Professional development through participation and education remained the primary mission of ORALL throughout the 1996-97 year. ORALL's activities for the year began with the sponsorship of four substantive programs presented at the Third Northeast Regional Meeting held in Toronto October 17-19, 1996. The programs covered "Building and Maintaining a Library Web Site," "Developing Alliances with Strategic Professionals," balancing the formats within a collection in "The Monograph and the Micro-chip: A Cautionary Tale," and partnering with information vendors in "The Information Access Shuffle." Of the eleven presenters, seven were ORALL members, continuing the chapter's encouragement of individual professional growth.

Three issues of the ORALL Newsletter were published. In addition to chapter news, highlighted articles include "CETL at the University of Cincinnati Law Library: The Birth of the Electronic Library," "Internet Cookies: Magic or Mischief?" "Tips for Conducting Effective Meetings," and "County Law Libraries in Ohio Face a Potent Legislative Encounter."

On March 21, 1997, ORALL cosponsored with OhioNet a sold-out, half-day presentation on "Legal Resources on the Internet." Prepared and presented entirely by ORALL Executive Board member Melanie Putnam, the well-received program will be repeated three times in Cincinnati during the ORALL Annual Meeting to be held in the fall.

A joint effort of ORALL and the Ohio Library Council resulted in the publication of the fourth edition of Ohio Legal Resources: An Annotated Bibliography and Guide, edited by Anne McFarland. The contents were expanded to include CD-ROM and Internet resources. It remains an authoritative guide to Ohio legal research and sources.

The ORALL County Law Libraries Special Interest Group met in Findlay, Ohio, on April 25, 1997 for an in-depth review of the potential impact of legislation to be drafted by the Ohio Sentencing Commission related to the structure and funding of county law library associations in Ohio.

Plans are underway for the ORALL Annual Meeting to be held in Cincinnati, October 22-24, 1997. It will feature a full-day workshop on copyright issues presented by Professor Kenneth Crews of the Indiana University School of Law at Indianapolis, and a program on First Amendment rights on the Internet by nationally recognized First Amendment lawyer Louis Sirkin.

Joanne Beal, President, 1996-97