

Memorial Resolution Honoring Dr. Cheryl Ann McCarthy

Whereas, Cheryl Ann McCarthy, Professor Emerita from the University of Rhode Island passed away on May 16, 2021;

Whereas, she earned an M.L.I.S. from the University of Rhode Island and a Doctorate in Library and Information Studies from Simmons College;

Whereas, she began her career as a K-12 school library media director;

Whereas, she served for 25 years as a professor at the Graduate School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Rhode Island and served as as the Coordinator of the School Library Media program and Coordinator of the Information Literacy Instruction Certificate program;

Whereas, she served as the Interim Dean of University Libraries at the University of Rhode Island;

Whereas, she was a member and President of the New England Library Association;

Whereas, she was a member and President of the School Librarians of Rhode Island;

Whereas, she was Chair of the Rhode Island Coalition of Library Advocates;

Whereas, she served on the Executive Board of the Rhode Island Center for the Book;

Whereas, she published research in peer-reviewed journals on the history of school library media programs, teaching online, information literacy instruction K-16, and assessment of spaces and learning commons in academic libraries;

Whereas, she was awarded the “Emerson Greenaway Award for Distinguished Service for Librarianship” by the New England Library Association;

Whereas, she was awarded “The Presidential Award” by the School Librarians of Rhode Island for “Remarkable Contributions to the Library Profession”;

Whereas, she was named a “Top 50 Distinguished Alumni” by the University of Rhode Island Graduate School of Library and Information Studies;

Whereas, she was named “Sweetheart of the Year” for advocacy of library services by the Rhode Island Coalition of Library Advocates;

Whereas, she was presented a Certificate of Accomplishment by Senator Jack Reed for “Dedicated Service and Leadership Advocating to Support School and Academic Libraries to Ensure Life-Long Learning”;

Whereas, she was a member of the American Library Association and the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) for over 25 years;

Whereas, she mentored countless library students, advocated for their future, upheld the highest standards for the profession, and inspired a generation of school library media specialists;

Whereas, her influence continues to impact the education of innumerable K-16 students through her instruction and mentorship of school library media specialists in several states;

Resolved, that the American Library Association, on behalf of its members,

1. Recognizes the distinguished 45 year career of Cheryl Ann McCarthy as a leader, educator and mentor;
2. Extends its sincere sympathy to the family of Cheryl Ann McCarthy;
3. Send a copy of this resolution to her family, and to Dr. Valerie Karno, Director of the University of Rhode Island Graduate School of Library and Information Studies.

Moved by: Ed Garcia, ALA Executive Board

Seconded by: Catherine Damiani, Councilor-at-Large

Seconded by: Jack Martin, Rhode Island Chapter Councilor

Seconded by: Diane Chen, AASL Division Councilor

Endorsed by the Rhode Island Library Association

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