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Are You Ready to Explore Crossroads for Discovery?

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Are You Ready to Explore Crossroads for Discovery?

The 58th Annual Conference of the Association of Christian Librarians will continue the excellence and scholarship that have been the hallmark of our association's annual conferences. The 2014 conference will be hosted June 9 – 13 on the beautiful campus of Huntington University located in Huntington, Indiana, and co-hosted by Grace College (Winona Lake, IN). The theme "Crossroads for Discovery" encourages presenters and attendees to focus on the many possibilities we can utilize to better lead our students and faculty into discovering new ideas and opening paths to further knowledge. From primarily hands-on preconference sessions, the keynote address, and a publishers' panel to excellent workshops conducted by our membership, we will explore the many opportunities that make libraries today an even more exciting place to be.

The keynote speaker for the conference is Mr. Michael Porter. Michael currently serves as CEO of Library Renewal, an organization dedicated to research, partnerships, and grassroots support for libraries as they struggle to offer electronic content to their users in



2014 Annual Conference Team
Huntington University
and Grace College

competitive ways. In 2009, he was named a *Library Journal* "Mover & Shaker" and in 2010 served on the ALA's governing council. The following year, he served on the ALA Executive Board. He is passionate about electronic resources and making sure that there are effective platforms for libraries to interact with and distribute them. Michael's newest adventure is serving as the Branch Operations Administrator – Innovations & Strategies of the Maricopa County Library District, headquartered in Phoenix, Arizona. If you would like to read more about Michael, you can find him at www.libraryman.com or read about his organization at www.libraryrenewal.org.



Our midweek plenary session will be a publishers' panel comprised of several evangelical publishing companies. The goal of this panel is for librarians and publishers to discuss the availability of quality evangelical titles in e-book format and to have a dialogue about the needs of our libraries and how the publishers can fill these needs. We also hope to hear from the publishers about how libraries can get involved to help "further the cause" of providing excellent resources in electronic format. We anticipate some discussion regarding open access and the impact that has on publishers.



Indiana, "The Crossroads of America," also has a myriad of offerings for your amusement and entertainment. Huntington University and Grace College, nestled among cornfields, lakes, and peace and quiet, also offer small town features such as local history museums, eateries, hiking, and rivers and lakes. The Village at Winona, a thriving community of artisan shops, galleries and eateries, is located at Winona Lake. Grace College, the Billy Sunday Home and archives, and the Reneker Museum – which features the Winona Lake Bible Conference, Homer Rodeheaver, and the Chautauquas – are also located there. Huntington has the Dan Quayle Vice Presidential Museum and other unusual attractions that could be quick diversions tucked in between other events. Huntington Public Library has a remarkable genealogist, ready and eager to help anyone. This could be particularly helpful to those unable to attend the genealogy pre-conference at the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne.

Fort Wayne also offers an incredible Children's Zoo, many beautiful parks and nature preserves (including Eagles' Marsh), arts events, and museums. The Fort Wayne Tin Caps will be in town if you are interested in a trip to see a minor league baseball game. Shopping is also quite good. Speaking of shopping... Indiana has many used bookstores for bibliophiles! Watch the conference LibGuide for links to attractions.

We are also planning events for those who simply wish to enjoy the peace and quiet of our campus... well maybe not THAT quiet when you think about game night, watching the hockey and basketball playoffs, Frisbee golf, and ice cream (and other non-ice cream treats).

Huntington University and Grace College are delighted to host your week of learning and fellowship. From the opening dinner with a surprise visitor, through excellent programming, to a unique closing banquet, your week will be full of discoveries. †