

If you've been thinking about attending ACRL's 11th National Conference in Charlotte this year but haven't registered, you'll want to note that early-bird registration is available through February 7. Meeting this deadline will save you nearly 30 percent on your conference registration fee.

This year's conference, "Learning to Make a Difference," offers the unique opportunity to explore the key issues facing academic and research librarians and learn about new trends in the field. More than 200 conference programs are being offered, which will emphasize the need for academic and research librarians to anticipate and prepare for transformations in the profession and will encourage innovative ways to create and implement change.

Programs will address a host of issues facing librarians in the 21st century, with theme tracks in the areas of assessment and accountability, collaborations and competition, innovations in aca-

dem ic librarianship, teaching and learning, technical and access services, and the library as people and place. The conference sessions will focus on active participation and learning so participants can return to their institutions reenergized and with an enhanced sense of purpose.

To help you plan your schedule for the conference, a complete preliminary program is included in this issue (page C-1). Additional information is available on the conference Web site at <http://www.acrl.org/charlotte>, where you can register, reserve your hotel room, and develop an itinerary based on your interests.

This issue also contains a draft of the Institute for Information Literacy's "Characteristics of programs of information literacy that illustrate best practice" (page 32). The document will be discussed at a hearing during the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia this month.

—Stephanie Orphan, Editor-in-chief
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**University of Oklahoma Libraries
presents**

**Improved Access to Information: Portals, Content Selection
and Digital Information**

**March 6-7, 2003
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma**

Speakers:

Joseph J. Branin • Ohio State University Libraries
Lorcan Dempsey • Online Computer Library Center
Barbara I. Dewey • University of Tennessee Libraries
Mary E. Jackson • Association of Research Libraries
James Michalko • Research Libraries Group, Inc.
Alice Prochaska • Yale University Library
Bernard Reilly • The Center for Research Libraries
Charles E. Shreeves • University of Iowa Libraries
Betsy Wilson • University of Washington

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: February 21, 2003

<http://libraries.ou.edu/conference>

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