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### Robert A. Machalow: Chief Librarian

John A. Drobnicki  
*CUNY York College*

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## **Robert A. Machalow** **Chief Librarian**

Robert Machalow has been a faculty member in the Library at York College since 1982. He holds an M.A. in English from Indiana University, and an M.L.S. in Library Science from Rutgers. During his career at York, he has variously been in charge of the Curriculum Materials Center (a specialized collection of educational materials for teachers and books for children), Serials, Interlibrary Loan, and Computer Systems. In March 1992, he was appointed Chief Librarian, and shortly thereafter, he was promoted from Associate Professor to Professor. For many years, he also taught as an adjunct in the English Department. Prior to coming to York, Professor Machalow worked for several companies, including the H.W. Wilson Co., the Children's Television Workshop, and the Foundation Center, taught English at the Brandeis School (Lawrence, NY) and Remedial Reading at Hudson County Community College (where he also worked as a librarian), and was also a librarian at Polytechnic Institute and the College of Mount St. Vincent.

As Chief Librarian, Professor Machalow represents the Library Department on numerous college-wide committees (as do other departmental chairpersons), including the Academic Advisory Council, the Council of Chairs, and Personnel & Budget Committee. He also represents the York College Library on several university-wide committees, such as the CUNY+ Public Services Committee, the Council of Chief Librarians, and the Electronic Resources Advisory Council. Within the department, Professor Machalow is responsible for administering the Library's budget, supervising the individual librarians, writing administrative reports, and overseeing all personnel issues. He has also obtained numerous grants enabling the Library to purchase books and computers. In addition to those myriad tasks, Professor Machalow continues to oversee the Library's computer equipment and database subscriptions, and is Head of Public Services and Acting Head of Cataloging.

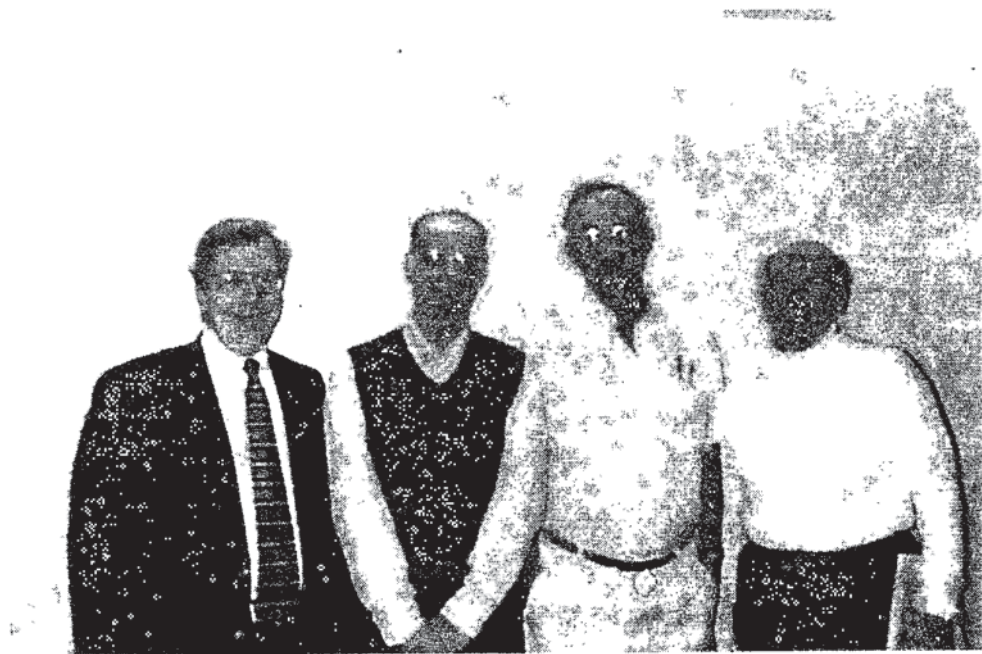
An active participant in his field, Professor Machalow wrote a monthly column for several years in *Computers in Libraries*, and he has also contributed articles to other professional publications, such as *Library Software Review* and *The Reference Librarian*. He has written 5 books on the use of software programs in libraries, including *Using Microsoft Excel: A How-To-Do-It Manual for Librarians* (Neal-Schuman Publishers, 1991), and *101 Uses of Lotus in Libraries* (Meckler, 1992).

Known (or, perhaps, notorious) for his sense of humor and easy manner, his personal interests are baking, reading, and computers – when not running around after his two children, that is.

By John A. Drobnicki, Associate Professor & Head of Reference Services

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