

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

April 3, 1985

Judith M. King

Dear Judy:

It was a pleasure to meet and work with you and the other task force members last week. Though I have attempted (below) to distill the actions for each recommendation discussed then, you have a tougher job trying to pull it all together. (Are we responsible for developing a time frame at all, or will that be the work of other committees?)

RECOMMENDATION A has implications for all three youth divisions though it must be noted that many local programs already address each aspect. #3 has particular bearing on those dealing with school/library cooperation and, to a lesser extent, on the work of the Liason Committees.

RECOMMENDATIONS B AND C are in process. It is hoped that the term "quality" in regard to library services is defined in measurable terms (e.g., budget, staff).

RECOMMENDATION D requires a broad, large scale committee with members from the youth divisions, PLA and possibly LAMA, to examine the current status, use patterns and informational/recreational needs of the broad community. The joint committee would then make recommendations based on these findings (which could lead to prototype programs).

RECOMMENDATION E would involve the youth divisions but extend also to special libraries, library schools and schools of education. A joint committee would be charged with the development of an annual publication (or at least a regularly published compendium) of current developments in the library/education profession for broad dissemination.

RECOMMENDATION F primarily has implications for schools of education and library schools but relates to standards (Recommendation B) and to personnel recruitment activities by school and library systems.

RECOMMENDATION G involves the lobbying efforts of each division in the entire association.

RECOMMENDATION H is a matter of education for teachers and administrators both formal and informal. It also involves "public relations" at all levels from the building level to state and national associations. (The youth divisions may, for example, make efforts to be represented and gain representation at various conferences.)

RECOMMENDATION I clearly relates to Recommendation D, though this goes one step farther. The joint committee suggested in D, however, may consider addressing the issue of staffing library "learning centers" with "user oriented professionals." This, of course, has major implications for library education and would involve ALISE. The youth divisions could address the issue less formally through regional and national continuing education programs and conferences.

RECOMMENDATION J has already become a reality in many locales though further networking and resource-sharing may be needed.

RECOMMENDATION K is, of course, endorsed by the youth divisions but would be best accomplished by the U.S. Department of Education in concert with the research committee of ALA and/or ALISE.

RECOMMENDATION L relates to Recommendations D and I and is an issue that requires examination by a very broad committee. It may also be addressed by the committee proposed in Recommendation E.

RECOMMENDATION M has implications beyond the youth divisions, best addressed by the Department of Education and other organizations with research capabilities to assess and recommend.

Well, I think that's it, at least for now! Don't hesitate to call if clarification is needed. I'll look forward to hearing from you and to our (tentative) meeting next month.

Success with your end-of-the-semester activities!

Best,



Maria B. Salvadore
Coordinator
Children's Services