Memorial Resolution Honoring Herbert Goldhor

Whereas, The library and information science profession lost an eminent leader, teacher, scholar, and researcher on Tuesday, March 29, 2011, with the death of Herbert Goldhor; and

Whereas, He earned a B.S. in library science from Columbia University in 1938 and a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago’s Graduate Library School in 1943; and

Whereas, He served in Europe during World War II, and after that service he joined the School of Library Science at the University of Illinois in 1946 until 1951; and

Whereas, He served from 1952 until 1962 as the chief librarian for the Evansville Vanderburgh Public Library, Indiana; and

Whereas, From 1962 until 1978, he held the position of director of the Graduate School of Library Science, now the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign; and

Whereas, From 1975 until his retirement in 1987, he also served as the head of the school’s Library Research Center, now the Center for Informatics Research in Science and Scholarship; and

Whereas, He published widely on research methods in librarianship, the administration of public libraries, library education, collection development, and many other topics; and

Whereas, He was responsible for developing the “Indices of American Public Library Circulation and Expenditures”; and
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Whereas, He helped to develop the Clinic on Library Applications of Data Processing, which published its first proceedings in 1964; and

Whereas, He served as editor of the Occasional Papers series and also as managing editor of Library Trends, both of which are still published by Graduate Scholl of Library and Information Science; and

Whereas, During his tenure, the University of Illinois Graduate School of Library and Information Science achieved the highest national ranking and international recognition; and

Whereas, In 1988, the American Library Association bestowed upon him the Melvil Dewey Medal, in recognition of “creative professional achievement of the highest order”; and

Whereas, In 1989, an issue of Library Trends (38:2), “Problem Solving in Libraries: A Festschrift in Honor of Herbert Goldhor,” edited by Ronald R. Powell, was devoted to his career; and

Whereas, Throughout his career, he was dedicated to maintaining rigor and excellence in library and information science research and believed strongly that public libraries, access to information and ideas, and lifelong learning were essential to a democratic society; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members,

1. Recognizes the significant contributions of Herbert Goldhor over the course of his distinguished career and mourns his death; and
2. Expresses its sincere sympathy to the family of Herbert Goldhor, including Richard S. Goldhor of Belmont, Massachusetts, Alison Goldhor of Minneapolis, Minnesota, Jonathan D. Goldhor of Minneapolis, Minnesota, Barbara A. Goldhor-Wilcock, Ph.D., of Baltimore, Maryland, Debra Revere and Paul Schwartz of Seattle, Washington, Elizabeth Domig of Hallein, Austria, Cheryl and David Schwartz of Colorado Springs, Colorado, and Hilda Lutzke of Verona, New Jersey.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association

Keith Michael Fiels
ALA Executive Director and Secretary of the ALA Council
Tuesday, June 28, 2011
In New Orleans, Louisiana