE president Jane Ryland, "CAUSE has developed great strength in member services and professional development through its management institutes and regional conferences, while Educom is well known in Washington policy circles through its advocacy roles featured in the Networking and Telecommunications Task Force (NTTF) and the National Learning Infrastructure Initiative (NLII)."

The two organizations have worked closely for more than a decade, and prior to the announcement both Heterick and Ryland had announced their intention of retiring within the next few years. The dissolution of both organizations remains to be approved by the respective memberships, but if the members approve,

the two organizations plan to begin operating under the aegis of a new corporation on or about January 1, 1998.

Dates changed for ACRL's 9th Conference

ACRL has changed the dates of its 9th National Conference in Detroit. The new dates are April 8–11, 1999.

The one-day shift in dates will enable the conference to end Sunday, allowing participants to return to work on Monday morning. The theme of this conference is "Racing Toward Tomorrow."

The conference program is being planned by the ACRL National Conference Executive Committee chaired by Charles Beard, director of university libraries, State University of West Georgia.



Asian studies syllabi online

In July 1995, 16 librarians from the U.S. and Asia met in a special workshop for librarians at the annual Asian Studies Summer Institute at the East-West Center (EWC) in Honolulu. Their discovery of the EWC's large collection of Asian studies course syllabi led to the creation of an Internet resource that now fosters Asian studies worldwide and exemplifies a new vision for librarianship.

After the institute, librarians at Kapiolani College in Honolulu converted hundreds of syllabi into a Web site (<http://library.kcc.hawaii.edu/asdp/>) that was unveiled at the 1996 annual conference of the Association for Asian Studies, held in Honolulu. On the Web, the syllabus collection can better promote Asian studies and attract more syllabi from scholars and instructors worldwide. The site's value will increase as interest in Asian studies grows internationally.

The Kapiolani Library has launched several other Web sites since then, including another EWC database of course syllabi in Pacific Island studies. Each site is a joint project between the library

and a partner agency with important information to disseminate. The library handles the technical matters of the sites. The partners perform editorial functions and help find funding for the projects.

We now believe modern librarianship must include the online publication of significant information that would otherwise have limited accessibility. "Hidden" information abounds in research centers, archives, professional associations, ethnic organizations, local history groups, and many other types of agencies, and can be put online by all types of libraries—academic, public, and special.

Much of this local information could be vital to the right audiences if it were more widely known and accessible. Partnering with agencies that can supply the right information, share expenses, and help maintain the sites makes creation of local online resources a feasible and valuable library activity.—*Terry D. Webb, University of Hawaii, Kapiolani Community College*