Officers for 1990-91 are Mary G. Persyn, President; Jan Ryan Novak, Vice-President/President-Elect; Keith Blough, Secretary; Thomas G. Spaith, Treasurer; and Mary Kovaks and Sharon McIntyre, Executive Board.

Traditionally, ORALL has held two meetings per year, the annual meeting in October and a spring meeting during the May meeting of the Ohio State Bar Association. In 1989 the Association voted to abolish the spring meeting, so the meeting in Cincinnati in May was ORALL’s last spring meeting. The Cincinnati Program Committee (Jan Ryan Novak, Chair) and the Local Arrangements Committee (Anne Abate, Chair), went all out to make the meeting memorable. The theme was “Hot Topics in Law,” and the program covered such areas as the law of war and peace, observations on the Soviet legal system, alternative dispute resolution, the first amendment and censorship, issues in sports law, and a condensed version of the AALL workshop on law serials management.

The Fall 1990 meeting had “Technology Update” as its theme, and the program included sessions on standards for data communications for libraries, library networking and networking CD-ROMS, Project Hermes, the Law Library of Congress, and the impact of technology on law libraries. Mary Persyn was Program Committee Chair, and Paul Richert chaired the Local Arrangements Committee. The meeting was great fun, as was staying in old grain silos.

A major highlight of the year was the decision of the AALL Executive Board to award the 1996 annual meeting to ORALL. The meeting will be held in Indianapolis in July 1996. ORALL sponsored a program at the AALL meeting in New Orleans. Coordinated by Frank Houdek, the program, “Donahue Looks at Library Images: Is the Truth Stranger than Fiction?,” featured the ORALL Players. The actors gave their interpretations of various types of law librarians.

Members of ORALL testified in Ohio concerning proposed legislation governing the unauthorized practice of law in that state. The theme of their testimony was that any legislation or rules should not be drawn so tightly as to prevent law librarians from doing their jobs.

ORALL’s numerous committees have been active in the past year. The Constitution Committee (Jacqueline Orlando, Chair) is revising the ORALL Handbook, which was last revised in 1985. The Education Committee (Kathleen Carrick, Chair) has produced several suggestions for scholarships and grants, both to aid ORALL members and to attempt to interest library school students in law librarianship as a career. Thanks to the efforts of the Membership Committee (Thomas Hanley, Chair), ORALL has 322 members. The Core Legal Collection Committee is preparing new editions of the ORALL bibliographies of core legal collections for Indiana, Kentucky, and Ohio. The Special Committee on Recruitment (Donald Hughes, Chair), is looking into ways that ORALL can help attract new members to law librarianship. The other ORALL committees have continued their fine work in keeping the Association functional and active.

A new special interest group, the Private Law Librarians SIG, was approved at the Cincinnati meeting. This SIG joins the County Law Libraries SIG and the Indiana Law Libraries SIG in representing the particular interests of members of the Association.

The annual meeting for 1991 will be held at the University of Notre Dame in October. In November 1992, ORALL is hosting the Second Midwest Regional Conference of Law Libraries at the Hyatt at Capitol
Square in Columbus, Ohio. Since 1992 is the 500th anniversary of Columbus’ discovery of America, there will be a lot of special activities in Columbus.

Mary G. Persyn, President