

# american libraries

THE MAGAZINE OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



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# Libraries Transform



**Julie B. Todaro**  
2016–2017  
ALA president

**D**ear colleagues:  
As president of the American Library Association (ALA) and the first ALA president from a community college, I'm honored to welcome you to this edition of *American Libraries*' international supplement.

I am especially pleased to be leading ALA during the Libraries Transform campaign because it is designed to increase public awareness of the value, impact, and services provided by libraries and library professionals. The campaign highlights the transformative nature of today's libraries and, as it grows, it will continue to elevate the critical role that libraries, librarians, library employees, and all library supporters play in the digital age—in all geographic locations and in all types and sizes of libraries.

The global response to Libraries Transform has been phenomenal. Libraries in 39 countries and territories are participating. You'll see some of the plans from your creative colleagues in this supplement. I encourage you to join at [librarystransform.org](http://librarystransform.org).

My presidential initiative for 2016–2017 is "Libraries Transform: The Expert in the Library," and it will build on the campaign. This focus clearly illustrates my lifelong commitment to transforming the profession through training and education. We can design and build the best library environment, assemble perfect resources, make resources accessible, and create services for our clientele, but the most important element in this process is the expertise within the library structures and processes: the library employee.

I know you will enjoy this year's international supplement. The articles feature transformative activity going on at ALA and in our profession around the globe: ALA's partnership with the Sharjah International Book Fair (SIBF) has helped to bring new ideas and new energy to the Middle East through the SIBF–ALA Library Conference; two librarians from Queens (N.Y.) Library continue the effort to pay it forward; ALA has an exciting new partnership with Germany's library community; and ALA's Presidential Citations for Innovative Libraries showcase exemplary efforts from Canada, China, Singapore, and Switzerland. The supplement also provides new information on the infrastructures that support our operations with the latest on RDA.

For those of you attending the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions World Library and Information Congress 2016 in Columbus, Ohio, I hope to meet you. If not, I invite you to be part of the largest library conference in the world when the ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition returns to Chicago next summer. It's one of my favorite cities to visit as well as a great conference town. ■

We can design and build the best library environment, but the most important element is the expertise within the library: the library employee.

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# Connect with Colleagues All Over the World

Become an  
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Librarians and library workers outside the US can join the American Library Association (ALA) as personal members at a discounted yearly rate of \$82 (US) and enjoy the same full benefits as other members: professional growth opportunities through networking; journals and newsletters; discounts on conferences, books, and online courses; and more.

Nearly 2,000 librarians from 100 countries outside the US are already ALA members. All members receive equal access to ALA resources and benefits, and all personal members have the same eligibility to vote in ALA elections, hold office, and serve on committees.

An ALA membership includes:

- free membership to the International Relations Round Table
- a subscription to *American Libraries* magazine
- weekly *AL Direct* e-newsletter and bimonthly *International AL Direct* e-newsletter delivery

- full access to the ALA Connect forum ([connect.ala.org](http://connect.ala.org))
- discounts on registration rates for the ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition, the Midwinter Meeting & Exhibits, and divisional national conferences and symposia
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ALA members are part of the global transformation of libraries. Being a member increases your ability to reach and serve your community by enhancing your knowledge and connects you to a network of colleagues who share interests in similar areas of library service. ALA also helps you understand and explore the latest trends and issues, discover new technologies and innovations, develop leadership skills, and become a better advocate. Get started today by joining at [ala.org/ala/membership](http://ala.org/ala/membership). ■

“ALA provides me with great opportunities to share ideas, ask for advice, and brainstorm with others who are also looking to share and learn new information.”

**MUSTAFA ABDELWAHID**, University Librarian-Director of the Library, Alfaisal University, Saudi Arabia



# Connections, Collaboration, and Community

IFLA WLIC 2016 in Columbus

by Amy Carlton, Terra Dankowski, George M. Eberhart, Rebecca Lomax, and Phil Morehart



**O**n August 14, Donna Scheeder, president of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), welcomed 3,200 delegates from 137 countries to the 82nd IFLA World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) in Columbus, Ohio.

The opening session celebrated its host state with appearances from Cleveland Cavaliers announcer Olivier Sedra and some animal ambassadors from the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium. It also recognized the state's history as the "birthplace of aviation" with an aerialist tribute to the Wright Brothers and a video message from astronaut and former US Senator John Glenn, among other highlights.

The conference coincided with the 2016 Summer Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, and Sedra compared the 137 countries represented at IFLA to the 206 competing in Brazil—"That, my friends, is Olympic-level engagement!"

This year's WLIC theme was "Connections, Collaboration, Community," and these concepts recurred in many of the conference sessions.

Scenes from the opening session, clockwise from top: Ohio inventors, including lightbulb creator Thomas Edison, were highlighted through costume and song; IFLA President Donna Scheeder; performance by an aerialist; a handler with a binturong ambassador from the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium.

## Connecting to protect collections

Connections between libraries and other organizations—locally, regionally, and internationally—were emphasized as a way to protect collections from disasters and theft.

In “Preparing for Disasters: Methods and Case Studies for the Safeguarding of Documentary Cultural Heritage,” panelists addressed the topic from a variety of angles. Bogdan Filip Zerek, head of the conservation department at the National Library of Poland, showed how the library combated the effects of water damage in the Krasinski Palace in Warsaw, which houses the library’s iconographic collections. After extensive microbiological sampling, they concluded that mold growth had infected the building and potentially the collections. As a result, thousands of items had to be relocated in order to both repair the building and test the collection for damage. The relocation alone took almost two years, and some of the collection had to be disinfected.

Jeanne Drewes, chief of binding and collections care at the Library of Congress, presented an overview of disaster risk management.

“When there is a disaster, cultural heritage institutions are vulnerable,” she said. It’s a notion that is often forgotten during a disaster, when saving human lives is paramount. Getting staff involved is key, she added, because long-term staff members may be aware of how past disasters were addressed. Drewes also recommended having continued conversations with first responders and fire marshals and implementing practice scenarios with staff.

Adetoun Adebisi Oyelude from the Kenneth Dike Library at the University of Ibadan in Nigeria detailed problems that have affected three libraries in Nigeria, including theft, porous security networks, untrained security guards, vehicular restraints, defective or nonexistent preservation techniques, lack of insurance, low funding, and bug



**JEANNE DREWES**

Chief of binding and collections care  
at the Library of Congress

damage. The preventative measures ranged from the modern to the indigenous, as one rural library spread the blood of dogs around the library to get rid of termites.

The program was rounded out by Sam Meister, preservation communities manager at the Educopia Institute in Atlanta, who examined the loss of digital data during catastrophic events. Meister discussed how the Meta-Archive Cooperative, an independent preservation network, makes seven digital copies of its members’ digital data, then splits, encrypts, and spreads the data among other network members’ servers.

The August 16 session “Theft in Libraries: Facing the Hidden Truth,” sponsored by the IFLA Strategic Programme on Preservation and Conservation and its Rare Books and Special Collections Section, brought together librarians, booksellers, and a law enforcement specialist to discuss how to curtail theft and what to do when it is discovered.

Michael Zubal, a manager of Zubal Books in Cleveland, whose store has intercepted stolen rare books, recommended that libraries do the following to make recovery of stolen books easier:

- Mark all rare materials clearly on the title page.

- Mark all deaccessioned books to show that they have been withdrawn and not stolen.
- Include copy-specific information in cataloging records.
- Report losses and thefts immediately to local booksellers, law enforcement, and missing-book blogs and lists run by the Antiquarian Booksellers Association of America, the International League of Antiquarian Booksellers, the Art Loss Register, the ALA Rare Books and Manuscripts Section’s Theft Report Updates, and Interpol’s database of stolen works of art.

Also on the program was Greger Bergvall, map and manuscripts librarian of the National Library of Sweden, who described the theft and resale of at least 62 rare books by Anders Burius, the chief of the library’s manuscript department, between 1995 and 2004. Bergvall said the theft was discovered in October 2003, when a German researcher asked for information about the library’s copy of a German edition of *The Illustrated Mississippi* by Henry Lewis. When it was found missing, “a secret inventory was ordered by a group of managers that a year later unveiled systematic inside thefts at the library.” Burius then confessed his involvement to the inventory group, turned himself in to Swedish police in November 2004, and was released prior to trial, but committed suicide a month later by blowing up his apartment.

Bergvall added that stolen books often make their way to Germany, where auction houses are allowed to transfer a valid title to stolen goods if they are offered at a public auction. “Booksellers and auction houses must begin to ask more questions,” he said. “Libraries must act to break the chain of buyers and stay involved in the police investigation. Police are not the book experts.”

Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Special Agent Luigi Mondini emphasized that thefts of rare materials from

## IFLA Annual Awards

During the WLIC Closing Session, the following awards were presented:

- The Public Libraries Section and the New Professionals Special Interest Group shared first-place honors for the Professional Committee Award. The Knowledge Management Section was runner-up.
- Best IFLA Poster 2016 was awarded to Saule Shingaliyeva and Kabiba Akzhigitova of the East Kazakhstan Regional Public Library, for their “Readers are Leaders” poster.
- IFLA Scrolls of Appreciation were extended to Dorothy McGarry, for distinguished service to IFLA and global librarianship; James G. “Jim” Neal, ALA president-elect, for his contributions to copyright and legal matters; Lynne Rudasill, for exemplary service to IFLA and linking expertise within development units; and Jacinta Were, for support of development of librarians and as a pioneer of computer technology in Kenya and Africa.
- The IFLA Medal was awarded posthumously to Antonio M. “Tony” Santos, director of the National Library of the Philippines, for international librarianship and contributions to leadership across Asia; and to Gordon Dunsire, for his distinguished

service to IFLA, international librarianship, and advancement of bibliographic data, linked data, and the semantic web.

- IFLA’s highest distinction, Honorary Fellow, was awarded to Jennefer Nicholson for her service to the organization for the past 18 years, in her former role as IFLA Secretary General, and in working with different sections. Nicholson, who is from Australia, was nominated by peers and helped to establish a secure financial situation for the federation. ●



academic libraries are severely underreported. “This is both due to embarrassment and because some thefts are never discovered until the items are recovered,” he said. The FBI’s Art Crime Team can offer the resources of the FBI in resolving thefts from libraries. “Be wary of your own staffs,” he cautioned. “Some 80% of all thefts are by insiders.”

### Collaborating to improve information

Another major theme of WLIC was collaboration between libraries and other information champions, such as health agencies and internet behemoth Wikipedia.

Wikipedia and libraries are allies and need to work together, according to Alex Stinson and Jake Orlowitz

of the Wikimedia Foundation. Their forum, “Library Engagement and Wikipedia,” explained how and why the two often at-odds factions should join forces to provide more complete and accurate scholarship.

The breadth and scope of information available on Wikipedia leads to questions of authenticity. With so

many encyclopedic entries, all written and sourced by volunteers, how can the content be verified for accuracy? Librarians are key to closing those gaps, according to Stinson and Orlowitz.

In January 2016, the foundation started the #1Lib1Ref campaign to recruit help in this task, inviting libraries to host referencing events during which participants confirm citations on Wikipedia entries. Twelve libraries and institutions from three countries hosted events in January, and another round of the campaign is in the works.

Health literacy—as well as determining health publications’ efficacy—was at the center of the research and case studies presented in “From Action to Impact: Health Information Professionals Connecting Communities,”



**JAKE ORLOWITZ**  
Head librarian of  
Wikipedia



**ALEX STINSON**  
Wikimedia  
Foundation



a session held August 17. Librarians presented findings from diverse initiatives, campaigns, and studies focusing on the librarian's role in facilitating health information for the public and acting as a bridge to professional medical resources.

Praba Naidoo of the University of KwaZulu-Natal in Durban, South Africa, presented on a study that examined the connection between librarians, dietitians, and patients affected by type 2 diabetes. "Information provision is especially important for the management of type 2 diabetes," especially for those from "economically disadvantaged communities," said Naidoo.

Dijana Sabolović-Krajina, from the Public Library Fran Galović in Koprivnica, Croatia, said her library has been actively promoting health literacy since 2008 through partnerships with hospitals, health institutes, nongovernment organizations, and individual health professionals. One innovative and successful program has been "Health Tips under Library Parasols," where library users and health professionals gather outdoors in summer for conversations and demonstrations geared to preventative medicine and health literacy.

## Libraries improving communities

The takeaway from IFLA's Asia and Oceania Section presentation on August 15 was how libraries in many countries—from highly industrialized economies to fragile island states, from the Middle East to French Polynesia—can help people find the information they need to create sustainable communities.

Section Chair Jayshree Mamtora said that the problems these countries face—relations with indigenous peoples, developing economies, immigration, climate change, multilingual populations, and communication over vast distances—are all being addressed by libraries that are experimenting with new ways of contributing to the social and economic development of the communities they serve.

Keynote speaker Loida Garcia-Febo, a library consultant with international expertise and a member of the IFLA governing board, noted some of the ways citizen access to information can be used as a tool for education, engagement, and empowerment:

- Los Angeles Public Library helps immigrants fill out forms for naturalization.



**LOIDA GARCIA-FEBO**  
Library consultant and member of the IFLA governing board

- Toronto Public Library provides Newcomer Settlement Services for new Canadian residents.
- The San Juan Planes community library in Honduras began a project to bring safe drinking water to the community.
- The National Library of Uganda offers a tech training program in local languages for female farmers, showing them how to read weather forecasts, follow crop prices, and set up online markets.

Because libraries are essential to global development, IFLA was instrumental in getting access to information included as part of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations to be achieved by 2030. Sustainable Development Target 16.10 is to "ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements." The 2030 Agenda is a global plan of action for people, the planet, and prosperity. Garcia-Febo added, "We hope these initiatives encourage associations, national libraries, and librarians in general to advocate for the inclusion of libraries in national government agendas."



In the exhibit hall, Sara Ulloa (right) from San Silvestre School in Peru tries out the Google Cardboard virtual reality viewer at the *New York Times* booth.

## National Libraries and Sustainable Development

Some national libraries are acting as catalysts to encourage the adoption of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals for 2030. A few libraries described their efforts during an August 15 presentation sponsored by the National Information and Library Policy Special Interest Group.

Lili Boshevka, director of the University St. Kliment Ohridski Library in Bitola—one of five national libraries in Macedonia—said that the majority of the UN goals are already mirrored in national policy. “Sustainability is possible,” she said, “but there is still much to be done by 2030.”

Combating poverty by eradicating illiteracy is one of Macedonia's main priorities, Boshevka said, especially for disenfranchised groups. Some specific library initiatives include:

- Increasing the social and cultural inclusion of the Roma community
- Holding public events like the “living library,” where users can interact with persons who are marginalized because of their social or economic status, cultural origin, gender, age, beliefs, appearance, or lifestyle
- Offering free library services to members of vulnerable groups
- Cooperating with medical schools and experts to provide health information
- Combating abuse and violence against women and children
- Providing nutrition information to schoolchildren

- Offering information on sexual health, reproduction, and family planning

Eddy Maepa, executive director for core programs at the National Library of South Africa in Pretoria, said that his library's efforts were also congruent with the UN Sustainable Development Goals. “South Africa has a social cohesion mandate,” he said, “to address the challenges raised by a divided past.” Endemic poverty is “exacerbated by a 26.7% unemployment rate,” so the national library is “encouraging young entrepreneurs to establish their own businesses” instead of applying for jobs in a shrinking market. Maepa added that many of them use the library's internet facilities: “One young man told me that the library is like his office; he cannot afford to pay rent or online fees, so he checks on his product orders in the library.”

Libraries have had generous government support since the arrival of democracy in 1994. “I have visited four newly built libraries in 2016,” Maepa said. “All the signatories to the Cape Town Declaration, adopted at the 2015 IFLA conference, support libraries as strategic tools for the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Our major purpose is to increase and enhance reading culture among the South African peoples.”

Sook Won Shin, chair of the Presidential Committee on Library and Information Policy of the Republic of Korea, said that libraries there are “trying to bring about a change in people's perception—that libraries are an essential place for happiness in our life, as well as

### Library designs that embrace the community

Librarians, library administrators, and architects gathered for the forum “What Comes After the ‘Third Place’? Visionary Libraries—Space and Users” to discuss the library as both the third place and as a community gathering point that looks to the future.

Marie Ostergaard, head of community engagement at Dokk1, in Aarhus, Denmark, led the session with a detailed presentation on the Dokk1 project and how it reenvisioned the library-going experience. Dokk1 is a



**MARIE OSTERGAARD**

Head of community engagement at Dokk1

massive, open-air complex in the city center on the waterfront that encompasses the main library, open squares, a light-rail connection, and automated underground vertical parking. The project took 10 years to finish at a cost of \$305 million, and it won IFLA's 2016 Public Library of the Year Award.

Ostergaard described Dokk1 as the “living room of the city,” and as such it is less focused on books and more focused on human needs, providing space for performances, meetings, children's activities, art installations, and general public gatherings. The citizens



**LILI BOSHEVSKA**

Director of the University St. Kliment Ohridski Library in Macedonia



**EDDY MAEPA**

Executive director for core programs at the National Library of South Africa in Pretoria



**SOOK WON SHIN**

Chair of the Presidential Committee on Library and Information Policy of the Republic of Korea



**RAPHAËLLE BATS**

Instructor at École Nationale Supérieure des Sciences de l'Information et des Bibliothèques

spaces for learning, creating, and sharing as a community center.” The committee’s current five-year plan, launched in 2014, is to “fulfill public happiness with knowledge and information services, strengthen creative competencies through learning and research, and realize the cultural power of Korea.”

UN Sustainable Development Goal number 5 is to “achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.” To examine the progress of this concept among staff members of the Bibliothèque Publique d’Information (BPI) in the Pompidou Center in Paris, two students, Mathilde Gaffet and Camille Espy at the École Nationale Supérieure des Sciences de l’Information et des Bibliothèques (ENSSIB), one of the principal library schools

in France, conducted a survey. Their teacher, Raphaëlle Bats, gave an overview of their findings.

The students found that the BPI, essentially the French national public library, is not committed to promoting gender equality in its programs and services, despite having signed on to the 2014 Lyon Declaration, which supports it.

“There are isolated initiatives,” Bats said, “but not a true orientation.” Women are represented in less than 25% of BPI programs, a percentage that matches the proportion of women in French art programs and public research. The students concluded that French national libraries must make a definitive choice between mirroring society’s preferences or militantly acting as change agents in gender equality. ●

of Aarhus have accepted the newly configured library with open arms. Dokk1 serves 4,000 visitors daily, according to Ostergaard.

At “Green Libraries: Together for All,” the IFLA Environmental Sustainability and Libraries Special Interest Group discussed the effects of climate change on libraries, shared the application of environmental practices, and presented the IFLA Green Library Award to Pequeño Sol ecological library, San Cristóbal de las Casas, Chiapas state, Mexico, for its new crowdfunded and community-

constructed building extension that incorporates renewable energies and recycled materials.

### Immigrants and the library

Service to immigrant populations is an increasingly important part of the library’s mission, as refugees or displaced persons are relocated in the United States and Europe, sometimes in places reluctant to have them. The ALA’s Ethnic and Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table issued Guidelines for Outreach to Immigrant Populations in December

2015. But refugees and immigrants seeking a new homeland are not a new phenomenon, and several speakers at “Libraries and Immigrants: Historical Perspective,” sponsored by the IFLA Library History Special Interest Group, offered some insights.

Irene Münster, associate director of the Priddy Library for the Universities at Shady Grove in Rockville, Maryland, described the waves of Jewish immigrants to Argentina from 1889 to the 1930s, many of whom established their own library collections in Yiddish, Russian, German, or Polish

languages in the towns and cities they settled in.

In the 1930s, to support Jews who had escaped Nazi Germany, a Bibliothek der Lesefreunde was established in Buenos Aires to “rescue and preserve the German values found in books the émigrés brought with them or that were already in Argentina—books that were burned on May 10, 1933, in Germany,” Münster said, “for being considered degenerate or anti-German.” Münster and other interested groups have been trying to locate and preserve the books originally held by these libraries in Argentina.

Raymond Pun, first-year student success librarian at California State University, Fresno, presented his research on the novelist Ameen Rihani (1876–1940), whose *Book of Khalid*, published by Dodd, Mead, and Company in 1911, was the first novel in English written by a Lebanese Arab-American. Although little known today, Rihani’s book was illustrated by the better-known Lebanese artist and poet Kahlil Gibran.

Sharon McQueen, a faculty member at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, discussed the life of librarian and editor May Masee (1881–1966). During her long tenure, McQueen said, she published books by foreign authors

and illustrators, as well as titles set in foreign countries, a rarity at the time.

### Removing barriers to indigenous knowledge

Natural languages and dialects, specificity of local terms, and community input should all be taken into account when classifying and indexing indigenous materials, according to panelists at “Reclaiming Subject Access to Indigenous Knowledge,” on August 16.

Cristina Villanueva, librarian at the University of the Philippines Baguio, presented her findings on classifying and indexing Philippine indigenous materials, with a special emphasis on the Cordillera Administrative Region, “home to the largest concentration of ethnolinguistic roots” in her country, she said. Villanueva noted that while it’s her university’s cataloging policy to use the Library of Congress classification scheme, the Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) are limited and ineffective when applied to the Cordillera Studies Collection Library.

One of the limitations in using LCSH, according to Villanueva, is the lack of local terms and the fact that there are no English or American counterparts for words reflecting traditional customs, practices, and indigenous knowledge.

For example, there is no subject heading that accurately reflects “headhunting,” an indigenous political and justice system in Cordillera culture. Instead, LCSH erroneously applies a lead-in term for “employee recruitment.”

Christine Bone, cataloging librarian at the University of Manitoba Libraries in Winnipeg, also spoke to the shortcomings of LCSH and the modifications her group made to an archives database to improve access to Manitoba-specific indigenous materials. Bone’s group started its project by identifying problematic headings and debating and analyzing these terms with consultation from First Nations communities.

Changes included updating the word *Indian* to *indigenous* and replacing the term *mythology* with *spirituality* in headings. Ultimately, decisions had to remain internally consistent and “fit back into” the LCSH framework, said Bone.

Sharon Farnel, metadata coordinator at the University of Alberta Libraries in Edmonton, described the three-year, grant-funded Digital Library North (DLN) project serving the Inuvialuit Settlement Region in the Western Arctic of Canada and its goal of enhancing indigenous subject access across a remote 91,000-square-kilometer region that has rich culture, language, and history but limited resource sharing.

### Inclusive school libraries

What’s the best way to provide resources, instruction, and librarianship to both typically and differently able students? At “Inclusionary Practices to Support School Libraries,” librarians attempted to answer this question by examining inclusionary and accessibility strategies in school libraries.

Clayton Copeland and Karen Gavigan, both instructors at the University of South Carolina School of Library and Information Science, shared findings from a middle-school classroom they observed in a rural, low-income area of



From left: Irene Münster, associate director of the Priddy Library for the Universities at Shady Grove in Rockville, Maryland; Raymond Pun, first-year student success librarian at California State University, Fresno; and Sharon McQueen, a faculty member at the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

the southeastern US. They noted that one challenge to creating an accessible environment is a hesitation and fear among librarians about knowing what “developmentally appropriate teaching strategies” are for students.

Valérie Glass, of the Association des Professeurs Documentalistes de l'Éducation Nationale in Paris, also studied how programs and activities in schools can reach students of different abilities and backgrounds. “There’s an inclusive dimension enshrined in most French educational acts,” said Glass. Her research found that key to creating an inclusive environment is adopting a wide range of resources and library materials for different abilities. Glass suggested video games, manga, and magazines as items to attract differently able students.

Isabel Mendinhos, of the School Library Network in Lisbon, Portugal, found that very little was being done in her country with regard to special needs educational services. Her organization sought to provide schools with adequate resources in accessible formats and bring some measure of consistency, adequacy, involvement, and sustainability to the collaborative work between school librarians and special education teachers.



**VALÉRIE GLASS**

Association des Professeurs Documentalistes de l'Éducation Nationale



An attendee from Sudan adds a book to the IFLA Little Library. Conference attendees were invited to trade books; any leftovers at the end of the conference were donated.

The program, in partnership with the Ministry of Education, reached 7,309 students across 72 districts and brought more inclusive teaching materials—such as worksheets, puzzles, subtitled videos, and multisensory books—to schools. As a result, librarians noticed changes in attitudes among students, and special-needs students started using the library of their own initiative.

### An invitation to Poland ... and Malaysia

At the **IFLA WLIC 2016 Closing Session**, Rafał Dutkiewicz, mayor of Wrocław, Poland, and Tomasz Makowski, director general of the National Library of Poland, extended an invitation to the audience to come to IFLA WLIC 2017 in Wrocław. Patrick Losinski, CEO of Columbus Metropolitan Library, and Carol Diedrichs, Ohio State University’s director emeritus of university libraries, cochairs of the IFLA WLIC 2016 National Committee, thanked the planning committees and many volunteers

who made this year’s conference possible. They presented Dutkiewicz and Makowski with a set of bookends made from granite used in the construction of the Ohio Statehouse.

IFLA WLIC 2018 will be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Nafisah Ahmad, director general of the National Library of Malaysia, invited the audience to come explore a “warm and friendly country that enjoys a tropical climate all year long,” replete with heritage sites, rain forests, modern infrastructure, and an award-winning convention center.

Scheeder renewed her call to action to librarians to make their field strong by supporting access and opportunity for all.

“I’m happy to say I saw action at this meeting and a commitment to positive change,” said President Scheeder at the Closing Session. “What went on here must become a movement.”

See our complete IFLA WLIC 2016 coverage at [americanlibrariesmagazine.org](http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org). ■

# International Library Innovators

ALA Presidential Citations awarded to institutions in Canada, China, Singapore, and Switzerland

The Vancouver Island (B.C.) Regional Library, the Inner Mongolia Library in China, the National Library Board of Singapore, and the International School of Geneva, Switzerland, were honored with the ALA Presidential Citation for Innovative International Library Projects. The awards were presented by then-American Library Association (ALA) President Sari Feldman, with support from the International Relations Round Table Advisory Award Committee, at the 2016 ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition in Orlando, Florida.

The citation began as an initiative of Loriene Roy, 2007–2008 ALA president. Since its inception, 38 groups have been presented with the honor. The four 2016 winners were recognized for designing and implementing highly visible, innovative services that greatly improve existing library services for users. The projects draw attention to the potential of library service for creating positive change and demonstrate a likelihood for sustainability, with the potential to serve as a model for other libraries. ■

## NOMINATE A PROJECT

For more information and to nominate a project, visit [ala.org/irrt/alapresintlbrary](http://ala.org/irrt/alapresintlbrary) award. The deadline for nominations is January 1, 2017.

National Library Board of Singapore  
library@orchard

The National Library Board (NLB) of Singapore partnered with Singapore Polytechnic to employ design thinking methodology to develop a public library in an unusual retail setting. To understand library users' experiences and changing habits in the use of media and social spaces, they engaged them in the design process and used the insights to conceptualize the library.

The initial design of the library was informed by extensive interviews and observations of user behavior in libraries and other social spaces. Concepts were tested using prototypes, and the process allowed for several iterations and refinements, all informed by users. The extensive information-gathering process provided NLB with insights into the expectations and aspirations of today's library users. Some of these insights are applicable not only to library@orchard but also to design considerations for future public libraries.

NLB found that users were drawn to the overall experience of the library, though the desired experience often differs from user to user.





Users expressed a need to connect to information through a wide range of access nodes and behaviors. The library was thus designed to facilitate these connections at every opportunity. Users encounter current information at the entrance gallery. Patrons are encouraged to connect with other patrons in areas such as the maker-space, the arena, and book trees.

Library@orchard is centered on lifestyle, design, and the applied arts, taking reference from its location in the prime shopping district, its unique design process, and its differentiated user base. As a public library,

it espouses the theme “design is for everyone,” which is carried through the library in the design of the space and in features such as the video wall, digital interfaces, and printed materials. The way the collection is shelved and presented was also redesigned based on user insights.

Additionally, user insights led NLB to design and create immersive experiences for library visitors, including private “cocoon” and other quiet reading spaces. The library space seamlessly incorporates intuitive new technologies for users accustomed to interacting with digital devices

and formats. At the same time, NLB was careful to balance what people wanted with what people needed so as not to end up with an unmanageable laundry list of requests. The guiding principle that NLB followed was to design a library that would allow people to use and explore content in the most intuitive way possible.

With its combination of designed spaces and user-centric experiences, library@orchard is aspirational and welcoming. It has been described as a library that has a “voice,” engaging visitors with subtle surprises and delight at every level. ●

With its combination of designed spaces and user-centric experiences, library@orchard is at once aspirational and welcoming.



## Vancouver Island (B.C.) Regional Library

## Librarians on the Radio

The Vancouver Island Regional Library (VIRL) partnered with the long-running CHLY 101.7 FM radio show *Changes: The Show on Sustainability* to create *Librarians on the Radio*, a show devoted to promoting library services to the wider Vancouver Island community. The show highlights librarians' passions and interests and connects both library users and nonusers to the larger library world. Library users learn about things that they did not know the library is doing. Nonusers learn that the library is not just about books.

Librarians host the live show and interview their colleagues and peers. Mobile media kits allow library users to contribute and promote the show. Podcasts and an archive of past shows have been made available as well.

*Librarians on the Radio* went on the air in January 2013. It began as a 15-minute segment in another CHLY show before moving to a monthly hour-long slot during *Changes*. VIRL librarians Jason Kuffler and Justin Unrau host. Unrau developed nontraditional library skills while interning at the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, and he uses these skills on the podcast. He also presents *Librarians Off the Radio*, which offers content supplemental to the live show. VIRL's e-librarian Emily Orr cohosts and focuses on digital literacy, and Adult Services Librarian Patrick Siebold contributes to the



VIRL librarians Jason Kuffler (above) and Justin Unrau (below, right) host *Librarians on the Radio*.

bookfight (competitive book reviewing) segment of the show.

*Librarians on the Radio* has gone beyond VIRL's local service area to interview authors and librarians, such as Ferguson (Mo.) Public Library Director Scott Bonner, children's author and illustrator Jeremy Tankard, and author Irvine Welsh (in a Freedom to Read Week special). Podcast downloads have increased as the show has taken on topics relevant to listeners outside of Vancouver. ●



*Librarians on the Radio* lets people know they are connected to more than just their local branches.



# Nanaimo Correctional Centre Program

In April 2015, VIRL partnered with the Nanaimo (B.C.) Correctional Centre, a medium-security prison. Initiated by VIRL Librarian Jennifer Seper, the partnership began with a simple plan to improve the existing library at the facility and grew to include a book club and an agreement, still pending, that would allow inmates to request specific materials directly from the library.

Seper approached Nanaimo to increase both inmate access to materials and literacy levels. The facility has a small school, but because of recent cutbacks, there is only one teacher and limited access for inmates.

The first component of the project was to overhaul an outdated library collection and reorganize materials to allow prisoners to quickly select quality, appealing titles. Once Seper had solicited more than 50 boxes of donated books, she weeded the facility's collection, working with a team of four inmates to recycle thousands of torn, dusty, outdated titles. The remaining books were sorted and reshelfed with the new titles.

During weeding and reshelfing, Seper was approached by inmates with requests for specific titles or



Inmates attend a book club at the Nanaimo (B.C.) Correctional Centre.

topics. Many expressed a desire to read but were not able to find materials that interested them. These conversations led to a lending agreement between the facility and the library that would allow inmates to request titles or books on an area of interest that could be brought into the facility on a monthly basis. A library card would be issued in the name of the facility, but the inmates would be responsible for ensuring

the materials were returned in good condition. An agreement was drafted, including the request forms, and is pending.

Books and reading were natural conversation topics during the weeding process, and everyone seemed eager to discuss their favorite book or those they had read as children. Inspired by this, Seper began to hold monthly meetings for inmates in the Guthrie Therapeutic Community Program, where inmates learn to discuss their feelings and opinions with others and learn to accept different opinions in a nonconfrontational way. Book clubs for the general population and protective custody populations of the center are being considered. ●

In monthly meetings, inmates learned to accept different opinions in a nonconfrontational way.

International School of Geneva, Switzerland

# Marronniers Library App

**M**arronniers Library is a primary school library belonging to the International School of Geneva, Switzerland. The primary school has 580 students, ages 3–9, from countries all over the world. Teaching is provided in both English and French. The library is staffed by Head Librarian Marie-Pierre Preece and librarian Susan Boller, who teach 20 classes per week, provide resources to teachers, lend books to parents, and organize various library events.

Boller's idea to create an app for the library took root approximately four years ago as mobile devices became ubiquitous. Most students at the school have a tablet or access to one at home. Parents often asked the school's librarians for advice on where to find safe and educational apps, convincing Boller that the library needed to have its own app.

Creating the app was a long and challenging process given the library's tight budget and Boller's lack of IT experience, but she succeeded in creating an app using existing technology at low cost. Launched in spring 2013, it has greatly enhanced the delivery of library services and is now widely used by students, parents, and teachers. It is free for users and available on iPad, iPhone, and Android devices. Recent statistics show the app has been downloaded on more than 900 devices, and an internal survey showed approximately 80% of patrons use the app regularly.

Key app features include the following:

- access to books and information through the TumbleBooks, Enchanted Learning, and PebbleGo databases
- links to age-appropriate, safe, and educational websites
- access to the library catalog



An International School of Geneva student uses the Marronniers Library app.

- a link to the library website, which has book reviews by students, recommended books, and information about library events
- student-made animated videos that welcome new students and explain library services in a variety of languages
- access to a multitude of games created by Preece and Boller related to books, authors, and school topics.

Preece and Boller had one more idea: Although the app was designed to be used on mobile devices, they wanted to find a way to wean children off these devices and into print books. Boller came up with the idea of putting QR codes on books that would link to short video teasers enticing the children to read the books. The experiment was a success: After scanning the QR code via the app, more often than not the child put the device down and opened the book. ●



After scanning the QR code via the app, more often than not the child put the device down and opened the book.

## Inner Mongolia Library in China

# Cloud Service Project

The Inner Mongolia Library launched the Cloud Service Project in 2014 with two goals in mind: partner with local bookstores to strengthen demand-driven acquisition and increase the use of the library collection to promote reading. It has proven to be an innovative solution to a continued decline in public borrowing and user complaints about the unavailability of newly published books or high-demand items.

The Cloud Service Project uses dynamic and shared data to allow patrons to borrow books directly from participating bookstores and return them to the library. The library staff then completes the ordering process and stores the

books in its own collection. The project has built a strong partnership between libraries, bookstores, and readers. Both bookstore and library patrons have access to library book recommendations through the service. Patrons can exchange borrowed books with other patrons through the mobile app's book exchange platform.

The end result: More library patrons are visiting bookstores, and more bookstore patrons are visiting

the library. It has also realized the library's three-zero mantra: zero wait, zero patrons leaving without a book, and zero complaints. Furthermore, the project has achieved a 100% circulation rate for books newly acquired through the project. The Inner Mongolia Library has also shown dramatic improvement in core measures for library service, such as target population coverage rate, number of library cardholders, and gate count. ●

More library patrons are visiting bookstores, and more bookstore patrons are visiting the library.



The Cloud Service Project extends to rural Inner Mongolia.

# SIBF/ALA Library Conference Turns Three

Successful collaboration in the Middle East continues

The Sharjah International Book Fair (SIBF)/American Library Association (ALA) Library Conference looks set for a strong future as preparations for the third event get under way.

As ALA's most ambitious international professional development collaboration to date, the library conference will be hosted at the 35th SIBF, November 8–10 at the Sharjah Expo Centre in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates (UAE). The shared location provides an opportunity for attendees to combine professional development with exploring and acquiring materials for their libraries. In 2015, SIBF hosted more than 1.2 million visitors and 1,547 publishing houses from 64 countries that exhibited more than 1.5 million books in 210 languages.

SIBF, with its motto "For the love of the written word," is one of the largest book fairs in the world and one of the most exciting literary events in the

region. The SIBF/ALA Library Conference ties in with the UAE Cabinet's declaration that 2016 is "UAE Reading Year," marking the start of an "integrated national literacy strategy and a framework to produce a reading generation and establish the UAE as the capital of cultural and knowledge content."

The international roster of expert presenters and keynote speakers for the 2016 conference includes ALA President Julie B. Todaro and Miguel Figueroa, director of ALA's Center for the Future of Libraries. Todaro's speech will focus on "The Expert in the Library," while Figueroa will discuss how societal trends affect planning for the library of the future and managing change in libraries.

Other topics of discussion will include new trends and technologies,



Julie B. Todaro



Miguel Figueroa

digital content, innovative spaces and services, marketing, assessment, rebranding and proving the value of the library, staff and leadership development, and

promoting the love of reading. Two concurrent full-day preconferences will offer in-depth training on RDA for nonbook materials and creating an institutional repository. Talks are under way with the Sharjah Ministry of Education about a special preconference for school librarians. All sessions are presented in Arabic or English with simultaneous translation, and all event materials and communications are prepared in both languages.

In response to attendee feedback, the 2016 conference will increase the

Continued on page 20 ▶

From left: Khaled Ahmad Halloume, Hassan Momani, ALA Past President Sari Feldman, Jassim M. Jirjees, Asmah Saad Assim, Muna Abdulla, and Azeyaa Ahmed at the 2015 SIBF/ALA Library Conference.



## Sharing Sharjah Experiences

Hesham Mohamed, senior librarian and emerging technology specialist, and Salwa Elmeawad, senior librarian and staff technology trainer, at Queens (N.Y.) Library, shared their learning and experiences from the Sharjah International Book Fair (SIBF)/ American Library Association (ALA) Library Conference in a series of workshops in Cairo, Egypt, in November 2015. Aimed at public, school, and academic libraries, the workshops covered topics ranging from new technology to leadership skills.

### For public libraries

- **“Tech Educational Services in Public Libraries: Advanced Practices.”** In this workshop, Mohamed and Elmeawad revisited a presentation they gave at the 2015 SIBF/ALA Library Conference. Mohamed discussed the NYC Social Apps Project, which connects schoolchildren with teachers who provide homework assistance, and Elmeawad presented on technological advancement and the need for corresponding staff training.
- **“Collaborative Leadership and Management in Libraries: Basic Workshop.”** Hosted by the Cultural Center and Library Experts Group, this workshop focused on enhancing leadership and management skills by applying new methods of collaborative leadership to develop customized library service based on user needs. Participants learned how to identify community needs and to reach out to the community. They also learned the types of collaboration that need to be established between different library departments and between external civic and governmental organizations in order to deliver specific services.
- **“From Centralization to Noncentralization for Better Library Services: An Advanced Workshop.”** This advanced leadership workshop, hosted by the 6th of October City Public Library in Cairo and Library Experts Group, was designed to teach the differences between organizational paradigms and help attendees determine which paradigm would be suitable for a given public library. The audience learned the organizational hierarchy based on each paradigm and how to establish a suitable hierarchical system that would help library staff adapt to both technological changes and community needs.



Participants in a workshop in Cairo.

- **“Library Experts 4th Round Table: American and Egyptian Experiences in Managing Multibranch Public Libraries.”** This round table, conducted by Elmeawad and hosted by the Library Experts Group and Misr Public Library in Port Said, Egypt, was attended by librarians from all major Egyptian cities.

### For academic libraries

**“Collaborative Leadership and Management for Academic Libraries.”** Hosted by the American Window of the US Embassy in Cairo, Library Experts Group, Cairo University, and the Central Library of Cairo University, this workshop introduced important leadership concepts in academic libraries. The audience learned how to implement organizational strategies to manage contemporary academic libraries, including establishing communication channels to increase the collaboration between the library, faculty members, and students; learning skills needed to evaluate library resources and databases; and learning outreach methods to students and faculty members and how to engage them in educational activities.

### For school libraries

**“Instructing Students to Conduct Research and Make Successful Presentations.”** Hosted by the Millennium Language School, this workshop taught school librarians new techniques to reach out to students to encourage them to use the library, including how to use research tools to train students on how to develop instructional research classes, recognize authoritative resources for their research, and create successful presentations. Presenters also showed how to engage the students in educational activities to prepare them for higher education. ●

◀ Continued from page 18

length of its programs to allow for more interactivity and a greater focus on specific topics. Time will continue to be built into future programs to encourage attendees to share ideas, experiences, and challenges.

In 2015, almost 300 librarians from academic, public, school, government, and special libraries attended from more than 20 countries including Afghanistan, Bahrain, Egypt, India, Iraq, Jordan, Mauritania, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, UAE, and the US. They shared ideas and information as they took part in three days of programs and training, a poster session, and lively networking, with the exhibits area offering an added meeting point.

Attendee Khalid Ismail, chief librarian at Al Khawarizmi International College in the Philippines, said



that in 2014 he came by himself; in 2015 he brought five specialist librarians from his staff; and this year he hopes to attend with 10. “We need to get new ideas and develop our skills with practices from other areas,” he said. School librarian Mona Alsheikh said that she came “to find out what’s new in school libraries that I didn’t know before.” Tony Mulliken, chairman of Midas Public Relations in the United Kingdom, who was actively involved in getting the SIBF/ALA Library Conference off the ground, commented that “Sharjah, as the

cultural capital of the UAE, is proud of its passion for books and has some of the most beautiful libraries in the world and wants to modernize, professionalize, and make these libraries important destinations for learning and entertainment.”

Platinum sponsors for the 2016 conference include the American Psychological Association and Ingram. The *International New York Times* is a first-time Gold Sponsor. The conference is built on an ongoing collaboration between the Sharjah Book Authority, Combined Book Exhibit, and ALA.

For a look back at the 2015 conference, visit [bit.ly/27RD8Wu](http://bit.ly/27RD8Wu). For information and to register, visit [ala.org/sibf](http://ala.org/sibf) and track #SIBFALA16 on Twitter. You can also find links to the 2015 programs, recordings of the presentations, photos, and a list of the poster sessions, presenters, and topics at [ala.org/sibf](http://ala.org/sibf). ■

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Top: A fire destroyed the library of Mzuzu University in Malawi in 2015. Above: Virginia Tech graduate students sort through books donated to the Mzuni Library Initiative.

# Rebuilding in Malawi

Librarians lend a hand after library fire

BY Paul Hover

The call for action came from Michael Dowling, director of American Library Association’s (ALA) International Relations Office. According to Dowling, the library of Mzuzu University, in Mzuzu, Malawi, was “in dire, dire need” after a devastating fire on December 18, 2015. Nothing was left of the library, the only one at the principal institution of higher learning in the least-developed region of this very poor African country.

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (VT) has been running student service opportunities to Malawi for several years, so it was no coincidence the university was one of the first to hear about the fire. The student service initiatives, known as TEAM Malawi, are part of a multidisciplinary program based on a community wellness model of health care that incorporates technology, education, advocacy, and medicine (TEAM).

VT’s University Libraries joined TEAM Malawi when a call for library expertise went out on social media. Anita Walz, open education, copyright, and scholarly communications librarian, spotted the tweet and directed it to me.

Honestly, I had my doubts about what I could do to help, but as I picked my way through the snow and ice to the meeting at the College of Engineering, it hit me: There are big-hearted librarians all over the world who will help.

## Tapping the international community

First, I sent an email to ALA’s International Relations Round Table (IRRT) Chair John Hickok before the 2016 ALA Midwinter Meeting. He wrote back stating that IRRT endorsed publicizing the relief effort. IRRT not only published a story about the fire in *International Leads* but also wrote about it on its Facebook page and blog.

Second, I contacted the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA). Julia Brungs,

### How to help

You can find more information about urgently needed resources and how to help the relief effort on VT’s TEAM Malawi blog ([malawiedandchildwelfare.wordpress.com](http://malawiedandchildwelfare.wordpress.com)). ●

policy and research officer based in The Hague, Netherlands, put me in touch with Douwe Drijfhout, director of preservation services at the National Library of South Africa. Drijfhout offered to help and connected me with the National Library Service of Malawi.

Back home at VT, Brian Mathews, associate dean of learning, emailed a number of resources to Felix P. Majawa, university librarian at Mzuzu University. The resources, assembled by Mathews while leading the ongoing renovation of Newman Library, included information about learning spaces, details on VT’s philosophy and characteristics, and documents on active learning environments and libraries of interest. ■

**PAUL HOVER** is assistant director for international outreach at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University Libraries.

# IMLS Funds 50 IFLA Fellowships

Grant allows emerging leaders to attend conference

by Scott Shoger

The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) 2016 National Committee, with the support of libraries, library associations, information schools, and related institutions in the US and Canada, has awarded 193 fellowships to librarians and information professionals from North America and beyond to attend IFLA World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) 2016 in Columbus, Ohio. Thanks to a \$50,000 grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), 50 of these fellowships went to a diverse mix of emerging leaders from across the US.

The fellowship program has two components: The National Committee awarded \$1,000 scholarships to 120 information professionals from the US and Canada, including residents from 37 US states and six Canadian territories. Another 73 information professionals from outside the US and Canada were awarded scholarships covering all costs related to attendance (see sidebar, p. 16). A full list of participants is available at [ala.org/offices/iro](http://ala.org/offices/iro).

The IMLS grant was awarded through the 2015 Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program, which supports the recruitment and education of library students, continuing education for those already in the profession, research, and new programs



that build institutional capacity. IMLS-funded fellows will bring their diverse perspectives and knowledge to IFLA WLIC, while engaging, networking, and learning from professionals from around the world. The US library community as a whole will benefit from increasing the diversity of individuals participating and representing it in international activities. IMLS fellows are employed in a variety of venues, including public, academic, school, legal, medical, and government libraries.



Cristina Ramirez

Among the trailblazers in the IMLS-funded cohort is Cristina Ramirez, library manager for the Henrico County (Va.) Public Library and an ALA Councilor-at-Large since 2007. The first bilingual Latina librarian to work as a branch manager

in Richmond, Virginia, Ramirez will share her experience working with a diverse patron base with IFLA WLIC

attendees. In turn, she said that she hopes “to learn about how [her] colleagues in other countries offer services, materials, and resources to immigrants and minorities in their communities.”

The IMLS-funded fellowship also includes a mentor-mentee component. Scholarship recipients have been matched with experienced internationalists in the US library community attending IFLA WLIC 2016. Mentors will create meaningful connections with individuals new to the profession who are interested in becoming globally engaged.

The fellowship doesn't end with the IFLA WLIC Closing Session. ALA and other associations represented on the IFLA 2016 National Committee will fast-track the scholarship recipients onto their international committees so that all 50 recipients will have internationally focused assignments by July 2017.

The IFLA 2016 National Committee consists of ALA, Association of Research Libraries, Association for Library and Information Science Education, Medical Library Association, Special Libraries Association, Chief Officers of State Library Agencies, Urban Libraries Council, and Chinese American Librarians Association, as well as the Columbus Metropolitan Library, Ohio State University Libraries, and OCLC. ■

**SCOTT SHOGER** is IFLA 2016 WLIC National Committee fellowship coordinator at the American Library Association's International Relations Office.



## Meet Three of the 2016 IFLA National Committee Fellows



**SARA AHMED** “Being an American-born Egyptian Muslim, a minority in the field, attending the IFLA Congress held a lot of importance to me,” Ahmed says. She hopes to leave IFLA WLIC 2016 better prepared to serve the more than 100 ethnic cultures and varying religions that compose her patron base at Upper Darby (Pa.) Township and Sellers Memorial Free Public Libraries. Ahmed, 26, has worked at the same library since junior high and created her job title when she appealed to her library director to offer more programming for young adults. As gen next programmer, the 2015 Drexel University MLIS graduate and ALA Emerging Leader hosts the monthly “Better Than Therapy Book Group,” multicultural food nights, and cupcake-decorating contests.



**GAILYN BOPP** “There is a unique vibe that comes from Hawaii, a semblance of our culture translated into feeling, what we call ‘aloha,’” says Bopp, 37, an MLIS student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. IFLA WLIC 2016 will be her first professional conference outside of her home state. “This aloha permeates our library spaces and connects our communities with our institutions of reading, research, knowledge, and information,” she says. “I hope to share this at the IFLA Congress: the way we, as library and information professionals in Hawaii, strive to make connections, empower, and provide.” Bopp also sees the Congress as “a great opportunity to learn about cultural awareness and how peoples from other parts of the world manage their cultural and indigenous knowledge.”



**JONNA PADEN** An indigenous librarian who hails from Acoma and Laguna Pueblos, New Mexico, Paden says she first realized the importance of learning and networking internationally while studying in Melbourne, Australia. “Conference networking has been invaluable for me by providing models used at other institutions, professionals who provide assistance and advice, and introductions to others in the field,” she says. “Best of all, I have found friends who share my same passion. With them, I know I can always find support and understanding.” A 2014 graduate of San José State University, Paden, 43, is a peer mentor in the International Librarians Network with a résumé that includes a stop at the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center Library and Archives in Albuquerque. She plans to chat with IFLA WLIC 2016 attendees about her participation in the Circle of Learning, which provides scholarships and peer and advisor support to American Indians and Alaska Natives pursuing an online MLIS. ●

## IFLA National Committee Raises More Than \$400,000 for Grants

Beyond its fellowships for US residents, the IFLA 2016 National Committee has awarded scholarships to 73 international fellows, each from a different country. The scholarships cover registration, travel, lodging, visa processing costs, and daily needs. Twenty Canadian information professionals representing six provinces also received \$1,000 scholarships as part of the National Committee fellowship program.

The National Committee far exceeded its goal of supporting 30 international and 30 North American fellows, according to James G. "Jim" Neal, university librarian emeritus at Columbia University, who directed fundraising efforts. "The extraordinary response of individual academic, public, and national libraries, library associations, library vendors, and IMLS enabled us to raise \$430,000 and to increase significantly the number of fellowship awards," Neal says. "The supporting institutions recognize the value of IFLA as a global forum for discussion and sharing on professional challenges and issues, and the importance of expanding the inclusion and participation in these conversations."

The competition for international fellowships was intense, with more than 3,000 applications received from more than 100 countries.



**Yayo Umetsubo**

Preference was given to early-career information professionals from emerging countries who had not attended IFLA WLIC. Fellowships were awarded to residents of each of IFLA's 10 regions, from Argentina to Zimbabwe, the Bahamas to Vanuatu, Cyprus to Ukraine.

Among the Canadian fellows is Yayo Umetsubo,

a librarian at Cape Breton University in Sydney, Nova Scotia, at work on a project comparing curricula vitae (CVs) of information professionals from around the world. She's especially attentive to the differences between CVs in Japan, where she was born and where most CVs include a photo and birthdate, and Canada, where she lives and works and where robust protections are in place to discourage discrimination based on age, gender, and ethnicity.

Umetsubo praises the IFLA 2016 National Committee for having "created a fellowship that removed a certain barrier" that may have prevented minority individuals from attending. Beyond enlisting support for her CV project, she plans to ask colleagues at IFLA WLIC 2016 how they tackle their own human rights challenges.



**Cate Carlyle**

Also hailing from Canada is Cate Carlyle. The Canadian ambassador for the peer networking organization International Librarians Network, she's not new to international engagement, but she has yet to attend IFLA WLIC. She thanks the National Committee and the Atlantic Provinces Library Association, which awarded her an additional scholarship, for making possible her trip from Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, where she works as curriculum resource center coordinator. It is a once in a lifetime opportunity, she says. "While at IFLA I hope to contribute my 'Canadian perspective,' gain new perspectives, increase my professional network, and return to Nova Scotia with renewed inspiration and excitement about our profession." ●

"The extraordinary response of individual academic, public, and national libraries, library associations, library vendors, and IMLS enabled us to increase significantly the number of fellowship awards."

**JAMES G. "JIM" NEAL**, university librarian emeritus at Columbia University

# ALA and Germany Unite

A three-year partnership begins in Leipzig



The three-year partnership between the American Library Association (ALA) and Bibliothek und Information Deutschland (BID) kicked off at the 6th Library Congress in Leipzig, Germany, March 14–17. Then—ALA President Sari Feldman led a delegation of 30 librarians from the United States to the congress, where the theme was “Library Spaces: Real and Digital.”

More than 4,000 librarians from Germany and other countries participated in the largest library event in Europe. The US was the honored country, and Kent Logsdon, deputy chief of mission at the US Embassy in Berlin, joined Feldman in thanking BID President Heinz-Jürgen Lorenzen and the German library community for the distinction.

The US–German partnership will run through 2019 and help to strengthen links between the countries’ libraries by intensifying exchange and knowledge sharing and by fostering lasting relationships between institutions and individuals in both countries.

ALA and the US Embassy provided an exhibit at the congress that featured books, graphics, and other resources for German and international colleagues, and Feldman participated in a panel discussion on physical and digital spaces in public libraries in Germany and the US. More than 20 US-based librarians participated and presented at integrated programs. The presentations covered a wide range of topics, from combating bullying in the



ALA and the German Library Association (BID) celebrated the start of a three-year partnership between US and German libraries at the German Library Congress in Leipzig March 14–17. From left: Kent Logsdon, deputy chief of mission, US Embassy in Germany; ALA Past President Sari Feldman; BID President Heinz-Jürgen Lorenzen; and Scott R. Riedmann, US consul general in Leipzig.

library to sustaining publishing services in research libraries to reviewing archival records of East Germany’s response to the Angela Davis trial in 1971–1972.

In addition, US librarians provided information about the Association of College and Research Libraries’ new “Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education.” A major topic at the conference was how German librarians could serve the large influx of new refugees, and US librarians were able to provide perspective and ideas for welcoming new immigrants.

ALA’s Europe Subcommittee and

International Relations Office coordinated the partnership, and members and staffers met in Leipzig with their German counterparts to discuss new projects and activities. At the 2017 ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition in Chicago, the German library community will provide presentations and poster sessions for a wider American audience on best practices and services that can be emulated. A webinar series is also being planned along with library tours. The partnership also aims to increase the number of US and German sister library relationships, such as the one between Indianapolis and Cologne, Germany. The goal is to create at least 25 new partnerships by 2019. ■



# 2017 ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition in Chicago

Transforming our libraries, ourselves

The American Library Association's (ALA) hometown of Chicago is looking forward once again to hosting the ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition June 22–27, 2017.

No other event in the world offers a better opportunity to learn about current issues and trends in library and information science and technology than the ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition. Mark your calendar to make sure you'll be there to build and share your knowledge; take advantage of unmatched professional development; make new connections and expand your global network; and be part of the worldwide transformation of libraries.

Throughout the conference, you can participate in events, hear inspiring speakers, and learn from thought leaders and colleagues at more than 500 programs and in-depth sessions. Topics to be covered include digital content, innovation, the library of the future, emerging trends, best practices, community engagement, leadership, and many more. You will also have an opportunity to visit more than 800

vendors in the world's largest library-focused exhibit hall, each highlighting new services, technologies, books, and products to improve your library and support your career development.

## Sweet home Chicago

Chicago, the birthplace of the skyscraper and deep-dish pizza and made famous by Michael Jordan, Frank Lloyd Wright, and President Barack Obama, offers up its best in the summertime. Great museums, music, shopping, food, and outdoor activities can be found along the shores of Lake Michigan. In your free time, take advantage of the parks, free outdoor concerts, Navy Pier with its stunning Ferris wheel overlooking the lake, the Field Museum, Shedd Aquarium, the Art Institute of Chicago, and world-class architecture (boat and walking tours are highly recommended). Enjoy a wide range of shopping options along the famous Magnificent Mile and restaura-

## Registration opens in January

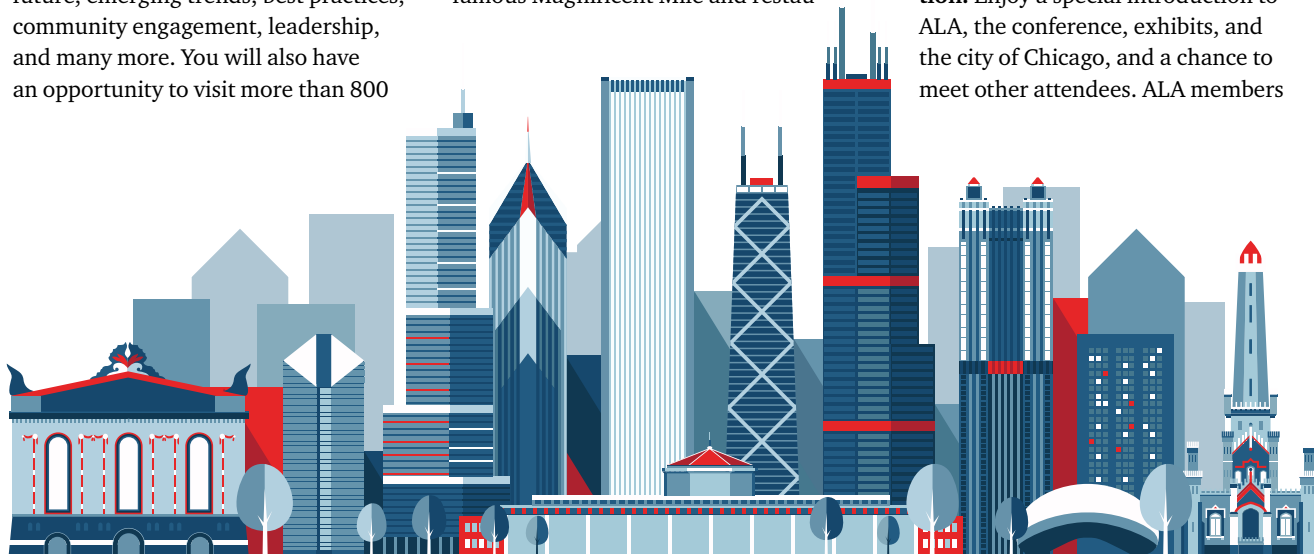
Information on hotels and registration will be available in January 2017. A preliminary schedule of conference programs will be available in April 2017. ●

rants and cuisines ranging from popular hot dog, burger, and pizza joints to Michelin-starred spots. Start planning now at [choosechicago.com](http://choosechicago.com).

## For international visitors

We want our international members and attendees to have a memorable experience at the 2017 ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition in Chicago. You'll find some special opportunities and support at the conference to help make that happen:

- **International librarians orientation.** Enjoy a special introduction to ALA, the conference, exhibits, and the city of Chicago, and a chance to meet other attendees. ALA members





International Librarians Reception at the 2015 ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition in San Francisco.

will recommend programs and social activities to help you make the most of your conference experience.

- **International poster session.** Promote your library's activities, showcase innovative programs, and share ideas with your colleagues worldwide. Whether or not you create a poster, visiting the session offers an opportunity to be inspired by work that is shaping libraries globally. Contact ALA International Relations Office at [intl@ala.org](mailto:intl@ala.org) to learn more.

- **International papers and projects.** Submit a proposal for a presentation on how your library or country is addressing a selected

#### Letter of invitation

If you need a letter of invitation for visa purposes, please send a request to the International Relations Office at [intl@ala.org](mailto:intl@ala.org). ●

topic. Contact ALA International Relations Office at [intl@ala.org](mailto:intl@ala.org) to learn more.

- **International Librarians Reception.** At this special evening reception, attendees meet and mingle with librarians from more than 80 countries and enjoy a mix of culture and ideas, awards presentations, and regional cuisine.
- **International Visitors Center.** Relax, review the conference program, and hold small meetings with new colleagues and friends. Computers with internet access will be provided, and ALA volunteers will be available to answer questions.
- **International pavilion in the exhibit hall.** The International Publishers Pavilion, featuring suppliers from around the world, is the perfect place to find multilingual and multicultural publications and library materials. ■

Join *American Libraries* Associate Editor Phil Morehart as he hosts conversations with librarians, authors, thinkers, and scholars about topics from the library world.

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# A Seat at the Table

## Online learning grants open up courses to librarians from emerging countries

BY Scott Shoger

Since 2009, the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS) has made available one free seat in each ALCTS online continuing education course session to librarians and information professionals from developing countries. Through 2015, 163 of these grants were awarded to qualifying individuals.

“The program has been very successful,” says Nina Servizzi, a member of the ALCTS International Relations

Committee. “At its peak, the average number of applicants was between 100 and 150 annually. In recent years the number of applicants has dropped, so we are looking into ways to further promote the grants.”

According to Servizzi, the grants are designed to help library professionals from developing countries stay current on the latest trends and developments in technical services areas and enhance their professional knowledge

and skills in librarianship and information science.

ALCTS received a total of 704 applications from 79 countries between February 2009—when it launched a pilot version of the program—and December 2015. India and Pakistan are tied at 121 for the highest total number of applications received from a single country since 2009. The other countries in the top 10 for applications submitted are, in order, Nigeria, the Philippines,

### Top 10

Here are the 10 countries from which the most applications have been submitted for the ALCTS online continuing education course grant program (February 2009–December 2015).



“I gained a deeper understanding of the business side of acquisitions, especially with respect to different types of suppliers and discounts.”

**CAROLINE KAYORO**, Kenya National Library Service, Nairobi

“The detailed notes helped me to understand the subject from scratch. The online discussions, support from tutors, and timely assessment kept me motivated through the course.”

**MADHURI V. TIKAM**, Hassaram Rijhumal College of Commerce and Economics, Mumbai, India

“A perfect blend of learning, sharing, and knowledge gathering for library professionals.”

**SUNIL M.V.**, SDM Institute for Management Development, Mysore, India

Kenya, Egypt, Ethiopia, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and Tanzania.

Beyond the number of applications, Servizzi points to two other signs of success. “In 2013–2014, the ALCTS International Relations Committee was contacted by the Library Information Technology Association, which was interested in starting a similar grant program and was looking to ours as a possible model,” she says. “And perhaps the greatest sign of success has been the confirmation that we received from the survey that grant recipients later share their learning and experience with their coworkers and staff.”

ALCTS currently offers fundamentals web courses in six areas: acquisitions, collection development and management, preservation, electronic resources acquisitions, collection assessment, and cataloging. Course tuition ranges from \$239 to \$269, making a total of \$4,312 available through the grant program for the 2016 fiscal year.

Applicants must have a degree in library or information science, be enrolled in a library or information science program, or be working as a library or information professional. Each applicant must be a legal national living in a qualifying developing country, have a working knowledge of English, and have the technical abilities to participate in an online course. Applications are reviewed by the ALCTS International Relations Committee according to eligibility and required criteria. Visit [ala.org/alcts/awards/grants/onlinegrant](http://ala.org/alcts/awards/grants/onlinegrant) for more information, including an interactive world map of grant recipients. ■

**SCOTT SHOGER** is the 2016 International Federation of Library Association and Institutions World Library and Information Congress National Committee fellowship coordinator at the American Library Association's International Relations Office.

## Online Learning in Kazakhstan

Librarians at Nazarbayev University, an English-language university in Astana, the capital of Kazakhstan, began taking ALA Online Learning courses almost as soon as the library opened its doors. The university, which bears the name of Kazakhstan's president, welcomed its inaugural class in September 2010. Nazarbayev librarians took their first ALA online learning courses in 2011.

Approximately 20 Nazarbayev librarians have taken courses in acquisitions, preservation, cataloging, collection development, interlibrary loans, business reference, spatial literacy, and online mapping. They're employing the skills and knowledge gained during these courses to meet crucial library needs, according to Nazarbayev General Manager Piotr Lapo.

Librarians taking the course “Fundamentals of Electronic Resources Acquisitions” put their newfound knowledge to work in managing the library's growing collection of electronic resources, which includes more than 18,000 ebooks and 82 databases. Darya Zvonareva, who took Reference and User Services Association's “Business Reference 101,” says the course gave her a better understanding of how to formulate reference questions, find relevant resources, target specific subject areas, and evaluate information.

Online courses are a particularly good fit at Nazarbayev because librarians worked “quite intense” schedules during the library's formative years, says Lapo. As a result, they came to value the flexibility and accessibility that characterize online learning. They also valued the opportunity to interact with librarians from around the world and discuss a variety of topics in contemporary librarianship. Lapo says his colleagues also thought the courses achieved a good balance of theory and practice. ●



The Nazarbayev University Library team at the school's annual library award ceremony in May 2016.

# Is RDA a Global Standard?

## Usage, translation, and governance as indicators

BY James Hennelly

Since its inception, Resource Description and Access (RDA) has sought to establish itself as an international standard, a goal that was reaffirmed in a statement from the RDA Board (then known as the Committee of Principals) in June 2015 ([rdasc.org/node/235](http://rdasc.org/node/235)). But what does this commitment to internationalization really mean, and how can we assess whether progress toward this goal has been made? For the board, the RDA Steering Committee (RSC), and the copublishers of RDA, internationalization is something that must be pursued at several different levels.

### RDA Toolkit usage

RDA Toolkit subscriptions are an obvious method for assessing the growing internationalization of the standard. In 2015, the toolkit had 2,840 subscribers who purchased 8,866 users in 64 countries across six continents. That's good global coverage, but this topic calls for closer scrutiny.

RDA was developed by a collaborative group of representatives from Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom, and the United States—the same group responsible for RDA's predecessor, the Anglo-American Cataloging Rules (AACR). If we define internationalization as usage of the toolkit beyond these countries, then the other 60 nations include 744 subscribers and 2,509 users. That international group represents about 26% of subscribers and 28% of RDA Toolkit users. This modest but significant participa-

tion outside of the originating nations is encouraging, but there is plenty of room for growth.

### Translations

Another important measurement of RDA international growth is translations and adaptation.

Interest in translating RDA has been steady since its online publication in 2010. There are several different types of translations associated with RDA: RDA Toolkit translations, print translations, translations for study, and RDA Reference translations.

RDA Toolkit translations are translations that are included in the online product. There are six versions: the

original English and translations in Finnish, French, German, Italian, and Spanish. Catalan and Norwegian translations will be added by early 2017.

Print translations of RDA refer to translations that are not included in the RDA Toolkit but are available for purchase in a print format. The only available print translation is in Mandarin and is published by the National Library of China Publishing House; however, more are in the works, including Slovak and Vietnamese translations. In some cases, RDA has been translated “for study.” In these instances, institutions have gained permission to translate the text to study and evaluate it for their use. These translations are not available for public distribution.

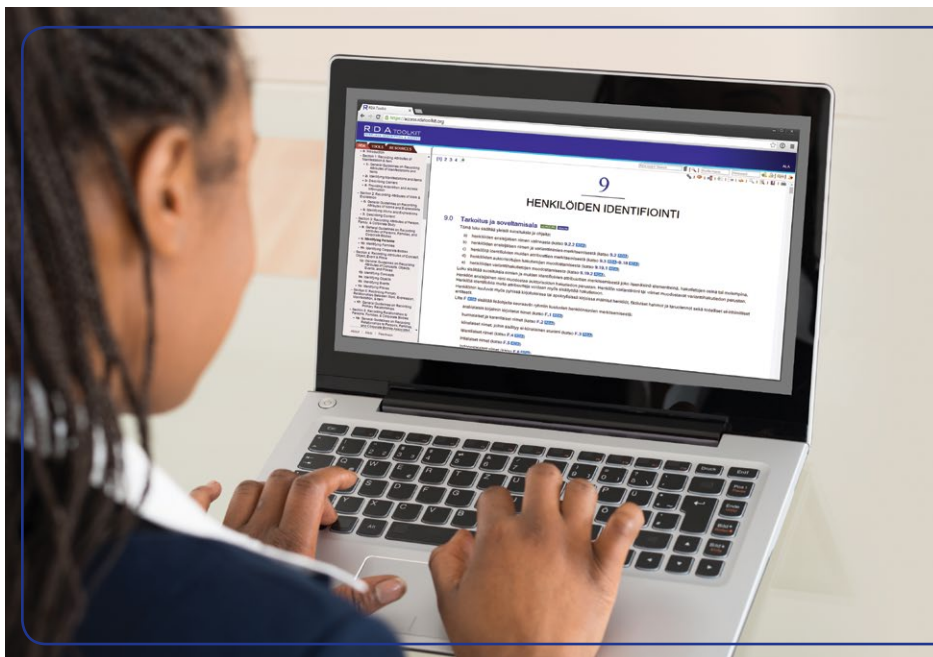
Last is the RDA Reference translation, which was introduced in the past year and will become a required piece of any translation agreement in the future.

RDA Reference refers to the collection of RDA elements and vocabularies, their definitions, and scope notes. Translations of this material will be added to the RDA Registry ([rdaregistry.info](http://rdaregistry.info)), where they can be used by developers to build online public access catalogs, integrated library systems, and other systems with language-specific interfaces. Currently the registry hosts Chinese, French, German, and Spanish translations. Translating only the RDA Reference material may be a cost-effective option for countries that are part of a smaller language community and have staff that is proficient in other languages (especially English).

In the coming months we expect to add RDA Reference translations in







**R | D | A**  
 RESOURCE DESCRIPTION & ACCESS  
**TOOLKIT™**

 **2,840**  
 SUBSCRIBERS

 **8,866**  
 USERS

 **64**  
 COUNTRIES

Catalan, Dutch, Finnish, Italian, Norwegian, Slovak, Swedish, and Vietnamese. Another opportunity that comes from RDA Reference translations has to do with restrictions within RDA Toolkit. The toolkit can host only a single translation of any language, but the RDA Reference translation in the registry can host dialect-specific translations, such as Mexican Spanish or Québécois French.

The varieties of translations are important, as a translation is essential to RDA's adoption in a nation. Any community interested in implementing RDA will have to explore translation options. Details on RDA translation guidelines and practices are available at [rdatoolkit.org/translation](http://rdatoolkit.org/translation).

### Governance

In 2014, the RDA Board began a governance review to revise RDA-related processes. One of the major changes was restructuring the membership of the RDA Board that oversees the RDA project and the RSC that develops and maintains the standard.

During the AACR era and first years of RDA, the board and RSC (then known as the Committee of Principals

and the Joint Steering Committee, respectively) included representatives from national libraries and professional associations in Australia, Canada, the UK, and the US. Since 2012, a representative from the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek has joined the group.

The governance review determined that a more global approach to RDA management and development was needed and that board and RSC representation must be more diverse. The new structure calls for representation from each of the six global regions recognized by the United Nations: Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, Oceania, and South America. At the RSC level, each region will establish collaborative groups similar to the European RDA Interest Group ([slainte.org.uk/eurig](http://slainte.org.uk/eurig)). These groups will meet online and in person to discuss RDA issues and put forward proposals to the RSC. At the RDA Board level, regional representation will contribute to the strategic planning and regional outreach. A full description of the new governance model can be found at [rda-rsc.org](http://rda-rsc.org).

The new governance structure has just begun to be implemented, and

it will take a few years to complete. Despite the extended timeline, a more diverse and international representation in the development of RDA is essential to its success as a truly global standard.

### Moving forward

In 2017 and 2018, RDA and RDA Toolkit will undergo a data restructure and a website redesign to improve work processes and enhance user experience. One of the focal points of this project is to improve translation tools and processes that expedite the publication of revisions to translated versions of RDA. By improving the value and currency of RDA Toolkit for non-English speakers, providing new tools to allow for easier exchange of RDA information, and expanding the involvement and input of groups from around the globe, the RDA Board, RDA's copublishers, and RSC know that RDA will be a standard that is both accessible to users worldwide and responsive to the needs of the language and cultural communities. ■

**JAMES HENNELLY** is director of RDA Toolkit.

# New Titles from ALA

ALA covers the gamut,  
from marketing to storytime  
to special collections

To help you keep your skills and knowledge up to date in this rapidly changing global environment, the American Library Association (ALA) offers a variety of books and professional development resources for all areas of library and information science and for every type of library. This brief selection is just an introduction; for the full range of titles, additional details, and purchasing options, visit [alastore.ala.org](http://alastore.ala.org).

All prices are in US dollars.

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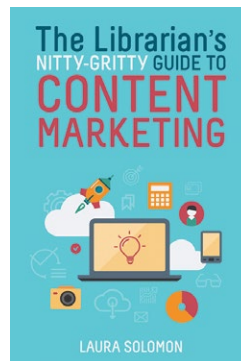
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### The Librarian's Nitty-Gritty Guide to Content Marketing By Laura Solomon

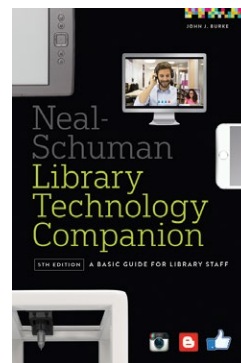


What is content marketing? Simply put, it's the most effective way to increase your value to customers. When you deliver content that library users find useful and relevant, you give a compelling answer to their question, "What's in it for me?" Author of the best-selling book *The Librarian's Nitty-Gritty Guide to Social Media*, Solomon speaks

directly to public relations personnel, web librarians, and staff responsible for a library's online presence.

ISBN: 978-0-8389-1432-8; \$50

### The Neal-Schuman Library Technology Companion, 5th edition: A Basic Guide for Library Staff By John J. Burke



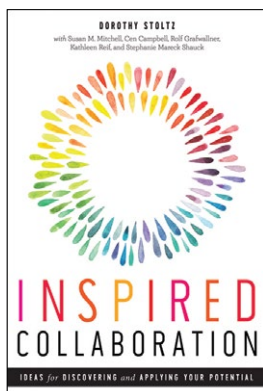
This completely updated and reorganized edition provides a one-stop overview of all technologies used in libraries today and is more comprehensive and compelling than ever. A perfect primer for LIS students, Burke's guide should also be at the top of the list for any current or future library professional looking to stay at the forefront

of technological advancement. It gives readers a sound and sensible way to consider, access, and use library technologies to better meet the needs of library users.

ISBN: 978-0-8389-1382-6; \$80

## Inspired Collaboration: Ideas for Discovering and Applying Your Potential

By Dorothy Stoltz

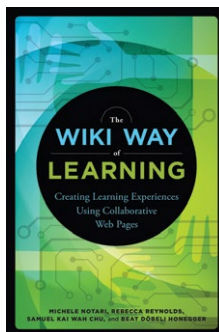


Collaboration involves a fusion of individual talents and skills through outreach and cooperation. And it is a key ingredient of a vibrant, successful library that is also relevant to its community. It doesn't happen magically, and kindling those original sparks of inspiration into a sustainable effort is a challenge. Written by a team of librarians and community

partners who learned how to collaborate successfully, this uplifting book takes a fresh look at how to nurture the best within ourselves and our colleagues in order to create thriving, lasting partnerships. Its breezy tone encourages reflection and discovery while giving practical suggestions on how to plan for short-term gains and long-term results. Questions and points to ponder included at the end of each chapter will facilitate discussion and planning. **ISBN: 978-0-8389-1396-3; \$50**

## The Wiki Way of Learning: Creating Learning Experiences Using Collaborative Web Pages

By Michele Notari, Rebecca Reynolds, Samuel Kai Wah Chu, and Beat Döbeli Honegger

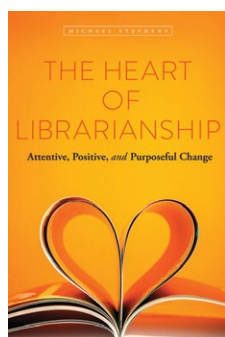


Given the limited budgets of schools, educators, and school librarians, free and open source tools for learning are more important than ever. Wikis are easily accessible web pages for creating, browsing, and searching through information, making them ideal vehicles for teaching and collaboration. In this collection, theoreticians and practi-

tioners from a range of international settings, including China, Hong Kong, Switzerland, and the US, explore how wikis are being used to create learning experiences in a variety of educational environments, from grade schools to universities. Enabling readers to see how a wiki's content and content creation processes can be harnessed for instructional design, this collection represents an important advance in improving education through collaborative technologies. **ISBN: 978-0-8389-1378-9; \$55**

## The Heart of Librarianship: Attentive, Positive, and Purposeful Change

By Michael Stephens

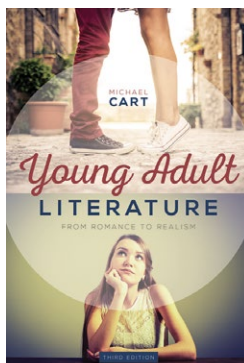


Adaptation to change that's based on thoughtful planning and grounded in the mission of libraries: It's a model that respected LIS thinker and educator Stephens terms "hyper-linked librarianship." And the result, for librarians in leadership positions as well as those working on the front lines, is flexible librarianship that's able to stay

closely aligned with the needs and wants of library users. In this collection of essays from his Office Hours columns in *Library Journal*, Stephens explores the issues and emerging trends that are transforming the profession. Bringing together ideas for practice, supporting evidence from recent research, and insights into what lies ahead, this book will inform and inspire librarians of all types. **ISBN: 978-0-8389-1454-0; \$48**

## Young Adult Literature: From Romance to Realism, 3rd edition

By Michael Cart

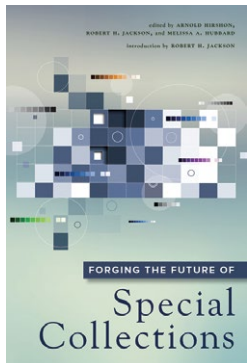


Cart's authoritative survey is already a go-to text for students of literary studies, teachers, and young adult (YA) librarians. In this new edition he thoroughly updates the text to make it even more relevant and comprehensive. Surveying the landscape of YA lit both past and present, this book explains the origins of liter-

ature targeted at young adults; examines teen demographics, literacy, audiobooks, the future of print, and other key topics; presents new and expanded coverage of perennially popular genre fiction, including horror, science fiction, and dystopian fiction; and features abundant bibliographic material to aid in readers' advisory and collection development. **ISBN: 978-0-8389-1462-5; \$68**

### Forging the Future of Special Collections

Edited by Arnold Hirshon, Robert H. Jackson, and Melissa Hubbard; introduction by Robert H. Jackson



Once treated as exclusive spaces for valuable but hidden and underutilized material, special collections departments have been transformed by increased digitization and educational outreach efforts into unique and highly visible major institutional assets. What libraries must now contemplate is how to continue this momentum by

articulating and implementing a dynamic strategic vision for special collections. Drawing on the expertise of a world-class array of librarians, university faculty, book dealers, collectors, and donors, this volume surveys the emerging requirements of today's knowledge ecosystem and charts a course for the future of special collections.

ISBN: 978-0-8389-1386-4; \$85

### Supercharged Storytimes: An Early Literacy Planning and Assessment Guide

By Kathleen Campana, J. Elizabeth Mills, and Saroj Nadkarni Ghoting



Based on the groundbreaking research of VIEWS2—the first systematic study of storytimes done to date—this book recommends simple interactive ways to emphasize early literacy techniques and encourage children to use and practice their prereading skills while preserving the delight

inherent in storytime. And unlike many other storytime resources, the authors use the findings of VIEWS2 to offer guidance in performing assessment, as well as give tips for planning and conducting storytimes. Using this book's systematic approach, readers will be able to plan storytimes with a clear idea of kids' needs and also improve how they meet the needs of their communities.

ISBN: 978-0-8389-1380-2; \$55

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# Reaching Out to Librarians Worldwide

## IFLA and ALA continuing education webinars

BY Loida Garcia-Febo

Online continuing education events produced through a partnership between the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and the American Library Association (ALA) have been accessed by thousands of librarians globally since they were launched in 2012.

The online events are hosted by IFLA's Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning Section (CPDWL) and the New Professionals Special Interest Group (NPSIG) and feature timely topics of interest to librarians and the communities they serve. The main goal is to benefit librarians and LIS students by developing resources that feature experts on library issues that are accessible anywhere at any time from the NPSIG website ([npsig.wordpress.com/webinars-2](http://npsig.wordpress.com/webinars-2)).

Continuing professional development allows us to stay current on issues affecting our communities, such as services to immigrants and refugees and the placement of libraries in national development agendas. Developing skills that help increase advocacy, visibility, and the development of services for local communities is vital so that libraries can succeed in implementing access to information and move into the future.

CPDWL and NPSIG partnered with the Management of Library Associations Section of IFLA to host a webinar called "Libraries, Advocacy, and the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda" ([www.ifla.org/node/10003](http://www.ifla.org/node/10003)) to support the IFLA Toolkit "Libraries and the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda."

The goal was to help librarians advocate to national and regional policy-makers to ensure that libraries and access to information are included in development plans that contribute to meeting the global 2030 Agenda.

Keeping in line with our belief that libraries should serve all groups in our communities, CPDWL and NPSIG partnered with ALA in March 2016 to host "Library Services to Immigrants and Refugees" ([www.ifla.org/node/10483](http://www.ifla.org/node/10483)). It was great to collaborate with the European Bureau of Library, Information, and Documentation Associations; IFLA's Public Library

Section; and IFLA's Library Services to Multicultural Populations Section to share current best practices and models to serve these growing populations around the world.

Webinar speakers have included Alex Byrne, Kay Raseroka, Barbara Ford, Sinikka Sipilä, and Jukka Relander. Current IFLA President Donna Scheeder and IFLA President-Elect Gloria Pérez-Salmerón have also key-noted events. ■

**LOIDA GARCIA-FEBO** is an IFLA governing board member, CPDWL member, and the coordinator of IFLA's webinar series.




# Libraries Transform Goes Global

International libraries sign up for ALA's public awareness campaign

Libraries and information centers in 39 countries and territories have signed up for Libraries Transform, the American Library Association's (ALA) new initiative designed to increase public awareness of the value, impact, and services provided by libraries and library professionals. The list includes libraries from Angola to Zambia, with the Bahamas, Finland, Germany, Mexico, New Zealand, and Samoa in between (just to name a few).

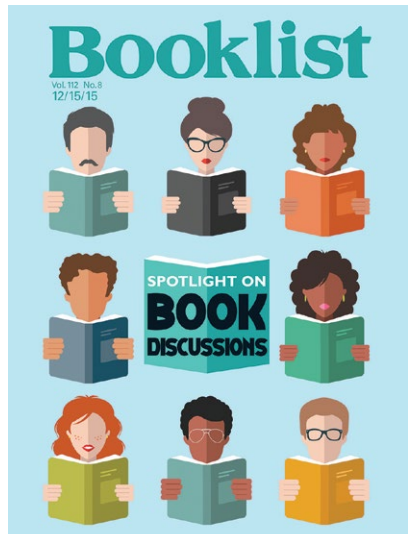
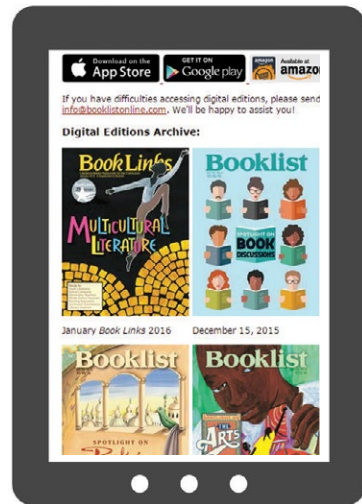
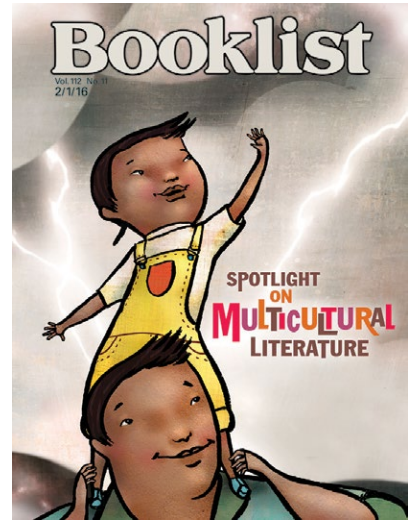
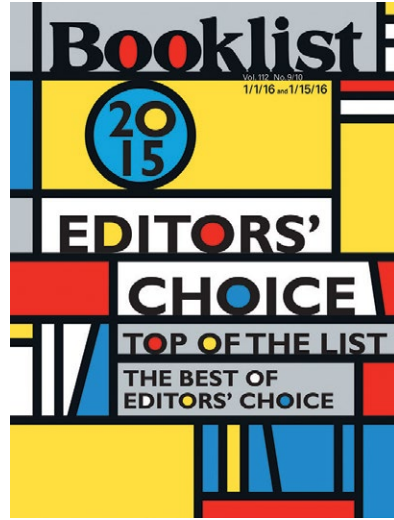
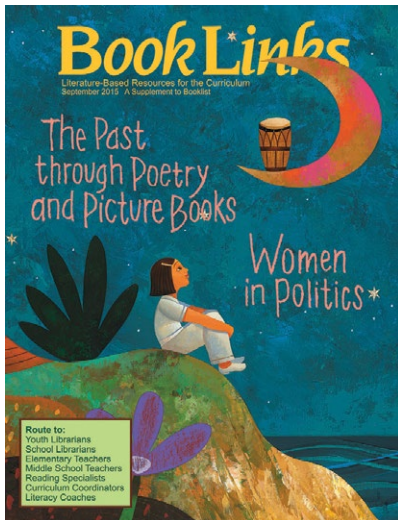
Participants are given access to the Libraries Transform Toolkit, where they can download posters, postcards, bookmarks, and other materials; get tips for using the Libraries Transform campaign locally; and receive updates from ALA. Libraries already making use of these materials shared their stories with us.



A Libraries Transform poster on a library wall at the **University of West Indies Open Campus** in Wanstead, Barbados, features a preuniversity student and recovering addict explaining the role the campus library system has played in his life. Under the headline "Because ... we make a difference," the poster features quotes from the student, including "Oh, the library is everything!"

The **Interamerican University of Puerto Rico** at Ponce celebrated National Library Week with an array of programs, from a photography exhibition to a lecture on the history of earthquakes in Puerto Rico. Distance Education Librarian Linda R. Mayo presented a virtual conference on "Las Bibliotecas Transforman" for the university's graduate distance education program. "The purpose of this presentation was to promote the value of authoritative information among the student population and to help faculty explain to students how to evaluate information resources," Mayo says. "We also wanted everyone to know how celebrating Library Week every year helps students learn about the importance of libraries and librarians and how we can help them."

The **Artigas-Washington Library** in Montevideo, Uruguay, is putting Libraries Transform to work as it converts library space into a learning commons. "We used the Libraries Transform video to present to staff the concept of a learning commons and what we want to achieve," says Romina Castellini, an administrative assistant at Artigas-Washington Library. The library will make use of Libraries Transform materials to start conversations with schoolchildren about the importance of libraries and the services they offer. ■



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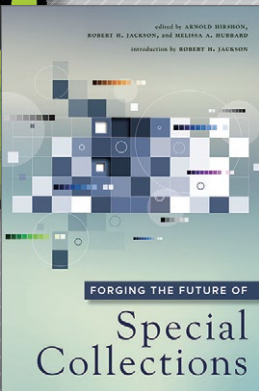
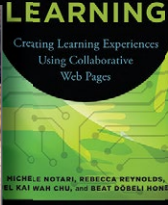
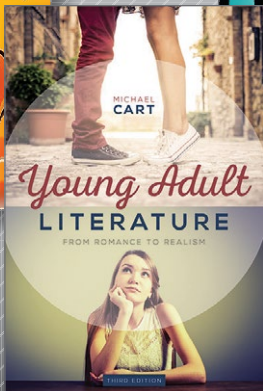
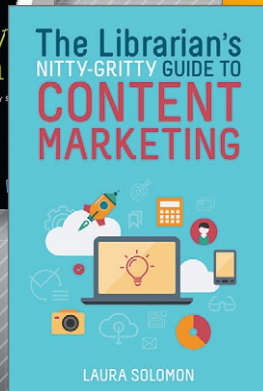
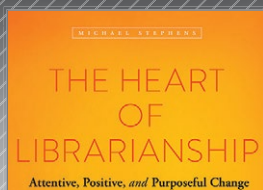
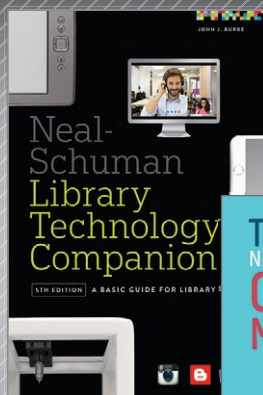
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