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Catherine Larson is the first recipient of the Robert F. Asleson Memorial ALA Conference Grant

Bethesda, MD, August 3, 2011 – Catherine Larson, the first recipient of the **Robert F. Asleson Memorial ALA Conference Grant**, has prepared a report about her experience at the 2011 American Library Association's Annual Conference, held in New Orleans, LA, this past June.

Ms. Larson, a student in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, received the \$1,500.00 grant to help defray the cost of attending the conference. Her winning essay focused on the changing nature of technology in the library and how librarians are adapting. The essay can be read at the grant's website, www.aslesongrant.org/winning_essays.htm.

Scheduled to graduate in 2012, Ms. Larson lives in Chicago and attends school on a half-time basis while she works to pay her tuition. She serves as a volunteer on the publications committee for MARS: Emerging Technologies Reference Section of RUSA, which requires her attendance at ALA conferences for the next two years.

At the conference, Ms. Larson spent time in committee meetings, on the exhibit floor, and attending sessions that focused on technology in reference and library services. Her first time in the city of New Orleans, Ms. Larson notes the great love the city has for ALA, "after Hurricane Katrina, ALA was the first conference to return to the city, and the city remembered." Her report, *One Library Student in the Midst of the American Library Association's Annual Conference*, can be read at the grant's website, www.aslesongrant.org/clarson_report2011.pdf.

About the Robert F. Asleson Memorial ALA Conference Grant

Established by Bob's friends and colleagues within the information industry, this grant honors the memory of the late Bob Asleson, one of that industry's most creative and prolific executives. An advisor and guide to countless members of the profession, Bob's 50-year career spanned both traditional and innovative technologies, from reference materials to CD-ROMs to online databases. Complete grant details, including donation information, are available at www.aslesongrant.org.

About Children's Literature Comprehensive Database

Founded in 1999 as an outgrowth of Children's Literature, CLCD is an independent review source offering unbiased reviews of children's and young adult literature, e-books, videos and audio books in one full text searchable database. CLCD includes reviews from 40 professional resources to present subscribers with multiple viewpoints to make more informed decisions. The database also contains value-added elements such as awards, state reading lists, curriculum and author links, and reading metrics, as well as jacket images and links to author/illustrator web sites. Sign up for a free trial, www.clcd.com.