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President's Annual Report 2005/2006

Our organization is blessed with a large membership base; very professional, active members; a dedicated Board; and a substantial financial base. As I've learned from attending Chapters meetings and from the Chapters e-list, this is certainly not the norm for our colleagues in other states. It is because of all of you that we can point to our success as an organization and as a vehicle for professional development activities such as our conferences.

I must acknowledge the work of the other members of your Board of Directors during this past year. Due to a series of personal and family issues, I was not able to always give the Board all of the time and attention that I wanted. And so I extend my sincere appreciation to Inga Barnello, Deborah Bernnard, Lorraine Melita, Sheldon Wein, Pat Hults, John Thomas and Gretchen Lieb for all of their efforts this year. Inga has been especially helpful, and her experience and guidance are a valuable resource for the organization.

The challenge for the incoming board and our members continues to be conference planning. As more and more of us are experiencing additional responsibilities at our respective institutions, it has become increasingly difficult to schedule and organize two major conferences each year. The reality of this situation for recent Program Committee members is that we can do one conference well, but are stretched by two. We welcome your input as we strive to deal with this issue.

Based on my recent experience, as a committee member and on the Board, I can attest to the benefits of active participation in the organization. More and more communication takes place by email, telephone, and teleconference. When travel is necessary, our treasury contributes to your travel expenses. Conference registration rates and the dues structure are maintained at a reasonable level due to our healthy financial status. And I'm sure you will find, as have others, that collaboration with other members is very satisfying.

So, please, volunteer for committees. Encourage your coworkers to become members. Run for office. Nominate a co-worker for Librarian of the Year. ENY-ACRL is easy to belong to and easy to participate in.

Thank you for the honor of allowing me to serve as your President and for your support these past two years.

Mary Anne Waltz

President, ENY/ACRL

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute



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