Carolyn Caywood named 2006 Freedom to Read Foundation: Roll of Honor Award Recipient

By Lauren Christos

On June 22 at the Opening Session of the American Library Association Annual Conference in New Orleans, the IFRT can always count on her reports from Council and elsewhere to have subtle sparks of humor that entertain us all. I don’t know how she does it, but she seems to attend every meeting that even remotely discusses intellectual freedom. To say that Carolyn is accomplished, passionate, and committed would just be the beginning.

Following is the Press Release from Office for Intellectual Freedom describing Carolyn’s achievements.

Carolyn Caywood, manager of the Virginia Beach Public Library’s Bayside Area Library and Special Services Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped, is the recipient of the 2006 Freedom to Read Foundation (FTRF) Roll of Honor Award.

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Carolyn Caywood received the 2006 Roll of Honor Award from the Freedom to Read Foundation. The presentation of her award by President Michael Gorman was an exciting moment. Carolyn entered the stage with the grace and dignity befitting her. I would like to say that I have admired Carolyn since I first became a member of IFRT. She has the strength of intelligence, a frank and honest wit, a fierce devotion to intellectual freedom and is the kind of person that will look you squarely in the eye and tell you exactly what she thinks. She has an absolute gift for listening to discussion, offering her thoughts and opinions with a formidable understanding of the issue at hand, and then with her uniquely charming sense of aplomb, can succinctly summarize the import of the preceding dialogue. Carolyn’s recollection is remarkable. At our business meetings, Carolyn’s recollection is remarkable. At our business meetings,
By Cindy Lombardo

Last April, more than 75 individuals from across the country converged on Chicago to attend “Law for Librarians.” This three-day program was sponsored by ALA’s Office of Intellectual Freedom and made possible by a grant from the Ford Foundation, which allowed one representative from each of the 50 states’ library agencies to attend at no cost. The program was designed for chairs of state IF committees who were then charged with implementing a minimum of two similar training sessions within their own state during the next two years.

In Ohio, an exciting collaborative effort is underway that brings together the resources of the State Library, the Ohio Library Council, the Intellectual Freedom Committee, and the state’s four regional library systems. The goal of this collaboration is to offer Intellectual Freedom training (based on the material that was presented during the three-day training in Chicago) to as many Ohio library employees as possible via stand-alone topical modules that can be combined to deliver IF training on issues from Dealing with Challenges to Filtering Issues to Developing Effective Policies and Procedures. These modules, which will be developed over the next several years, will be flexible enough to be used in many different ways. For example, as part of a library’s staff in-service program, as a full day program offered through the state regional system, and as part of an on-line E-learning curriculum. Other plans include offering IF sessions at the state’s annual chapter conferences and developing a full-day IF track for the 2007 OLC Convention.

Carolyn Caywood named 2006 Freedom to Read Foundation: Roll of Honor Award Recipient

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Caywood is a past FTRF trustee and currently is the Intellectual Freedom Round Table’s (IFRT) representative to the American Library Association’s (ALA) Council. She also has served as chair of IFRT and of the Virginia Library Association’s Intellectual Freedom Committee. A strong advocate for youth, Caywood wrote a column for School Library Journal from 1990 through 1998; she also testified before the U.S. Congress, supporting the rights of young people in regard to the Child Online Protection Act and the Children’s Internet Protection Act. A librarian since 1972, Caywood has worked in the Virginia Beach Public Library system since 1979. In 2004, she was named one of 27 New York Times Librarians of the Year.

“Carolyn was a clear choice for this year’s Roll of Honor Award,” said FTRF Executive Director Judith Krug. “She is a highly active leader in advocating for intellectual freedom and for young people in Virginia and around the country. She has been a terrific supporter and promoter of the Freedom to Read Foundation for two decades. And she has brought her talents to bear in helping to formulate and pass landmark intellectual freedom policies within the American Library Association. I look forward to seeing Carolyn accept this award and seeing her name in the illustrious company of the other Roll of Honor awardees.”

For more information on the Freedom to Read Foundation and the Roll of Honor Award, visit www.ftrf.org.
Rainbows End by Vernor Vinge: Book Review

By Carolyn Caywood

Vernor Vinge, Tor, 2006.

Science fiction has been described as answering the question, “If this goes on, what will happen?” In Rainbows End, Vinge has extrapolated Internet and computing trends, digitizing libraries, Homeland Security, and a medical focus on the conditions of aging to create a convincing reality within the probable life spans of most of us. Within a Byzantine plot of spy-versus-spy, the characters have room to learn and grow. But the world they live in is even more engaging. The plot is precipitated by protestors who object to having their university library digitized by tree shredder to create a librareome (think genome). As the books are tossed into the shredder, their fragments are sucked into a vacuum hose lined with cameras that feed images of the torn fragments to software algorithms that reconstruct the texts and cross-reference every conceivable connection. And if desired, robots can add the touch and feel of real books to the library environment. This fits the needs of students accustomed to computers that are clothing plus contact lenses, to a reality that is RFID-tagged and overlaid with virtual landscapes, and to network affiliances working as research teams. Social networking and the Internet of Things have merged to make the new question, “Are you wearing?” Meanwhile, terrorism has diversified and mass destruction is quite affordable. The Department of Homeland Security has weapons that can take over corrupted shrug and twitch as computing commands. Classes focus on searching and collaborating skills rather than subjects. One of them is a former poet returned from Alzheimer’s without his gift for words. He is desperate and he has family high up in the military – just the tool the conspirators need.

The Legacy of FDR’s “Four Freedoms” Speech

Reprinted from First Amendment Center

“Sometimes we fail to hear or heed these voices of freedom because to us the privilege of our freedom is such an old, old story.”

—Franklin Delano Roosevelt, in his Third Inaugural Address, Jan. 20, 1941.

While many of the most frequently-studied statements about freedom were published in the form of written documents such as the Bill of Rights or the Magna Carta, the library is certainly not the only place where Americans encounter references to freedom. On the campaign trail and at press conferences, our public officials appeal to the cause of freedom every day. The world of political oratory provides a living laboratory for studying the place of “freedom” within public discourse. Some of the most thought-provoking—and influential—musings on freedom were first presented not in books or in pamphlets, but broadcast from podiums and grandstands.

One of the most famous political speeches on freedom in the twentieth century was delivered by Franklin Delano Roosevelt in his 1941 State of the Union message to Congress. The address is commonly known as the “Four Freedoms” speech.

In the relevant part of the speech, President Roosevelt announced:

In the future days, which we seek to make secure, we look forward to a world founded upon four essential human freedoms.

The first is freedom of speech and expression -- everywhere in the world.

(Continued on Page 7)
Report from ALA Council Annual 2006

By Carolyn Caywood, Outgoing IFRT Councilor

Council now meets four times from Sunday through Wednesday in order to include the business of the APA. Sunday’s meeting, Council I, is usually too early to conduct much new business, but this year we considered a resolution endorsing two bills on health care. The resolution was referred to the Committee on Legislation (COL) and in the interim before that committed reported back at Council III IFRT endorsed the resolution.

The other matter to come up was not a resolution but a discussion of how speakers are selected for the Opening and Closing General Sessions. That is the responsibility of the Conference Committee. Hereafter, they will codify the process and include consultation with the President Elect and criteria for speaker selection. I have some concern that the criteria suggested are all reasons not to consider a speaker which sounds more like censorship than selection. The guidelines being drafted will go to the Executive Board, though Council may get courtesy notification. Should Council have any say in the process, I hope IFRT will emphasize inclusive rather than exclusive guidance for selection.

The second meeting is now the ALA/APA Council meeting. APA structure is still growing and this conference pointed to the need of an APA Committee on Legislation with a focus on employee-related legislation rather than the library legislation focus of the ALA COL. The ALA/APA Committee on the Salaries and Status of Library Workers brought two resolutions. The first, after amendment, urged Congress to support the Employee Free Choice Act which would make it easier for library workers in private employ to unionize. This passed. The second concerned overtime and it failed. The Treasurer presented a budget that for the first time had APA revenues exceeding expenses so the APA can begin to pay off its start-up loan.

At Council II, the Chapter Relations committee presented a resolution on TABOR and other tax-capping legislation which passed. The Budget Analysis and Review committee (BARC) presented a report in response to the referral last Midwinter of a resolution on graduated dues. Their report suggested setting up a group to study the feasibility of doing a study of the feasibility of graduated dues or other progressive dues structures. This was not well received. BARC explained that it couldn’t predict the cost of a study till the variables to be studied were settled. Reluctantly, Council went along and will expect a report at Midwinter 07. FTRF, as is customary, presented its report at this session. [link?] A resolution encouraging libraries to make information available on Darfur came to Council from Membership II. I proposed an amendment to add a Resolved clause to urge publishers to increase the materials available and it was added to the resolution which passed.

Council III on Wednesday morning is when several committees that have been meeting throughout the conference report. This is usually the liveliest meeting and is scheduled as the longest, however this time we were through as early as I have ever seen. President Gorman congratulated himself on conducting Council meetings that ended on time or early.

I wouldn’t count on this in the future! Constitution and Bylaws established that the final complete list of Council candidates will be printed in American Libraries and that a date will be set by which members must have renewed in order to get a ballot. There has been a date but members haven’t known it. COL’s report was lengthy but did not address the Library of Congress’ change in cataloging. It did bring back the resolution on health care bills which passed, but COL reiterated that it felt out of its area of competence. The committee’s eight other resolutions addressing various legislation passed. These included the EPA budget cuts, E-Rate, FRPAA, Federal Libraries, access to PACER, and appreciation of Patrice McDermott who leaves the Washington Office to head Open TheGovernment.org. Of particular interest to IFRT was the Resolution on Support of Online Social Networks opposing DOPA and the Resolution Affirming "Network Neutrality" which was joint with IFC. The DOPA bill would tie e-rate to cutting off access to services like My Space. Net neutrality is the subject of competing bills in Congress. The question is whether those who can pay for it would be allowed

(Continued)
to buy superior access for their websites, thus relegating the democracy-in-action aspect of the Internet cited in the CDA decision to second class status. IFC followed and Kent Oliver explained its report also included Network Neutrality. He pointed out text in the resolution that came from the CDA decision and identified four freedoms of the Internet that include parity among speakers. IFC’s two additional resolutions, endorsed by IFRT, also passed: Resolution on the Retention of Library Usage Records, and Resolution on National Discussion on Privacy. By this last, IFRT commits to collaborating with other ALA units to initiate a national conversation about privacy as an American value. (If you want to be involved, let me know.)

A Resolution on Lessons Learned from Meeting in New Orleans passed and ALCTS reported that it was still working on cataloging in non-Roman scripts and will report at Midwinter. Much of what was on the Council email list did not coalesce into resolutions. There was no action on the USAPatriot Act, Smithsonian commercialization, Danish cartoons, AL Direct polls, Boy Scouts, or Project Vote Smart. Over to Sylvia Turchyn!

Carolyn Caywood, outgoing IFRT Councilor

The Legacy of FDR’s “Four Freedoms” Speech

(Continued from Page 5)

The second is freedom of every person to worship God in his own way -- everywhere in the world.

The third is freedom from want -- which, translated into world terms, means economic understandings which will secure to every nation a healthy peacetime life for its inhabitants -- everywhere in the world.

The fourth is freedom from fear -- which, translated into world terms, means a world-wide reduction of armaments to such a point and in such a thorough fashion that no nation will be in a position to commit an act of physical aggression against any neighbor-- anywhere in the world.

~from the First Amendment Center http://www.firstamendmentcenter.org/
WOW! The ideas were certainly a poppin’ at the IFRT meetings in New Orleans! 2006 will be an exciting year, not because of anything I do, but because our membership has so many great ideas and the exuberant energy to carry them through. I am impressed!

At Midwinter in Seattle, Carloyn Caywood will lead a discussion on “framing the issue” – that is, how we frame an issue can greatly affect how we think about it. Framing can bias deliberation, create an atmosphere that can either bore or stimulate, or simply steer the discussion in a predetermined direction. If you are interested in helping plan this discussion, please contact Carolyn at ccaywood@VBgov.com.

At Annual in Washington, D.C., Melora Ranney is planning a half day preconference titled “Living the Library Bills of Rights” A key goal will be to ‘pass the torch’ to a new generation of librarians so that may fully understand how these rights are key to our profession. If you would like to help, please contact Melora at melora@prexar.com.

Our program at Annual will be “Intellectual Freedom in a time of ‘War’”. The program committee, chaired by Carrie Gardner, is coming up with great ideas for speakers and co-sponsors. It is possible that SRRT and GODORT will be approached as co-sponsors.

Look for updates in upcoming issues!

Please Join Me in Welcoming our Newly Elected IFRT Officials 2006!

Vice-Chair/Chair Elect - J. Douglas Archer
Directors - Eric Suess, Loida Garcia-Febo
Secretary - Joan Airoldi
Councilor - Sylvia J. Turchyn
Cruel realities: Dystopian literature

By Eduardo Fojo

Dystopian literature depicts societies where oppression, coercion, miserable living conditions (or good living conditions underpinned by oppression) are the norm. Totalitarian regimes are a key feature in dystopian tales, as evinced by such classics as George Orwell’s 1984, Ayn Rand’s Anthem, Sinclair Lewis’ It Can’t Happen Here, and Margaret Atwood’s The Handmaid’s Tale. In some cases, such as Aldous Huxley’s Brave New World, Lois Lowry’s The Giver, and William F. Nolan and George Clayton Johnson’s Logan’s Run, the protagonists live in worlds whose orderly, pleasant and even luxurious quality of life is concealed by and built on a ruthlessly enforced conformity to repressive social standards. Another common theme is extrapolation of existing conditions or problems to a logical (and horrific) conclusion. Examples include H.G. Wells’ depiction of the evolution of the Victorian lower and upper classes into bestial Morlocks and cowlike Eloi in the far future setting of The Time Machine and the insanely overpopulated near future New York of Harry Harrison’s Make Room! Make Room! Many dystopian novels feature oppressive societies spawned by humanity’s folly, whether it be the centuries-old nuclear warfare in John Wyndham’s The Chrysalids, the biowarfare agent-spawned pandemic of Terry Nation’s Survivors, or the devastation of Tokyo by out of control genetically engineered telekinetics in Katsuhiro Otomo’s Akira.

Intellectual freedom is an inevitable casualty in dystopian civilizations. Ray Bradbury’s Fahrenheit 451, with its institutionalized book-burning, criminalization of the printed word, and television-addicted and intellectually stunted populace, is both a classic of literature and the classic example of intellectual freedom crushed in dystopian tales. In 1984, freedom of speech and thought and political dissent are outlawed by the Party, the government of Oceania, and the English language itself constantly revised to eliminate words and concepts necessary for political opposition so as to eliminate it outright. In Brave New World, Aldous Huxley trumps both Bradbury and Orwell; the inhabitants of his dystopia are specially bred to be obedient - for them, intellectual freedom is a biological impossibility. Less drastic but no less insidious methods for curtailing intellectual freedom utilized in other dystopian novels include: surveillance, torture and execution of dissidents (It Can’t Happen Here, The Handmaid’s Tale, V for Vendetta); behavior and thought modification via aversion therapy (A Clockwork Orange); and psychological conditioning during childhood (Logan’s Run, The Giver). Regardless of setting or details of social structure or lost liberties, all dystopian literature depicts the worst of all possible worlds.
By Pam Klipsch

My two years as vice chair and then 2006 chair of IFRT have passed in a whirl. I look back with pride in our accomplishments as a round table and as advocates for intellectual freedom.

The annual liaison orientation and luncheon, held during the noon break of the Freedom to Read Foundation meeting at Midwinter, is now the first task assigned to the new vice chair when h/she assumes office. The orientation luncheon is an opportunity for the chairs of the various division IFCs and other IF liaisons to come together to learn how the IF community operates within ALA and to network among themselves.

The membership reception and awards presentation is now held at noon on Saturday during Annual Conference, just before the annual IF program organized by IFRT. The reception provides a light buffet lunch and an opportunity for IFRT members attending conference to meet and network with the round table leadership. It’s also a chance to talk informally with our annual award winners (the Imroth, Oboler and SIRS/Proquest State Achievement Awards) and with the featured speakers for the program.

This year we have a number of new people actively seeking IFRT committee appointments and I believe these activities have helped us recruit new blood for our round table.

The IFRT Report, now issued electronically four times a year, has also raised awareness among our members. Thanks go to Doug Archer, who has edited the report for several years and expanded the content. Lauren Christos is the new Report editor, and already has proposed several ideas for making the publication more attractive and informative.

I am very proud of our successful 2006 program, Acknowledging Native Perspectives on the American Experience. For the first time IFRT worked collaboratively with an ALA affiliate outside the IF community to plan and put on this program. I express my thanks and appreciation to Kelly Webster and other members of the American Indian Library Association (AILA) whose involvement did much to guarantee the success of this program. If you were unable to attend, a web biography of Native resources is available under the 2006 program listing on the IFRT home page on the ALA website.

I hope we can follow up on this successful collaboration by reaching out to the various ethnic affiliate organizations and inviting them to establish liaisons with the IF community. As our communities and libraries become more diverse it will be even more important to maintain and defend the intellectual freedom principles of our profession.

I would be greatly remiss if I did not express my gratitude and appreciation to Nanette Perez, our IFRT staff liaison officer from the Office for Intellectual Freedom. Nanette makes life so much easier in more ways than I can count for the chair and officers of IFRT. The word “impossible” does not seem to exist in her vocabulary, and no matter how outrageous the request she is always cheerful and accommodating.

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One of my final actions as chair of IFRT was to appoint a special ad hoc task force, chaired by Carolyn Caywood, our retiring councilor and winner of the Freedom to Read Foundation’s 2006 Roll of Honor Award. Carolyn and her task force will organize a gathering to begin framing the issues for a national debate on the relationship between privacy and security. This gathering will happen at the 2007 Midwinter Meeting in Seattle WA. Thank you, Carolyn, for taking on this momentous issue.

My job now, as immediate past chair of IFRT, is twofold. First, I am chairing the Nominating Committee to seek candidates for IFRT vice chair/chair elect, treasurer, and two directors for the IFRT Executive Committee, for the Spring 2007 election. If you are interested in serving in any of these positions, please contact me at pam@jeffersoncountylibrary.org.

Second, I am providing moral support, advice and encouragement to my successor, our 2007 IFRT chair, Rosanne Cordell, who is off to a great start, and to her successor, our vice chair Doug Archer. Both of them are highly qualified, experienced and committed champions of intellectual freedom. May they find their tenures as satisfying as I did mine!

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The First Amendment

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.
Photos and Awards: Morial Convention Center
by Nanette Perez

Katahyn Runnells and Lucy Collins Nazro receiving the John Phillip Immroth Memorial Award

Karen Bary accepting the award from Christopher Bowen, Chair of ProQuest/SIRS State and Regional Award

“Acknowledging Native Perspectives on the American Experience” The 2006 IFRT/AILA Program

Top Row Keynote Speakers—Dr. Rennard Strickland, Christine Rose, Richie Plass, Pam Klipsch (IFRT Chair), David Ongley (Program Moderator)
Bottom Row: Tribal Librarians—Kelly Webster (AILA Program Co-Chair), Richenda Wilkinson, Lauren Christos (IFRT Program Chair), Carlene Engstrom (not present: Arline Naquin and Maria Caldwell)

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Applause for Awardees!!

Kembrew McLeod accepts The Oboler Award for “Freedom of Expression: Overzealous Copyright Bozos and Other Enemies of Creativity” from Dr. Frederick J. Stielow.

Both the Awards Reception and the subsequent IFRT/AILA Program were outstanding successes! Everyone enjoyed a delicious luncheon, had the wonderful opportunity to meet one another and share their stories. The awardees were presented with checks and plaques from their respective committee chairs, and the program presenters were able to discuss their unique experiences regarding their contribution to the program “Acknowledging Native Perspectives on the American Experience.”

The program was sponsored by the Intellectual Freedom Round Table, American Indian Library Association and the Office for Literacy and Outreach Services. Our program dealt with how the historic and contemporary experiences of America’s indigenous peoples have been excluded from mainstream American scholarship and culture. A self-perpetuating cycle of bias has dismissed Native viewpoints, perpetuated stereotypes, and diminished their part in America’s history and heritage. This program looked at ways in which libraries and librarians can preserve and promote access to Native perspectives. To our moderator, David Ongley, who did a superb job introducing the speakers and bridging their commentary with the Q & A of the audience, we thank you. To the panelists, we thank for their valuable insights, thought provoking responses, and engaging dialogue for creating a truly amazing program! The IFRT and AILA thanks and appreciates all who attended our program.
Reminder to Celebrate!!!

Reprinted from ALA
Banned Books Week is celebrated from September 22 to 29, 2007

Banned Books Week: Celebrating the Freedom to Read is observed during the last week of September each year. Observed since 1982, the annual event reminds Americans not to take this precious democratic freedom for granted.

Banned Books Week celebrates the freedom to choose or the freedom to express one’s opinion even if that opinion might be considered unorthodox or unpopular and stresses the importance of ensuring the availability of those unorthodox or unpopular viewpoints to all who wish to read them. After all, intellectual freedom can exist only where these two essential conditions are met.

REFORMA Supports the Return of Vamos a Cuba to School Libraries

by Loida Garcia-Febo

A federal judge overruled the Miami-Dade County School Board’s ban on a children picture book called Vamos a Cuba from elementary school libraries. The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Florida’s Greater Miami Chapter sued Miami-Dade County School Board to keep the books on the shelves of Miami-Dade public school libraries.

REFORMA, the National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking issued a statement opposing the banning of Vamos a Cuba in any school district in the Americas. REFORMA emphasizes that “Having open access to current, accurate, unbiased and relevant information about life in Latin America is essential for Latino youth in the United States.” A member of REFORMA was one of two librarians who testified at a preliminary hearing. REFORMA opposes the censorship of this and other children’s books.

Vamos a Cuba is part of a small series of books in Spanish about Latin America is a small series of books in Spanish about Latin American countries that includes Colombia, Puerto Rico, and Costa Rica, and fits within a larger series of mostly books in English that give young children information about many countries throughout the world. It includes 25 large full color photographs of contemporary Cuba, its landscapes, and its people. The book includes bibliographical references, a glossary, a list of basic facts, and an index.

For more on REFORMA’s Statement, visit http://reforma.org/

"The book...is an exquisite example of human genius. Where it flourishes, man flourishes. Where it withers, humanity withers. The book is strong. It can endure for a thousand years and more, but there exist those who would put out its eyes, blacken its words, reduce it to a gray heap of ashes, lock it in chains, and let generations live and die in darkness."

Harrison E. Salisbury, in a lecture at the Library of Congress, 1983
Founded in 1973, the Intellectual Freedom Round Table is the grassroots intellectual freedom organization within the American Library Association.

**Mission Statement**

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

**The IFRT**

- Provides broad opportunities for ALA members to become involved in the support of freedom of access and freedom of expression in libraries
- Supports librarians involved in censorship controversies
- Monitors intellectual freedom developments affecting library and information services
- Provides a forum where ALA members involved in intellectual freedom activities on the state and local level can discuss programs, activities and problems
- Organizes conference programs on topics related to intellectual freedom

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

lauren.christos@fiu.edu

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

A special thank you to Therese O’Connell for her wonderful assistance and patience in the layout of my first IFRT Report.

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**Publications Committee**

- Diane M. Fulkerson
- Cindy A. Lombardo
- Camille McCutcheon
- Michael B. Wessells
- Lauren Christos, Chair