

American Library Association
2012 Fall Executive Board Meeting
Report of President Maureen Sullivan

Presidential Initiatives

The Promise of Libraries in Transforming Communities

IMLS awarded a grant to ALA to begin this work. Mary Davis Fournier in the Public Programs Office is taking the lead to work with staff at the Harwood Institute for Public Innovation to move forward with the project activities: formulating the design and strategy; identifying members of the core design team, the advisory committee, and the advanced training group; and launching this initial phase. She also is leading our effort to secure funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for the next three years of the program. We plan to submit a proposal in November and hope to have a decision by Midwinter. This initiative primarily supports the *Transforming Libraries* goal area and also supports the other three.

The Midwinter Meeting will feature four programs related to this initiative. I will moderate a program on Saturday morning that will feature our work with the Harwood Institute and will include Rich Harwood and two others who have experience with his work. On Saturday afternoon Rich Harwood will introduce another initiative, *The Work of Hope* (formerly *Reclaiming Main Street and Libraries*) in one of the two conversation sessions. He will work with ALA to engage libraries in the national tour planned for the Spring. On Sunday afternoon Peggy Holman, author of *Engaging Emergence*, will facilitate the second conversation. Peter Block, author of *Stewardship* and *Community* will be the President's Program speaker.

Leadership Development

Library Leadership in the Digital Age (March 21-23, 2013)

The Harvard Graduate School of Education (HGSE) is in the final stage of designing a 2 ½ day leadership institute for administrators and managers in libraries of all types to learn how to lead effectively in the face of the new challenges of the Digital Age. Joseph Zolner, Senior Director of the Harvard Institutes for Higher Education (HIHE); John Collins, Director of the HGSE Library (and ALA member); and I have been working with Larry Bacow, president emeritus of Tufts University and the faculty chair for the program. We continue to address the need for financial aid. This initiative supports the goal areas of *Building the Profession* and *Transforming Libraries*.

Leadership Development Program for ALA (August 2013)

I facilitated a work session on August 30 with a small group of members and staff to develop the curriculum, an action plan and a timetable for the establishment of this program. This initiative directly supports *Building the Profession*.

Rethinking ALA: Ensuring That ALA Is the Most Effective Organization It Can Be

The Fall Board development session and the division leadership session are devoted to this initiative. Following this work, I will work with staff and a small group of members to outline next steps, including the means to engage members.

ALA and International Librarianship

Work continues in the three activities underway in this area: strengthening ALA's work with Sister Libraries program, exploring a partnership with the Peace Corps alumni association and webinars for ALA's international members.

The Digital Public Library of America

My work on the Governance Workstream continued and included guidance of the efforts to create a new, separate 501 (c) (3) organization. The (DPLA) will be launched on April 18, 2013 in Cambridge, MA. . I attended DPLA Midwest and represented ALA on the panel, *Supporting the DPLA*, along with lead representatives from the funders (IMLS, NEH, Sloan Foundation and Knight Foundation).

The 2013 Midwinter Conference will include an update for the membership

Other Significant Activities

I led another delegation (Molly Raphael, Barbara Stripling, Alan Inouye and Robert Wolven) to New York City to meet with publishers. This included an open session sponsored by the American Association of Publishers attended by about seventy persons in the room and another thirty on the telephone. This visit included meeting with two publishers focused on children and young adults.

I facilitated a work session on September 14 to lay out an action plan for the School Libraries Task Force. The revised charge focuses on the development and implementation of a campaign to raise awareness and stimulate active support. The campaign will be launched in Spring 2013. President-elect Barbara Stripling joins me as an ex-officio member of the task force.

On September 13 I joined AASL President Susan Ballard; AASL Executive Director Julie Walker and Lynne Bradley, head of Government Relations in Washington Office in a

meeting at the U.S. Department of Education with Elizabeth Grant and Melanie Anderson.

I continue to represent ALA in the project to create and educational program to bring the contents of the **Diplomatic Reception Rooms** (DRR) at the U.S. Department of State to students and the general public. Two meetings have been held since the May Educational Conference, one in July and another on October 22. At the invitation of Patrick Kennedy, Under Secretary of State for Management, I signed an agreement to formalize ALA's participation in a partnership that includes the National Archives and Records Administration, the Library of Congress, the Smithsonian, IMLS, the National Park Service, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Endowment for the Arts. The October 22 meeting included the introduction of a new digital education platform—a very different and highly interactive learning model.

Keith Fiels and I met with the **National Council on Aging** (NCOA) on October 1 to explore a partnership in which ALA would help NCOA distribute its resources to its target population through libraries.

David Ferriero, the Archivist of the United States, will host a one-day **conference on December 12 to explore future approaches to educating professionals** in a manner that exposes students to the uniqueness of each of the LAM (**Libraries, Archives and Museums**) educational programs. I serve on the planning committee along with Jackie Dooley, president of the Society of American Archivists, and Ford Bell, Director of the American Alliance of Museums.

Travel and Other Speaking Engagements

August 2-5 2012 Harwood Summit in Hilton Head, South Carolina

August 11-17 2012 IFLA Conference in Helsinki, Finland

September 12 Opening of the Thomas Johnson Elementary/Middle School Library
(A Weinberg Foundation Project) in Baltimore, MD

September 13 IMLS Congressional Briefing: How Libraries Support Workforce
Development (Washington, D.C.)

September 20 Kentucky Library Association Annual Meeting Keynote
Louisville,)

September 20-21 Joint Conference of Librarians of Color Conference (Kansas City, MO)

September 21 National Book Festival Author Program and Gala Reception (Library of
Congress)

September 22 National Book Festival (National Mall)

September 29 20th Anniversary Celebration of the Weinberg Library at the University of Scranton

October 10-11 Association of Research Libraries Membership Meeting (Washington, D.C.)

October 11-12 DPLA Midwest Meeting (Chicago)

October 14-16 New England Library Association Annual Conference (Sturbridge, MA)

October 17 Planning meeting for the YALSA National Summit on the Future of Library Services to Young Adults (Midwinter preconference) (New York City)

Appreciation

My work has given me the opportunity to work with a number of the talented staff at ALA in Chicago and in Washington. To provide proper recognition would require at least another full page. I appreciate all the help and guidance I have received.