American Library Association
Committee Information Update

Please note: ALA and Council committees are required to submit an update of their activities within one-month after each Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference. This form will be sent to the ALA Council and the ALA Committee on Organization.

Report for Midwinter ________

Report for Annual Conference ____X____

Name of Committee: Committee on Literacy

Committee Chair: Juliette Machie

Committee Members Present:
- Beth Friese
- Terri Kirk
- Mark Pumphrey
- AmandaSharpe

Committee Members Absent:
- Barbara Flynn
- Sharon Grimes
- Patricia Smith
- Yugo Cura, Intern
- Laura Ones, Intern

Others Present:
Incoming members, 2011-2012
- Sandra Andrews
- Sharon Rawlins
- Vicki Schoewbel

OLOS Advisory Committee
- Dee Holliday, Chair

Guests
- Peggy Barber, Library Communications Strategies, barberpeg@aol.com
- Laura Bernheim, lbernheim@minlib.net
- Sarah Howard, ALSC Representative, Literacy Assembly, showard@dbrl.org
- Elizabeth Machie, San Jose State University
- Dinah O’Brien, Plymouth (MA) Public Library, dobrien@townhall.plymouth.ma.us
- Beth Ponder, Center for Literacy Studies, University of Tennessee Knoxville, baponder@utk.edu
- Tim Ponder, Ohio Literacy Resource Center; LINCS, tponder@literacy.kent.edu
Accomplishments [at this meeting], a concise account:

Juliet Machie reported that the Committee accomplished the immediate goals identified at the 2011 MW meeting. Committee members agreed to “drive strategies that will strengthen ALA’s voice as a national advocate for literacy issues.”

To achieve this goal, the Committee agreed to address four action items:

1. Develop an Adult Literacy Toolkit
   - A draft of the toolkit was distributed to Committee members
   - The finished product will be available at MW 2012

2. Present a program on “Literacy Milestones” at the 2011 Annual Conference
   - A Lifetime of Literacy in Libraries, Marking the milestones is Monday, June 27. Nine presenters will discuss literacy across the lifespan and across library types.
   - More than 100 conference attendees came to this program.
   - There were many questions about resources and tools.

3. Continue the Digital Literacy discussion with OITP
   - Committee members, Juliet Mackie and Beth Friese are on the newly established Digital Literacy Task Force.
   - Adult foundation literacy will be included in any ALA definition of digital literacy.

Other comments/information you believe will help the Association in its work:

**Next steps**

1. Identify and disseminate library- adult literacy ’best’ practices.
2. Develop a Lifetime of Literacy brochure
3. Inform the OITP Digital Literacy Task Force about the importance of including adult learners and basic literacy skills in the dialog.
4. Craft a Committee on Literacy response to the question :
   a. **What is it that we can do to bring along those who don’t have the skills, tools, or resources to participate in our libraries?**
5. Work with the OLOS Advisory Committee to develop additional toolkits
   a. Family literacy
   b. Literacy services for adult English language users
6. Through products and partnerships across ALA, continue to increase the visibility and impact of the Committee on Literacy.

Submitted by: _Juliet Machie (Dale Lipschultz, staff liaison)_

Date Submitted: __September 1, 2011______________________

Please return the completed form to Delores Yates, Executive Board Secretariat, American Library Association, 50 E. Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611, dyates@ala.org.