

**American Library Association
Fall 2009 Executive Board Meeting, Chicago, Illinois
Report of Camila Alire, President**

I am pleased to submit this report on my first two months as ALA president. It has been a whirlwind already but very rewarding. What I have enjoyed the most is getting out to the state chapters -- particularly regional chapter conferences and talking/meeting with folks. At the same time, I have been working with the local chapter councilor(s) to conduct ALA Forums gathering information for the new strategic planning process. Below are activities for the time period.

Presidential Initiative

Co-chairs, Patty Wong and Julie Todaro, have done a good job along with the Steering Committee shepherding my initiative with the various work groups. The frontline advocacy work groups submitted their materials to our REACT group made up of library leaders who have expertise within their divisions/advocacy/literacy. A consulting group, Library Strategies, was hired to package the work that the frontline advocacy work groups have completed. They will also be designing an online tutorial for frontline staff. The family literacy work is concentrating on helping libraries provide family literacy projects that will help deal with our country's literacy challenge. The projects are designed to be replicated by libraries in the U.S. and the projects are available to anyone in their respective communities. The project is proceeding on schedule.

Marci Merola, Director of the ALA Advocacy Office, and I have already participated in an all day frontline advocacy workshop sponsored by Marquette University, Milwaukee Public Library, and U Wisconsin-Milwaukee. My speaking schedule at the various state conferences concentrated on frontline advocacy work. We are working on a presidential initiative session at Midwinter.

Travel/Appearances

July:

- 7/15 ALA's Annual Conference, Chicago --Convened ALA Exec. Board III
- 7/25- 27 (AALL)-American Association Law Libraries Annual Meeting
- 7/27 New York Media Day

August

- 8/6 Pacific Northwest Library Association (PNLA), Missoula, MT
- 8/8 Emporia State University-SLIM CO-IX Commencement-Golden, CO
- 8/25 IFLA(Milan)

September:

- 9/8-10 AMBAC, Acapulco Mexico
- 9/11-12 ALA Retreat, Chicago
- 9/24 Library of Congress, Hispanic Cultural Society, DC
- 9/25 LC National Book Festival, Authors' gala
- 9/26 Banned Books Read-out, Chicago
- 9/27-29 Frontline Library Advocacy Symposium, Milwaukee

October:

- 10/7 Missouri Library Association
- 10/8 Georgia COMO

Interviews/Press Releases, etc.

It has been a very busy two+ months!

July:

- 7/11 Interview - WGN Radio, Chicago Nick Digilio
- 7/17 Interview - *Pueblo Chieftain* (Newspaper)-Pueblo, CO
- 7/29 Interview - *News Leader*

August:

- 8/4 Interview - *North County Times*
- 8/6 Press release - State Library of Michigan division of assets
- 8/7 Interview - *Ser Padres [Parents] Magazine* (NYC)
- 8/8 Interview-*North County Times*
- 8/14 Interview - *Asheville Citizen*
- 8/31 Interview - *CNN.com*
- 8/31 Interview - *Associated Press Seattle*

September:

- 9/9 Interview- *Arizona Public*—Phoenix:
- 9/14 [Interview](#) - ABC News Radio
- 9/17 Interview - *DU Today* University of Denver

October:

- 10/1 Op ed - *Washington Examiner*
- 10/2 Letter to editor - *Wall Street Journal*