

A Resolution Remembering Richard T. Sweeney

Whereas the American Library Association and the broader library community lost a valued member and leader on May 19, 2016, with the death of Richard T. Sweeney;

Whereas he graduated from Rowan University with a Master of Arts in Library Science and from Drexel University with a Master of Science in Information Systems;

Whereas he began his career directing public libraries in Columbus, Ohio, Flint, Michigan, and Atlantic City, NJ and he directed the library at the Polytechnic University, Brooklyn for 11 years;

Whereas Richard Sweeney served over 20 years at New Jersey Institute of Technology Library and was a pioneer in the development of electronic and digital library systems, information literacy, "smart" buildings, and new multi-media teaching methods;

Whereas Richard Sweeney was an active member of the American Library Association, serving on various committees, presenting and lecturing at various sessions throughout his career;

Whereas Richard Sweeney was a visionary researcher of the behavior of Millennials and information literacy, which he presented at over 60 sessions, nationally and internationally, including to a global UNESCO audience in 2008 at the oldest library in the world, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina in Egypt;

Whereas Richard Sweeney served with excellence on the Virtual Academic Library Environment (VALE)-NJ Executive Board and had a strong commitment to shape NJ academic libraries to be effective and essential resources for their respective communities;

Whereas Richard T. Sweeney's kindness, sense of humor, and graciousness enriched those fortunate enough to know and work with him; he was much loved and respected by his family, friends, and colleagues;

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

- (1) Recognizes the significant contributions of Richard T. Sweeney over the course of his distinguished career and mourns his death;
- (2) extends its sincerest condolences to his family and his friends at the New Jersey Institute of Technology.

Mover: Jayne Beline, New Jersey Chapter Councilor

Seconder: Cynthia Czesak, Councilor-at-Large