MENTORING

A mentorship is a professional relationship between two people -- one seeking guidance and knowledge from another more experienced person. The goals and structure of a mentorship will differ according to the organization offering it. A mentorship can also be informal, as in not hosted through any formal organizations, but rather stem from a casual, educational relationship between colleagues in the same workplace or field.

For those fairly new in their professional, or seeking advice on transitioning to another field, it can be helpful to join your local state organization, or any of the various roundtables or divisions within ALA. Many of them offer mentorship programs that will connect you with those eager to offer their expertise. These programs can help pave the way towards upward mobility in your professional career.

Remember that a mentorship is one of trust, respect, and confidentiality. It is a dynamic relationship, filled with meaningful conversations and active listening. A good mentorship is one of support, growth, and empathy.