

Resolution Honoring the 15th Anniversary of the Spectrum Scholarship Program

Whereas it has been 15 years since the Spectrum Initiative to increase the number of minority librarians in the profession, was introduced by then American Library Association Executive Director Elizabeth Martinez and ALA President Betty Turock, and approved by Council in 1997;

Whereas from 1998 to date, Spectrum has awarded 832 MLIS scholarships and 18 Spectrum Doctoral Fellowships worth a total of \$5,395,000 at the masters level and \$1,847,419 for doctoral students;

Whereas under the leadership of Betty Turock, the library community has donated \$1.23 million to the Spectrum Presidential Initiative fund;

Whereas the 14 Spectrum Leadership Institutes have provided Spectrum Scholars with opportunities to increase their knowledge and leadership within the profession;

Whereas, 80% of graduated respondents to most recent Spectrum survey are working within the library and information profession (Cooke and Uyeki); and

Whereas Spectrum continues to receive 3 times as many applications as it can accommodate, reinforcing the on-going need for such a program: now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the American Library Association (ALA) on behalf of its members

1. commends the Spectrum Scholarship Program for increasing diversity in the profession and working toward creating a representative composition of librarians to better serve increasingly diverse communities; and
2. congratulates the Spectrum Scholarship Program for fifteen years of developing diverse professional librarians to provide excellent, high quality service to library users worldwide.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association
Tuesday, July 2, 2013
in Chicago, Illinois



Keith Michael Fiels
ALA Executive Director and Secretary of the ALA Council

