

IFRT REPORT

Publication of the Intellectual Freedom Round Table

No. 68 2008

Summer

Greetings!

Well, it has finally happened! I will be missing ALA in Anaheim. I truly regret that I won't be able to attend, but I will be there in spirit of course!

I hope you will find the time to attend an IFRT meeting. Our meetings are open to all and we encourage you to drop by and visit one outstanding roundtable. Also, the IFRT Emerging Leaders will be presenting at the poster session so drop by and see what they've worked on all year.

And.....you can't miss our fantastic program! It is certain to be one of the most talked about programs of the conference.

Lauren Christos
Editor

IFRT Report

Publication of the Intellectual Freedom Round Table

Thank you Nanette!

By Lauren Christos

On behalf of the entire board of IFRT, I want to give Nanette Perez a standing ovation for her enthusiastic and ardent work as liaison for IFRT. Nannette could always be seen trolling carts loaded with black crates filled with multiple copies of everything one could ever need to have a meeting. Name cards, minutes, copies of proposed resolutions, more copies of the most recent IFRT Report, agendas, you name it, Nanette had it. I honestly don't think I would have been the slightest bit surprised even if I had seen her pull out a toaster. Not only all that, but it seemed she had mastered the art of teleportation since she seemed to be everywhere all at once and all the time.

She was a one woman orchestra. I've seen her field a dozen or so questions at one time with grace and aplomb. She could outask any multi-tasker I've ever known, and it never failed to amaze me that I thought she part-timed as a prestidigitator.

Nanette's service to IFRT over these past years has been profoundly appreciated. We simply would not have gotten by so well without her. Her devotion and dedication to her work was surpassed only by her astonishing organizational skills and personal good nature. Nanette was delight to work with.

I am happy to report that our reception and program will be held in the convention center!

Friday, June 27

IFC I, 8:00 am - 12:30 pm, MAR Newport Beach/Rancho Las Palmas

IF 101, 5:00 pm - 06:00 pm ACC 304 A/B

Saturday, June 28

IFC II, 8:00 am - 12:30 pm MAR Newport Beach/Rancho Las Palmas

IFC Privacy Subcommittee, 3:30 pm - 05:00 pm MAR Newport Beach/Rancho Las Palmas

Sunday, June 29

IFC/COL, 8:00 am - 10:00 am MAR Newport Beach/Rancho Las Palmas

IFC/IFRT/Division IFCs Joint Meeting, 10:30 am - 11:30 am MAR Newport Beach/Rancho Las Palmas

National Conversation on Privacy Panel Discussion, 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm, ACC 201 D

IFC/FTRF Issues Briefing, 3:00 pm - 04:30 pm ACC 201 D

Monday, June 30

IFC/COL Joint Program, "This is Your Brain on DOPA: Grassroots Organizing and Social Networking," 10:30 am - 12:00 pm, ACC 304 A/B

IFC/AAP/ABFFE Program, "The Biggest Threat to Free Speech You May Never Have Heard Of!"
1:30 pm - 3:30 pm, ACC 304 A/B

Tuesday, July 1

IFC III, 1:30 pm - 04:30 pm, MAR Newport Beach/Rancho Las Palmas

Nanette Perez
Program Officer
ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom

From the Chair: Consider Council

Doug Archer

As most of you know, Council is the policy setting body within the American Library Association. Over the years Council was the body that ultimately made intellectual freedom an official core value of the Association and it is Council that continues to affirm it. Council has, of course, been guided, nurtured and sometimes prodded by individual advocates, ALA's Intellectual Freedom Committee, the various divisional IFCs, and the OIF, -- not to mention our own Intellectual Freedom Round Table. However, no matter how loud our voices or well reasoned our arguments; it is Council that has the final say.

All this is to emphasize how important it is to have strong advocates of intellectual freedom as members of Council. There are and have been uncounted such strong voices on Council over the years. Many of them have chosen other venues than IFRT for advocating IF. Nevertheless, it never hurts the cause of intellectual freedom to have active IFRT members serving on Council.

Therefore, I want to take this opportunity as Chair to encourage IFRT members to consider standing (or running) for election to Council. It is easy to do. First you may volunteer to be nominated. That announcement just appeared in American Libraries Direct (5/28/2008) under "ALA News, ALA 2009 Nominating Committee seeks candidates" <<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/2009nominatingcommittee.cfm>>. Alternately, all you need is twenty-five signatures on a petition and you will be on the ballot for Councilor at Large. Details on the procedure are in the same announcement.

This year several current and former members of the IFRT and the IFRT Board ran for Council. Three were elected: Chris Bowen, former IFRT Chair and Director of the Downers Grove Public Library, Downers Grove, IL; Carrie Garner, former IFRT Chair, currently IFRT Program Committee Chair, former children's librarian and now professor of library science at Kutztown University, Kutztown, PA; and Eric Seuss, current IFRT Director at Large and Director of the Commerce Twp Community Library, Commerce Twp, MI.

They join several IFRT activists already on serving on Council including Melora Ranney Norman, Coordinator of Outreach Services, Maine State Library; Virginia (Ginny) B. Moore, Librarian at the Greenbelt Library, Prince Georges County Memorial Library System, Greenbelt, MD; Pam Klipsch, Director of the Jefferson County Library, High Ridge, MO; and Sue Kamm, Los Angeles Public Library and "Cybergoddess." Last, but certainly not least, is our own elected IFRT Councilor, Sylvia Turchyn, Head of the Western European Cataloging Section, Indiana University Libraries, Bloomington, IN and IF advocate par excellence.

So, don't just sit there, stand or run for Council -- where your voice will be heard and your vote WILL BE counted!

Welcome Jen!

By Nanette Perez

It is with great pleasure that I reintroduce Jen Hammond, you new IFRT staff liaison. Jen used to work in the Office for Intellectual Freedom as the Banned Books Week Administrative Assistant. She left us in August of 2005 to pursue a degree in comparative literature at the University of Oregon. While in Oregon, Jen realized the awesomeness of ALA and Chicago and decided she could not stay away from us forever. She is now back at ALA and will continue her PhD studies at the University of Illinois in Chicago while working as Program Coordinator of the Office for Intellectual Freedom.

[The librarian] can influence our social respect for free speech in all American institutions, public and private. I hope librarians will make a profound commitment to maintaining the intellectual openness of libraries. Let this be a guiding ethos of what librarians are all about: to fight censors wherever they are found. Fight them in conventions, in newsletters, on library boards, in bureaucracies. Fight them in legislatures. Fight them because librarians have professional influence and because librarians matter. Fight them because librarians are vital players in the never-ending struggle to maintain the free flow of information in a wide-open and robust democracy.

Rodney A. Smolla
Arthur B. Hanson Professor of Law
Marshall-Wythe School of Law
College of William and Mary

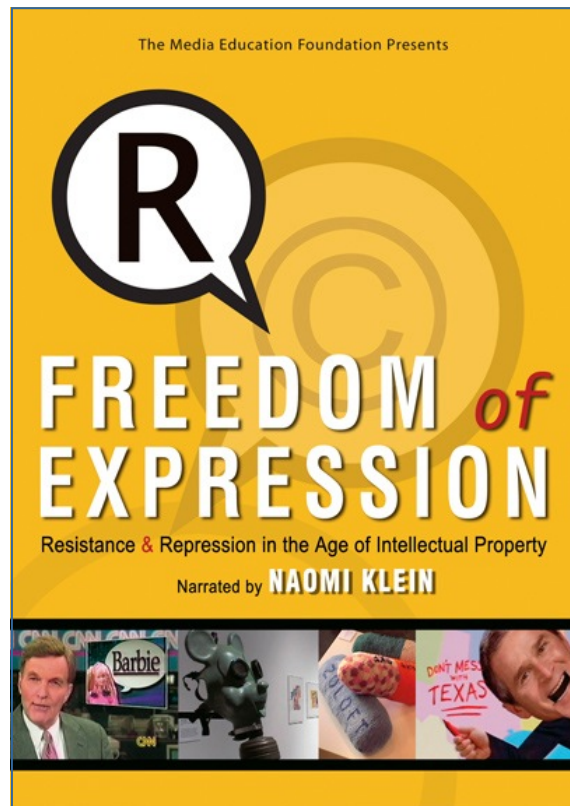


This smartly-made and seriously funny documentary provides an aerial view of the battleground that is today's copyright landscape. Illustrating the comments of many well-known critics of runaway copyright and trademark law with apt audiovisual examples, Freedom of Expression succeeds as an engaging and concrete presentation."

--Peter Jaszi, Professor of Law at Washington College of Law, American University

"It's about time someone made this movie. 700 Americans get sued into penury *every month* by the record industry. 70 million Americans file-share. Every generation of technology contains more locks to turn our computers into our masters, not our servants. Worst of all: no one seems to even notice as our tools for free speech are being turned into perfect snitches."

--Cory Doctorow, co-editor, Boing Boing; author of *Overclocked: Stories of the Future Present*



IFRT Program in Anaheim

IFRT program, which is co-sponsored by IFC, on the list below. The program will be held on Saturday, June 28, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm, and we will feature the



documentary Freedom of Expression, by Kembrew McLeod (Oboler Award Recipient from 2006), and Jeremy Smith. Following the documentary is a panel discussion. The program description is as follows:

Freedom of Expression(r): Resistance and Repression in the Age of Intellectual Property This IFRT sponsored screening of Freedom of

Expression(r): Resistance and Repression in the Age of Intellectual Property will be followed by a panel discussion about fair use and free speech with co-producers Kembrew McLeod and Jeremy Smith, and others. Based on McLeod's award-winning book of the same title, Freedom of Expression(r) explores the battles being waged in courts, classrooms, museums, film studios, and the Internet over control of our cultural commons.

We look forward to seeing you there!

BIO

Kembrew McLeod is an American journalist, artist, activist, and professor of Communication Studies at the University of Iowa.

He is perhaps best known as a performance artist or "media prankster" who filed an application in 1997 to register the phrase "Freedom of Expression" as a trademark in the United States. This phrase was the name of his zine/artist book series, and on January 6, 1998 McLeod was granted registration no. 2127381 in Class 16 (for "booklets in the field of creative writing").

McLeod received his PhD from University of Massachusetts-Amherst, an MA from the University of Virginia, and a BS from James Madison University.



Freedom of Expression trademark certificate

	<p>This work is in the public domain in the United States because it is a work of the United States Federal Government under the terms of Title 17, Chapter 1, Section 105 of the US Code. See Copyright.</p> <p>Note: This only applies to works of the Federal Government and not to the work of any individual U.S. state, territory, commonwealth, county, municipality, or any other subdivision.</p>	
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Even More Intellectual Freedom and Privacy Programs in Anaheim!

By Nanette Perez

Here are more opportunities to discuss and learn about Intellectual Freedom, ethics, and privacy at ALA's Annual Conference in Anaheim.

AASL President's Program: Intellectual Freedom: A Core Value

Saturday, June 28

10:30 a.m.-Noon

Ballroom E, Anaheim Convention Center

Sponsored by AASL

The 2008 AASL President's Program will revisit the school librarian's commitment to one of the two core values of the profession, intellectual freedom. The keynote speaker is Susan Patron, author of the controversial 2007 Newbery Medal book *The Higher Power of Lucky* and retired Juvenile Materials Collection Development Manager at the Los Angeles Public Library. Followed by a reaction panel which includes an elementary school librarian (Catherine Beyers, Lacrosse, WI), a secondary school librarian (Cassandra Barnett, Fayetteville, AR), and an author/member of AS IF! Authors Support Intellectual Freedom.

Intellectual Freedom: "Who's View?" Hot Topics

Sunday, June 29

10:30 a.m.-Noon

Hilton-Huntington

Sponsored by ALTA

This program will be presented by a panel with the latest Hot Topics in libraries about intellectual freedom issues.

Ethics in the Age of Web 2.0

Sunday, June 29

1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

Disney Adventure Room

Sponsored by AASL Independent School Section

The ALA Code of Ethics for Librarians has served school and youth services librarians for almost 70 years. How has it supported the intellectual freedom of school and public library youthful users? Does it continue to offer us the guidance we need to face the new challenges and new roles we face in a socially networked, rapidly changing digital world? What needs updating? What's missing? What has aged well? A panel of experts, library educators, and practitioners will discuss ethical issues associated with social technologies, privacy, intellectual property, censorship, access to information, leveling and labeling a collection, and selection.

Speakers:

Helen Adams, Retired

Debbie Abilock, Consultant/Co-Founder, Noodle-Tools, Inc.

Terry Young, Librarian, West Jefferson High School

Rebecca Butler, Associate

Professor, Northern Illinois University

Candace Morgan, brief history of COE, review current Code of Ethics

Cassandra Barnett, resisting censorship, access to information

Christine Sherman labeling collections

Frances Jacobson Harris, ethics and Web 2.0

Andrew Medlar, ethics in an urban youth library setting

Nancy Kranich, protecting intellectual property & the Creative Commons

Is There a Right to Information Literacy? Academy Responsibility in the Information Age

Sunday, June 29

4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

Salon F, Anaheim Marriott

Sponsored by ACRL Committee on Ethics and ACRL Instructional Section

Track: User Services; Literacy and Learning

Various institutions have discussed the relationship between economic development and information literacy, and the role of information literacy in society. What is the duty of academia to ensure that college graduates are information literate? Are postsecondary educational values violated when these skills are not provided to students? This program explores professional and ethical considerations regarding IL and ways of empowering librarians as we foster change. Speakers will help define the critical issues related to academic responsibility.

Speakers:

Lorie Roth, Assistant Vice-Chancellor, Academic Affairs, California State University; Stephanie

Sterling Brasley, Manager, Information Literacy Initiatives, California State University; Penny

Beile, University Librarian, University of Central Florida

IFRT Election Results 2008

IFRT is happy to report the IFRT election results for 2008. Their term begins immediately following this year's Annual Conference.

Chair/chair-elect

Lauren Christos

Directors

Carrie Gardner

Carolyn Caywood

Secretary

Steve Norman

Please join me in welcoming our elected officials!

Nanette Perez

Program Officer

ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom

CONGRATULATIONS



If you would like to contribute to the IFRT Report, please send your piece to:

lauren.christos@fiu.edu

Thought essays, opinions, book reviews, articles, and reports are all invited.

Thank you!

Publications Committee

- ♣ Lauren Christos, Chair
- ♣ Diane M. Fulkerson
- ♣ Cindy A. Lombardo
- ♣ Camille McCutcheon

~Special thanks to Marie Therese O'Connell for her contributions in creating this newsletter.

Founded in 1973, the Intellectual Freedom Round Table is the grass roots intellectual freedom organization within the American Library Association.

Mission Statement

The Intellectual Freedom Round Table provides a forum for the discussion of activities, programs and problems in intellectual freedom of libraries and librarians; serves as a channel of communications on intellectual freedom matters; promotes a greater opportunity for involvement among the members of the ALA in defense of intellectual freedom; promotes a greater feeling of responsibility in the implementation of ALA policies on intellectual freedom.

The IFRT

Provides broad opportunities for ALA members to become involved in the support of freedom of access and freedom of expression in libraries

Supports librarians involved in censorship controversies

Monitors intellectual freedom developments affecting library and information services

Provides a forum where ALA members involved in intellectual freedom activities on the state and local level can discuss programs, activities and problems