



A Memorial Resolution Honoring Margaret R. Myers

Whereas the American Library Association (ALA) and the library community lost a beloved and valued colleague on February 05, 2021, with the death of Margaret R. Myers;

Whereas Margaret R. Myers devoted her career— first at Rutgers University and later at the American Library Association — to working for social justice within and for the library profession;

Whereas Margaret Myers directed ALA's Office for Library Personnel Resources (OLPR), 1974 -1995, and served as part-time executive secretary for the former Library Education Division from 1974 - 78;

Whereas Margaret Myers provided counsel and personal assistance to many thousands of librarians, library workers and potential librarians; and through OLPR gave access to employment and advancement opportunities at the conference Placement Center;

Whereas she kept both library human resource staff and library workers informed on important issues through the Library Personnel News newsletter and the creation of TIP (Topics in Personnel) Kits on personnel and labor issues, diversity, pay equity and other employment issues;

Whereas as staff liaison Margaret Myers gently but forcefully guided and supported many ALA committees and roundtables, including the Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship (COSWL), the Committee on Education (COE) and Committee on Pay Equity;

Whereas she also worked with members in establishing and supporting the Library Support Staff Round Table (LSSIRT);

Whereas she formulated the "Each One, Reach One" campaign in 1988 with a focus on increasing diversity in Library and Information Science;

Whereas under her direction OLPR did some of the foundational work that gathered data paving the way for SPECTRUM, notably the 1989 Occupational Entry: Library and Information Science Students' Attitudes, Demographics and Aspirations Survey;



Whereas she provided incredible support and substance for ALA's advocacy campaign for better salaries for librarians and library workers, including developing key portions of ALA's Better Salaries Toolkit, now in a sixth edition, and training programs;

Whereas she was a pioneer in gender studies in librarianship, playing significant roles in organizing the Melvil's Rib Symposium (1973) and the American Library Association Pre-conference on the Status of Women in Librarianship (1974) and also co-editing *Women in Librarianship: A Bibliography* (1973) and *Women in Librarianship: Melvil's Rib Symposium* (1975);

Whereas in her retirement she continued to develop libraries and library staff through her Peace Corps service in Botswana (1995 -1997);

Whereas Margaret Myers was a lodestar in the ALA's initial work to fight for equality of women, people of color, and marginalized people in librarianship;

Whereas she was the first person to be honored with the ALA Equality Award in 1984;

Whereas she exemplified the concept of servant leadership, choosing to work in the background to make us better people ourselves and enhance the condition and status of all library workers; and

Whereas Margaret was a warm, personable, charming colleague and a role model for cooperative and collaborative efforts of whom it has been said "I could never understand how she got so much done in a non-directive way"; now, therefore, be it



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

1. recognizes the contributions and achievements of Margaret R. Myers and mourns her loss; and
2. extends its sincerest condolences to her family and friends around the world.

*Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association
Tuesday, June 29, 2021, ALA Virtual Annual Conference Council Meeting*

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Tracie Hall". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end.

Tracie D. Hall, Executive Director
and Secretary of the ALA Council