

**YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
ALA Annual Conference, San Francisco
June 26 – 30, 2015**

Topic: Mega Issue Discussion

Background: Mega issues are issues of strategic importance, which represent choices YALSA needs to make in defining the ultimate direction of its long-range plan. These issues represent potential impediments to achievement of YALSA's Envisioned Future, and form a basis for dialogue about the choices facing YALSA. The Board can use these questions to create regular opportunities for strategic dialogue about issues facing the association and/or profession YALSA serves. In order to ensure that topics of strategic importance get addressed by the Board, the Board agreed to place one of them on the agenda for each meeting.

Action Required: Exploration

Mega Issue

How do we ensure that individuals who are hired for teen services positions have the necessary skills and knowledge, as outlined in the Futures Report, they need to be successful?

YALSA's report *The Future of Library Services for and with Teens: A Call to Action*, calls for a significant shift in how teen services are planned, delivered and evaluated. In order for YALSA to effect the change it wants to see, as outlined in the report, YALSA needs to ensure that

- those who are entering the profession have obtained the knowledge and skills they need to be successful in implementing the vision for teen services described in the Futures Report
- those in libraries with hiring responsibilities know what skills and knowledge to look for when seeking an individual to work for and with teens

Questions for Exploration

- What is/should be YALSA's role in driving or developing graduate school curricula?
- What is the current state of LIS curricula in relation to teen services? What gaps are there?
- Are there opportunities to partner with one or more graduate school LIS programs to develop a model curriculum? Does YALSA have the capacity to do that?
- Are there any resources YALSA can provide hiring managers to help them recruit and vet potential teen services staff?
- Can/should YALSA play a role in classifications and job descriptions of those working in teen services?

Resources to Explore

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- Diversity in YA Services LIS Education
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mg4KQ9EI6Jc#t=78> (video)
- Envisioning our Information Future and how to Educate for it
<http://gslis.simmons.edu/blogs/ourinformationfuture/>
- The Future of Library Services for and with Teens: A Call to Action
<http://bit.ly/1n6PoKS>
- Re-envisioning the MLS: the Future Information Professionals <http://hackmls.umd.edu/>