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**SIX LIBRARY SUPPORT STAFF TO ATTEND 2008 ALA CONFERENCE
THANKS TO \$1,000 ALCTS/SAGE GRANTS**

Los Angeles, London, New Delhi, and Singapore – (February 6, 2008) For the fourth year in a row, SAGE has partnered with ALA's Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS) to provide travel grants to six outstanding library support staff. The \$1,000 grants provide vital financial support to individuals who otherwise might not be able to attend the 2008 ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, in June.

The **2008 ALCTS/SAGE Support Staff Grant** will help cover airfare, hotel, and American Library Association conference registration expenses for the following library support staff:

- **Behzad Allahyar** – Library Assistant, Persian & Arabic Language Specialist in Serials and E-Resources Cataloging, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA
- **Gary Beer** – Senior Library Specialist, Cataloging Department, Library Affairs, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL
- **Angela Hand** – Library Academic Technician II, Cataloging Department, University Libraries, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR
- **Michelle Schrade** – Library Assistant 3, Technical Services, Glendale Public Library, Glendale, AZ
- **Angela Slaughter** – Fast Track Serials Cataloger, Technical Services Department, Herman B. Wells Library, Indiana University, IN
- **Israel Yanez** – Library Assistant III, Bibliographic Control Department, CSUS Library, Sacramento, CA

The grants are presented to full-time library paraprofessionals, with at least three years of experience in technical services and collections who have never attended an ALA annual conference. The six award recipients were selected for their outstanding commitment to the profession, active participation in local and paraprofessional associations, and clear desire to serve their library communities.

"We're pleased to continue to help deserving library staff members to attend the ALA Annual Conference," said Tom Taylor, SAGE Vice-President of Sales and Marketing. "Support staff are often the 'unsung heroes' in today's libraries, and the realities of library budgets seldom provide the finances for them to attend conferences. We're sure that energetic and committed staff like these will return from the ALA Conference with an abundance of new information to share with their libraries and a renewed commitment to the field."

"The pool of candidates for the SAGE travel grants was exceptionally strong and selecting the winners was very difficult," said Manuel Urrizola, Chair of the ALCTS / SAGE Support Staff Travel Grants Jury. "The generosity of SAGE allowed us to select six talented individuals. I cannot wait to meet this year's winners and to see again my friends from SAGE at the ALCTS Annual Awards Ceremony in June, 2008."

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