

## **Speaker Biography:**

Ray English  
Azariah Smith Root Director of Libraries  
Oberlin College

Ray English, Azariah Smith Root Director of Libraries at Oberlin College, is a national leader on issues related to the system of scholarly communication. He was a primary founder of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Scholarly Communications Program. He chaired the task force that established the program and was also chair of the ACRL Scholarly Communications Committee from 2002 until 2006. He has been a member of the steering committee of SPARC (the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition) since its inception and currently serves as its chair. He is a frequent speaker and writer on scholarly communications issues.

In 2006 English was named Academic Research Librarian of the Year by ACRL. He will receive the 2009 Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Award from the American Library Association at the 2009 ALA Conference in Chicago. The Oberlin College Library received the ACRL Excellence in Academic Libraries Award in 2002.

English received his AB with honors from Davidson College and his MSLS as well as his M.A. and Ph.D. in German literature from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In previous positions he was Associate Director of Libraries at Oberlin (1986 – 1990), Head Reference Librarian at Oberlin (1979 – 1989), and Reference Librarian at the University of Virginia (1977 – 1979).