

A Memorial Resolution Honoring Anita Schiller

Whereas the American Library Association (ALA) and the library community lost an acclaimed and valued colleague on January 23, 2021, with the death of Anita Schiller;

Whereas Anita Schiller made a lasting impact as a librarian, scholar, teacher, and mentor within the library community and beyond;

Whereas she worked at the University of Illinois Library Re-search Center and as a visiting scholar at Rutgers University before moving to University of California San Diego (UCSD) in 1970, where she served as a Reference Librarian, Social Sciences bibliographer, and Data Services Librarian until her retirement in 1991;

Whereas she served on the California Council for the Humanities from 1987 – 1991;

Whereas she was the first person to document a pervasive pattern of gender inequality within the library profession in her foundational 1968 study “Characteristics of Professional Personnel in College and University Libraries”;

Whereas she served as a member of the ALA Council, the Social Responsibilities Round Table (SRRT) Feminist Task Force, the Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship (COSWL), the President's Task Force on Better Salaries and Pay Equity for Library Workers;

Whereas she was a great friend to the government documents community, participated in the founding of the Government Documents Round Table (GODORT), and for many years was a fierce siren for the public right to information and warning against the private takeover of public information;

Whereas she received the ALA Equality Award in 1985 and ALA lifetime honorary membership in 2007, ALA's highest honor; and

Whereas she was a committed library leader and advocate, cherished colleague, and mentor whose intelligence, compassion, and humor made a lasting impression on all who knew her, now, therefore, be it

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

1. recognizes the remarkable achievements of Anita Schiller and mourns her loss; and
2. extends its sincerest condolences to her family and friends around the world.

Mover: Aaron Dobbs, ALA Small Round Table Councilor

Seconder: Tara Brady, ALA SRRT Councilor

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