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Editorial

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August 30 of this year was Heritage Day for my institution. This marks one of three days each year (the others being Baccalaureate and Commencement) on which the entire University faculty come together before the staff, student, and parents dressed in full academic regalia.

A faculty in regalia is breathtaking. Every color of the rainbow shows in velvet and satin. Gold tassels glitter. The school seal is displayed. Faculty marshals carry wooden maces adorned with flowing ribbons. Even our jaded, laid back California students are impressed by the grandeur of it all.

Heritage Day is set aside to celebrate our University traditions, to help define who we are as people and to lift up those shared experiences that make us a community both academically and spiritually. As a faculty we use Heritage Day to share together a powerful experience and to bond with one another as sisters and brothers in a joint venture. We share a belief not only in our faith and our institution but also in each other.

Of course, behind the color of the regalia are rental tickets for caps and gowns. There are Media orders for spotlights and microphones. There is faculty at ironing boards, flattening the creases of robes long folded. There is hard work behind the pomp and circumstance.

The same is true of the annual ACL conference. It is the time of year in which we celebrate who we are as a community of academicians and believers. We come together to learn, to support one another, to carry on the business of the Association and to honor our traditions. Conference exists to both define and further the Associa-

tion of Christian Librarians as a whole.

As host librarian of this year's ACL conference I was able to witness our own "heritage days" from both sides. Putting together room assignments and arranging food before the arrival of our conferees and sharing in moments such as the passing of the gavel from past

President Sheila Carlblom to current President Steve Preston.

Steve did a wonderful job of thanking all those involved with the year 2000 conference. I have just one more to add. Thanks to all who attended the Conference. You helped to honor tradition, further the plans of the Association and to

make it a special time for every other person there.

If you were unable to attend let me assure you YOU WERE MISSED. That is perhaps the most striking thing for me about our conferences. We prayed for you, we reminisced about past conferences you were able to attend and we hoped together that you would be with us next year at Olivet Nazarene University.

Under all the regalia of Conference theme, behind all the wonderful promotional material with which we dress ourselves we of ACL stand together each June as a community. Each of us is vitally important to that community.

God bless you all.

Anne-Elizabeth Powell,
Editor-In-Chief

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