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# New constitution for Architecture Librarians' Group

ARCLIB annual conference, Chester 14-  
16 July 2004

**Retaining walls? – Contemporary  
challenges for architecture and  
construction librarians**

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The Architecture Librarians' Group (ARCLIB) held its annual conference at Chester College in July. It was attended by some thirty librarians from the UK and the Republic of Ireland. Speakers included Peter Brophy of CERLIM, Kaye Bagshaw from Leeds Metropolitan University, Kjersti Lie from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology and Valerie Stevenson of Liverpool John Moores University. During the conference delegates visited St Deiniol's Residential Library in Hawarden and the village of Port Sunlight. ARCLIB was formed in 1988 by a small group of librarians working in university schools of architecture in order to share good practice. The group was formally constituted in November 1990 and the constitution agreed by a general meeting of members in April 1991.

The objectives of ARCLIB are:

- to provide a forum for the exchange of experience, the development of ideas and the dissemination of information pertinent to the practice of librarianship within schools of architecture
- to act as a pressure group with respect to information providers within the commercial, professional and educational communities
- to promote an awareness of libraries as information sources within architectural education and training
- to support the activities of, and cooperate with, organisations wherever situated, having similar objectives.

When ARCLIB was founded it was seen as primarily a forum for librarians working in university schools of architecture but over the years architecture librarians, like others, have taken on responsibility for many different areas of work and schools of architecture have expanded their courses. It seemed appropriate that at this year's conference with its theme of looking beyond the walls we should vote to amend the constitution to encourage librarians working in related fields to join ARCLIB as full members. The amendment, which was to extend membership to 'individuals working in library and information services which provide support to courses in architecture, planning or the built environment', was unanimously approved by members at the annual general meeting.

ARCLIB welcomes new members and details can be found at <http://www.arclib.org.uk>  
Next year's conference will be an international one to be held in Dublin from 13 to 15 July.  
ARCLIB has strong links with architecture librarians in Italy, Norway and the Netherlands and hopes to build on and extend those links over the coming years.