

# 2018-19 SRIDP Report

---

TO: Jody Gray, Director, Director, Office for Diversity, Literacy and Outreach Services (IDLOS, and Martin L. Garnar, Chair, ODLOS Advisory Committee (2018-2020)

FROM: Clara M. Chu, Chair, Serving Refugees, Immigrants, and Displaced Persons (SRIDP) Sub-Committee

DATE: June 21, 2019

SUBJECT: 2018-19 SRIDP Annual Report

---

***Serving Refugees, immigrants, and Displaced Persons (SRIDP) Sub-Committee***  
Office for Diversity, Literacy and Outreach Services (ODLOS) Advisory Committee,  
American Library Association

## 2018-19 Members

- Paulita Aguilar, ODLOS Advisory Committee representative (U. of New Mexico)
- \*Clara M Chu, Chair (Mortenson Center for International Library Programs, UIUC)
- \*Nicanor Diaz, REFORMA representative (Denver Public Library)
- Sharon Han (MS LIS Student, iSchool at Illinois)
- \*Madeleine Ildefonso, SRIDP Past Chair (Los Angeles Public Library)
- \*Richard Sapon-White, IRRT representative (Oregon State U.)
- \*Christian Zabriskie (Queens Public Library)
- Amber Hayes, ALA staff liaison (*ex-officio*)

\* = Second Year on Committee

*Committee list:* [sridp@lists.ala.org](mailto:sridp@lists.ala.org)

In 2018-19 the Serving Refugees, Immigrants, and Displaced Persons (SRIDP) Sub-Committee focused on developing procedures and identifying the scope of the work of the sub-committee in order to leverage the expertise and resources of the committee members and its network, and contribute the leadership within the ALA to enhance library services to refugees, immigrants and displaced persons. We developed a mission statement, which has been approved by the ODLOS Advisory Committee, a strategic framework to guide the SRIDP's work, and membership composition. These statements and processes were developed after much careful and thoughtful consideration by the SRDIP over several meetings and input during an open committee meeting at the 2019 ALA Midwinter Conference, and finalized on Friday, March 1st, 11am-noon CT, for submission to ODLOS for approval. The Committee met monthly, starting in November 2018, on the first Friday of each month at 11am-noon CT, with a few exceptions.

### **SRIDP Mission**

The Services for Refugees, Immigrants, and Displaced Persons (SRIDP) Sub-Committee of the ODLOS Advisory Committee\* supports and promotes ALA, libraries and communities to ensure that libraries provide the best possible services to support refugees, immigrants and displaced persons.

\*The ALA Office for Diversity, Literacy and Outreach Services supports library and information science workers in creating responsible and all-inclusive spaces that serve and represent the entire community.

## Strategic Framework

The following strategic directions guide the work of the community:

- Community information - provide information about refugees, immigrants and displaced persons
- Institutional accountability - purposefully increase ALA's ability to be a diverse and inclusive organization with regard to refugees, immigrants and displaced persons
- Resources for action - provide information on partners, best practices, and government policy changes that impact libraries and communities

Priorities and an annual action plan for the subsequent year will be developed by the existing committee prior to the ALA Annual Conference for review and affirmation at the ALA Annual Conference, and for implementation to start July 1st.

## Membership

The SRIDP will be made up of to 10 members, appointed as an ODLOS Sub-Committee, serving staggered terms of 2 years. SRIDP members should have an RIDP background, experience and/or expertise, while taking into consideration elements to ensure diversity (library type, range of professional experience, professional role (student, staff, leader, faculty, researcher, etc.), geography, ethnic affiliate member, ALA division member, etc.) in the sub-committee's composition.

- The Chair, who will be counted as one of the 10 members, who will be appointed following ALA ODLOS procedures.
- An ODLOS Advisory Board Member Liaison, will serve as ex-officio.
- An ALA Staff Liaison will serve as ex-officio.

## 2018-19 Strategic Activities

The following activities, organized into the three strategic directions, were carried out in 2018-19.

### A. Community information

- provide information about refugees, immigrants and displaced persons

1. ALA 2019 unconference session - (Clara, Madeleine and Nicanor)  
Sunday, June 23, 2019; 9:00-10:00am *Understand the landscape of refugees and library action*.  
Room: Networking Uncommons. The Sub-Committee on Serving Refugees, Immigrants and Displaced Persons (SRIDP - ALA ODLOS) will provide updates on current regulations and legislation related to refugees and asylum seekers in the US, and discuss library action. Presented and facilitated by Madeleine Ildefonso and Nicanor Díaz.
  - Understand the landscape of refugees and library action
  - <https://2019.alaannual.org/whats-happening/networking-uncommons>
2. World Refugee Day (Amber, Sharon, Clara)
  - Developed resources on the ways libraries can participate in World Refugee Day and promoted through email lists and social media for the third consecutive year; in partnership with the Mortenson Center for International Library Programs. See: <http://www.ala.org/aboutala/world-refugee-day>
  - Activities taking place at Los Angeles Public Library and Denver Public Library were submitted by Madeleine and Nicanor, respectively.

### B. Institutional accountability

- purposefully increase ALA's ability to be a diverse and inclusive organization with regard to refugees, immigrants and displaced persons

1. Developed SRIDP mission statement (approved by the ODLOS Advisory Committee), a strategic framework to guide the SRIDP's work, and membership composition.

C. Resources for action

- provide information on partners, best practices, and government policy changes that impact libraries and communities
1. The *Libraries Respond: Immigrants, Refugees, and Asylum Seekers* webpage (Amber) <http://www.ala.org/advocacy/advocacy/diversity/libraries-respond-immigrants-refugees-and-asylum-seekers> maintained updated – new resources added and information updated as needed.
  2. Website—develop possibly building off of ODLOS website (Committee)
    - i. Take a look at what we already have - Revisit next year
    - ii. How to curate resources better--better organization
    - iii. Sharing out via ODLOS channels, encouraging others to share
  3. Social media engagement--hashtags, accounts (Sharon, Clara)

## 2019-20 Strategic Priorities and Action Plan

The following priorities and year-long action plan for 2019-20 was developed by the 2018-19 committee prior to the ALA Annual Conference for review and affirmation at the ALA Annual Conference. They are presented for implementation by the 2019-20 SRIDP Sub-Committee to start July 1st.

A. Community information

- provide information about refugees, immigrants and displaced persons
1. webinar on current state of refugees and immigrants in America--what can librarians do on a person-level to serve/support communities <http://www.ala.org/aboutala/offices/diversity/odlos-webinar-submissions> (ODLOS submission form - Kristin Lahurd manages webinars)
  2. ALA Midwinter and Annual conference participation (e.g., ODLOS Poster session at annual)
    - Need submission deadlines (**Amber**)
  3. Welcome Week (Sept 13-22, 2019): <https://www.welcomingamerica.org/programs/welcoming-week>
    - Develop ideas for participation (**Amber**)

B. Institutional accountability

- purposefully increase ALA's ability to be a diverse and inclusive organization with regard to refugees, immigrants and displaced persons
1. environmental scan of ALA work so there is a collective impact rather than scattered work (PLA, ACRL, AASL, YALSA, etc.)

C. Resources for action

- provide information on partners, best practices, and government policy changes that impact libraries and communities
1. Resources for action--list of Commonly Asked Questions (links to Community Information resources) for librarians
    - **Academic** contexts--how can libraries provide information to refugees/immigrants/asylum seekers about navigating higher education in the United States? E.g., Resource center for undocumented students at Oregon State (<https://undocumented.oregonstate.edu>)
    - **School** libraries - TBD

- How to support and/or work with organizations serving undocumented children? Donations, marketing, partnerships, etc.
2. Follow-up on items identified from the ALA annual conference 2019 sessions and other engagement (e.g., Social media conversations, etc.)
  3. Project Welcome Webinar (Clara, Sharon)

Continuity – The following committee members are interested in continuing to serve in 2019-20 for either a year or two-year term, as appropriate for staggered terms.

- Paulita Aguilar
- Madeleine Idefonso (Los Angeles Public Library)
- Nicanor Diaz (Denver Public Library)
- IRRT representative (Richard Sapon-White will assist to identify an IRRT representative)
- Sharon Han (National Library of Medicine)
- Clara Chu (Mortenson Center for International Library Programs, UIUC)

**THANK YOU** to Amber and Jody of ODLOS for your support of the work of the SRIDP Sub-Committee and commitment to library services to RIDP communities. A **DEEP APPRECIATION** to committee members for your collegial and collective work. I look forward to working with all through ALA and/or professionally.