

## What is in a Name Change? EMIERT is still EMIERT

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**\*\*\*Note: Figures may be missing from this format of the document**

We have kept our acronym but have made a name change. As of our general meeting held at the ALA Annual Conference in Washington, DC on June 28th, the EMIERT membership voted to change its name to Ethnic and Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table. The new name change better reflects the role of EMIERT, that is "to provide a forum for the exchange of information on library materials in English and other languages and to promote service for all ethnolinguistic and multicultural communities in general" (*Ethnic Materials and Information Exchange Round Table Organization Manual*, 1998; p. 1-5). With the inclusion of the word "multicultural" the culturally diverse nature of the United States is acknowledged. However, it is important to note that while this organizational name change is occurring, in our society there is still disagreement and much discussion about what multiculturalism is, whether multiculturalism is good, and the creation of a socially just multicultural society. Examination into the meaning of multiculturalism in the United States was the focus of our annual conference program and the opposing views that were shared are reprinted for you in this issue. While Peter McLaren and Alvin Schmidt provide food for thought about a multicultural society, as an organization, we need to reflect on the ensuing issues and act to ensure that all individuals have access to information in order to close the gap between the information haves and have-nots as we move into the 21st Century.