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## 2010 ACL Conference Update

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# 2010 ACL Conference Update

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The staff of the Berntsen Library at Northwestern College, in conjunction with the planning committee for the 2010 ACL Annual Conference, look forward to welcoming you to Northwestern's lovely campus on the shores of Lake Johanna in St Paul, Minnesota this coming June 7 through 10, 2010. The theme of this year's ACL conference is **True North: Illumination, Inspiration, Information**, and we believe you will find plenty of each of these to renew your vision and refresh your heart for your work. Here are a few highlights you can anticipate:

**Illumination** – devotions will take place each morning in Nazareth Chapel, where the beautiful, stained glass windows depict scenes from the Bible. The windows were created by one of America's greatest stained glass makers, Charles J. Connick.

In addition, the Science Museum of Minnesota will feature a special exhibit featuring the Dead Sea Scrolls and several folios from the St John's Bible during the week of conference. This sightseeing opportunity fits perfectly with our conference theme! Berntsen Library staff members are working on plans to offer a group tour of the exhibit on Friday, June 12. Conference attendees are also welcome to take in the exhibit on their own during the week.

**Inspiration** – we hope that you will be inspired by this year's keynote speakers, Erin Walsh and Lynn Austin. Ms. Walsh is an energetic speaker and former representative of the National Institute for Media and the Family. Before ending its mission at the close of 2009, the Institute served as a prominent research-based organization that studied the effects of media on adolescents and youth. Ms. Walsh and her father, Dr. David Walsh, are continuing their work in examining the media's impact on children and families through a new initiative, Walsh Associates.

As a member of the National Institute for Media and the Family, Ms. Walsh was instrumental to the development of MediaWise, an effort to provide families and concerned individuals with information about the impact of media on children, and to offer resources needed to

make informed choices. On Tuesday morning of our conference, Ms. Walsh will present on the powerful role of media in the lives of young adults and explain how to use this information to understand, communicate with, and stay connected to today's college students.

Our Wednesday keynote speaker, Lynn Austin, is a five-time winner of the Christy Award for historical fiction. One of her novels, *Hidden Places*, has been adapted into a Hallmark Channel movie. Ms. Austin and her husband have raised three children and make their home near Chicago, Illinois. She will speak and answer questions in a morning plenary session. Later that morning there will be opportunity to join her for a small group discussion.

**Information** – as always, this year's conference will feature a great pre-conference seminar, great workshops, plus several vendor exhibits. Our pre-conference, "Teaching Tips, Tricks & Techniques to Engage Your Students" will be presented by Jane Ann Nelson, Director of Library Services at Augsburg College, and Carole Cragg, Associate Library Director at Bethel University. Their pre-conference seminar is designed around practical strategies for bringing to life the *Seven Principles for Good Practice in Undergraduate Education* by Arthur Chickering and Zelda Gamson. These principles include fostering collaboration among students, using active learning techniques, giving prompt feedback, and responding to diverse learning modes. Among the practical strategies discussed will be using clickers, finding engaging video clips, creating small groups for discovery and presentation, and involving faculty in the planning and teaching.

This year's workshops will highlight innovations and discussion in a wide range of topics, including technical services, user services, student employee management, new technology, library administration, and personal and professional development. Finally, a robust selection of vendor exhibits will be on display throughout the day on Wednesday.

Visit the conference website at [www.acl.org/conference/2010](http://www.acl.org/conference/2010) for updates and conference details. We look forward to seeing you in June! ☩