

**RBMS Collection Development Discussion Group
Renaissance Washington, Meeting Room 05, Washington, DC
ALA Annual Conference Saturday, June 26, 2010
10:30 am- 12:00 pm**

Minutes

Twenty attendees joined co-chairs Lois Black and Ron Lieberman to discuss issues relevant to Special Collections Collection Development. Discussion began with reports on recent acquisitions, which ranged from the receipt of a collection of 500 miniature books to the acceptance of a collection of 8,000 boys and girls books by another institution. Yet another institution reported on the recent gift of over one million postcards.

Next, those present elected to continue and build upon discussion on collection development policies initiated at midwinter. Conversation about the value of policies and the need to keep them current resumed and evolved into a discussion of deeds of gift and donor agreements. A look at donor agreements led to an examination of the relationship between development officers and library staff. All those present concluded that it is crucial to educate development staff about collecting interests, thereby establishing a partnership to build collections through the acceptance of gifts in kind. It was also acknowledged that bibliographers are also valuable partners when large collections are received, as these colleagues can assist with evaluation of material better suited to general library collections.

Discussion next turned to continuing education, including the potential presentation of a seminar on collecting the papers of prominent faculty – a subject which would also address cooperative collection development.

Finally, the session concluded with a discussion of print-on-demand services, which run rampant through the antiquarian book sale sites on the internet.