



# International Leads

*A Publication of the International Relations Round Table of the American Library Association*

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## ALA brings advocacy workshop to Pacific

By Michael Dowling

The need to advocate for libraries is universal, even in paradise. How do you raise awareness of the importance of libraries and their impact? How do you make sure that schools hire trained, certified librarians? How do you get a new roof for your library after a typhoon rips it away?

In November, ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels and I presented a two-day Advocacy Workshop in Palau as a prelude to the 16<sup>th</sup> Pacific Island Archives and Library Association (PIALA) Conference (<http://www.uog.edu/rfk/piala/piala.html>). Thanks to the efforts of the indefatigable Arlene Cohen, from the University of Guam, the workshop became a reality, with sponsorship from IFLA's Action for Development through Libraries Programme Core Activity (ALP), and IFLA's Management of Library Associations Section (MLAS).

Getting a group of 33 librarians from nine island nations and territories spanning thousands of square miles where planes sometimes fly from an island only once a week is a challenge, but it all came together. Participants were from American Samoa, Guam, Marshall Islands, Commonwealth of Northern Marianas (CMI), Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Fiji, Kiribati, Palau, and Papua New Guinea.

The workshop and the PIALA Conference were graciously hosted by the Palau Library Association and Palau Community College.



*ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels participates in a breakout discussion with John Pagolu, Enion Kalles, and other librarians from the Marshall Islands.*

Despite jetlag, the dedicated participants were eager, which energized the presenters. The workshop took the participants step by step through the development of the creation of an Advocacy Plan. The first day focused on Planning and Defining Issues and Goals, Developing Your Message and Talking Points, and Defining Your Audience. After each topic, the participants heard a local success story before breaking into groups. Libby Cass of the University of South Pacific and president of the Fiji Library Association, served as a facilitator with Arlene Cohen during these breakouts.

Day Two focused on Building Support, Team Building, Media Outreach, and Lobbying.

By the end of the workshop each country had put together an outline for an Advocacy Action Plan for next year.

Since the workshop, participants have been firming up their Action Plans. ALA will provide advice to help meet their goals, one of which is a new roof for the Chuuk Public Library, two years after the typhoon destroyed the old one. If you are interested in helping libraries in the Pacific, please express your interest on the Sister Libraries site at [http://wikis.ala.org/sisterlibraries/index.php/Main\\_Page](http://wikis.ala.org/sisterlibraries/index.php/Main_Page).

## IRRT to explore adult literacy

By Sally Bickley

Join librarians from around the world as well as those in the United States as we explore the critical issue of adult literacy through the 2007 International Relations Round Table Pre-Conference, *Adult Literacy: Foundation for a Digital Age*.

Elizabeth Pierre-Louis, libraries program director for Fondation Connaissance et Liberté/Fondasyon Konesans Ak Libète (FOKAL) ([www.fokal.org](http://www.fokal.org)), will describe her experience with literacy programs in Haiti. Elizabeth Liptak, executive director of the Washington Literacy Council ([www.washingtonliteracycouncil.org](http://www.washingtonliteracycouncil.org)), will describe the literacy programs run by the literacy council, which provides the largest basic adult literacy service in Washington, D.C.

The program will highlight the important need for emphasizing and providing basic literacy programs to adults who cannot read. The pre-conference will provide participants with an opportunity to discuss with Pierre-Louis how the program in Haiti supports community libraries and library workers, aiming to assist the poorest and least powerful in gaining basic educational skills.

Liptak will describe the story of the Washington Literacy Council, which

uses a structured reading program based on current research in literacy. A combination of small group classes and one-on-one tutoring assists students in gaining mastery of the five essential reading skills.

Attendees are encouraged to participate in dialogue and discussion. For example: What model might work well for your library? How can we encourage more libraries to provide literacy programs? How can we reach those adults whose lack of reading ability impacts so much of their lives?

An additional component of the pre-conference will be a discussion from the International Exchanges Committee of the International Relations Round Table. The Committee will share 'Voices of Exchange', accounts of international librarian exchange, as well as information on how to get involved and current activities of the committee.

The IRRT Pre-Conference will be held in conjunction with the ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., on Friday, June 22, 2007. The conference will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and will include lunch and light refreshments. The registration fee is \$40.00. Join us for one of the most affordable and diverse pre-conferences in Washington.

## IVC seeks volunteers for visitors center

By Liz Cooper

The IRRT IVC Committee is looking for volunteers to staff the International Visitors Center at the ALA Annual Conference in Washington D.C.

IRRT sponsors the IVC for international librarians attending the conference. The IVC will be located near the exhibits and will be open Friday, June 22, through Monday, June 25.

IVC volunteers assist international visitors by answering questions and providing directions at the conference. (Don't worry, we provide all the information you need to help the visitors!) In addition to information, the

IVC offers international visitors computers for email/Internet and an inviting place to meet with friends and relax.

Working at the IVC is fun and a great way to meet a variety of people from around the world. All you need to be a successful volunteer is a smile and a helpful attitude! Please consider volunteering for a 1- to 2-hour time slot (or more!). To volunteer, please contact Jaclyn Bedoya at [jaclynbedoya@gmail.com](mailto:jaclynbedoya@gmail.com). We'll set the schedule in June, but please let us know now if you are interested in helping.

### IRRT Officers

#### Chair

**Susan M. Schnuer**  
University of Illinois

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#### IRRT Web Site:

<http://www.ala.org/irrt/>

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## Message from the IRRT Chair

By Susan Schnuer

At the Midwinter meetings in Seattle, IRRT members were actively engaged in planning and discussing activities and programs for the Annual conference in Washington D.C. IRRT will again offer exciting programs and activities that will appeal to ALA members and visitors from the United States and from countries around the world.

IRRT members also took some time at Midwinter to stop and reflect on the current IRRT work and to discuss priorities for the next year. We used the ALA 2010 International Strategic Plan to help guide the discussions. I want to share the top six priorities with you.

### IRRT priorities for 2007-2008

- Increase awareness in the U.S. library community of library services and activities from other countries
- Be educated as world citizens with an understanding of cultures and issues facing libraries world wide
- Utilize technology and the ALA website to increase the understanding of international issues affecting library and information services and generate support for international partnerships

that strengthen library and information services

- Provide training in the international arena in those areas where US librarianship is particularly strong

*IRRT will again offer exciting programs and activities [at the Annual conference] that will appeal to ALA members and visitors from the United States and from countries around the world.*

- Increase efforts to recruit and retain international members by effectively communicating the value of association membership to international members
- Seek funding for international activities from foundations, government, NGOs, international agencies, corporations, private sources, and member contributions

While much of the current IRRT work is tied directly to these priorities, it is my sense that IRRT members want to be more actively engaged in professional international activities. They want to reach out and educate other ALA members about international programs. They want to share their professional expertise with others and, at the same time, want to learn from the rich experiences of our international colleagues.

The IRRT Executive Board is determined to advocate for these activities within ALA and to determine the support and programming needed to implement the priorities. Our first step has been to set up meetings at ALA headquarters in March. We will meet with Keith Fiels, the IRO staff, the Development director and head of membership to discuss IRRT priorities. Our hope is that discussions will highlight IRRT work and promote partnerships with other ALA offices and divisions.

I want to thank those of you that participated in the Midwinter priority discussions. Your thoughts and ideas are guiding us as we move forward to build on existing IRRT activities and to develop new international initiatives.

## Meet your 2007 IRRT candidates!

### VICE CHAIR/CHAIRELECT

*Jim Agee*  
Manager of Acquisitions and  
Serials, University of Northern  
Colorado

*Judith Lin Hunt*  
Dean of Library Services, Harry  
A. Sprague Library, Montclair  
State University

### SECRETARY/TREASURER

*Ruby Bell-Gam*  
Librarian, African and Intl. Dev.  
Studies, UCLA

*Donna McCool*  
International Library Consultant

*Eve Alison Nyren*  
Senior Librarian, Placer County  
Library, Rocklin Branch

### MEMBER-AT-LARGE

*Johan Koren*  
Library Media Coordinator,  
Murray State University

*Muzhgan Nazarova*  
Ph.D. candidate, Graduate  
School of Library and  
Information Science, University  
of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

For more details on the candidates, please visit <http://www.ala.org/ala/irrt>

# Incoming ALA president invites participation from IRRT members, international community

By Loriene Roy

At the 2007 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, DC, I will be inaugurated President of ALA. International Relations Round Table members, guests, and international visitors are invited to help me celebrate this occasion. In addition, the international library community may also participate in a number of activities planned throughout my ALA Presidential year. I am a longtime IRRT member and served as member and chair of the International Relations Committee's Subcommittee on East Asia and the Pacific.

## Events at the 2007 ALA Annual Conference

The National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) is hosting an Honor Dance for me on Friday, June 22, during the open hours of the museum from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. This event, which will be free and open to the public, recognizes the fact that I will be the first American Indian president of ALA. I am Anishinabe, enrolled (officially affiliated) at the White Earth Reservation and a member of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe. Our culture is recognized for floral beadwork designs, use of birch bark in creation of baskets and other objects, canoes as traditional transportation, and the harvesting and consumption of wild rice, our sacred food. Tribal communities give Honor Dances as formal acknowledgements of group or individual achievements. The Honor Dance offers ALA members and guests an opportunity to learn more about the Anishinabe and other indigenous peoples.

The NMAI opened in fall 2004 as the eighteenth Smithsonian Institution museum and is located on the National Mall at the corner of Fourth Street and Independence Avenue Southwest. The Dance will take place in the Potomac atrium on the ground level of the museum. A drum group will provide the music for the Dance and my family and



Lorlene Roy

I will be led to the atrium by two female dancers. Representatives of the American Indian Library Association will present a gift and the audience will be invited to participate in a round dance, moving in a circle while holding hands. Indigenous peoples are invited to dance in cultural dress, including dance shawls for women. Visitors can join the Honor Dance or can view it by standing near the balconies on levels two, three, and four.

Visitors may arrive before the Honor Dance to view the exhibits. The four permanent exhibits explore Our Universes (Native beliefs), Our Peoples (Native histories), Our Lives (contemporary Native lifeways), and Return to a Native Place (information about the indigenous peoples of the local Chesapeake area). Guests may also choose to take the free, one-hour tour of the museum highlights or eat at the Mitsitam Café which features indigenous foods. The Chesapeake Museum Store is located on the first level and the Roanoke Museum Store is on the second level. The Resource Center and its reference collection are on the third floor. Visitors can take the Blue/Orange/Green or Yellow Metro (subway) lines to L'Enfant Plaza Station

and take the Maryland Avenue exit. Note that security staff at the museum will conduct a check of bags (including purses and backpacks) carried into the museum. For more information about the NMAI, visit the website at <http://www.nmai.si.edu>.

The second special event at the 2007 ALA Annual Conference is the inaugural banquet which will take place on Tuesday, 26 June, at the Hyatt, starting at 7 p.m. The inaugural banquet will open with a procession of indigenous nations. Delegates from international indigenous communities are invited to participate in the procession. This will be followed by a procession of elected ALA officials. I will give a presentation, previewing plans for my Presidential year. This will be followed by dinner and dancing. Tickets for the inaugural banquet are available for purchase through <http://www.ala.org>. Attendees are invited to wear cultural dress or black tie/formal attire.

## Events Planned During ALA Presidential Year, June 27, 2007-July 2, 2008

My Presidential Initiatives will focus on the concepts of Celebrating Community, Collaboration, and Culture. Related events and activities will be infused with indigenous and international presences. These efforts are organized around three action areas, each of which is coordinated by a Task Force, described below. In addition, I am guided by an international Envisioning Committee of advisors. Envisioning Committee members include David Kukutai Jones, past President of Te Ropu Whakahau (Maori in Libraries and Information Management, Aotearoa/New Zealand) and Alana Garwood-Houng, President of ATSLIRN, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Library and Information Resource Network (Australia). Other colleagues form an Events Planning

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# International programs, meetings, and events announced for ALA 2007 Annual Conference

## IRC Meetings\*

### **International Relations Committee I**

Friday, 6/22/07  
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

### **IFLA Update Meeting**

Saturday, 6/23/07  
11:00 am - Noon

### **International Relations Committee II**

Tuesday, 6/26/07  
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

## IRRT Meetings\*

### **International Public Libraries-- Discussion Group**

Saturday, 6/23/07  
Noon - 1:30 am

### **IRRT Executive Committee Meeting**

Sunday, 6/24/07  
8:00 am - 11:00 am

## IRC/IRRT Meetings\*

### *IRC/IRRT All Subcommittee Meeting*

### **IRRT Chairs Meeting**

Saturday, 6/23/07  
8:00 am - 9:00 am

### **IRRT Subcommittee Meetings**

Saturday, 6/23/07  
8:30 am - 10:00 am

### **IRC Subcommittee Meetings**

Saturday, 6/23/07  
9:30 am - 11:00 am

## International Programs\*

### **IRRT Pre-Conference: "Adult literacy: foundation for a digital age"**

Friday, 6/22/07  
09:00 am - 01:00 pm

### **International Librarians Orientation**

Friday, 6/22/07  
4:30 pm - 6:30 pm

### **Cooperation Among Libraries Within the Same Geographic Region-Intl. Paper Session**

Saturday, 6/23/07  
1:30 pm - 3:30 pm



### **International Poster Session**

Sunday, 6/24/07  
11:00 am - 12:30 pm

### **The Internationalization of Library Education**

Sunday, 6/24/07  
1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

### **Think Global, Act Local: How to Internationalize your library? - Sister Libraries Comm.**

Sunday, 6/24/07  
4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

### **Opportunities to Participate in Global Library Development (ISLD)**

**Interest Group**  
Monday, 6/25/07  
10:30 am - 12:00 pm

### **IRRT-Chair's Program: International library Partnerships: Walking Side By Side**

Monday, 6/25/07  
1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

### **International Librarian's Reception**

Monday, 6/25/07  
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
Library of Congress, Montpelier  
Room

## Additional Meetings/Events\*

### **International Documents in an Electronic Age (GODORT Pre- conference): The Open Internet and Beyond: Challenges, Tasks, and Tools for all Libraries**

Thursday, 06/21/07  
8:00 am - 5:00 pm  
GODORT

### **Disasters! Libraries! Technologies!**

Sunday, 6/24/07  
1:30 pm - 3:00 pm  
AFL, APALA, IRC's East Asia and  
Pacific Subcommittee

### **Innovative Public Library Services Around the Globe, Or, Learning from our Global Neighbors**

Sunday, 6/25/07  
1:30 pm - 3:00 pm  
PLA IC/ALA IRC

### **Doing Business Abroad: Regulations, Markets, and Culture**

Monday, 6/25/07  
8:00 am - 12:30 pm  
RUSABRASS/ALAIRRT

### **Honor Dance (Honoring Lorie Roy, ALA President-Elect)**

National Museum of the American  
Indian  
Friday, 6/22/07  
3:30 - 5:30 p.m.  
Free admission

\*Locations to be announced.

For a complete list of programs, locations, and full descriptions, please visit: <http://www.ala.org/iro>

## Sofia 2006 draws from more than 30 countries

By Jim Agee and Jacqueline Solis

Librarians from more than 30 countries gathered in Sofia, Bulgaria, for the fourth Globenet conference in November 2006. Michael Gorman, immediate past president of ALA, gave an insightful keynote address “The wrong path and the right path: the role of libraries in access and preservation of cultural heritage”. In his keynote address, which is available at <http://slim.emporia.edu/globenet/Sofia2006/GormanSpeech.htm>, Gorman emphasized the right way to preserve cultural heritage. In his recognition of the value of the book, Gorman said very succinctly, “My devotion to the text is transcendent, my devotion to the book utilitarian” and so explained that while the text as created by the author is paramount, the book in its traditional format is the best method for accessing and preserving that scholarly account.

This was all good to hear while in an audience of librarians from many nations. The countries represented had long historical traditions of scholars, educational systems, libraries, and the book. Gorman believes that we are losing ground rapidly when contemporary societies go the ‘wrong’ direction and begin to value celebrity, visual media, and transitory information over literacy, the rigor of scholarship, and enduring knowledge. He found many gathered at the Sofia University who were in agreement with his values, and with his concerns for the path to be taken as the librarians were to discuss methods and practices for cultural preservation in the days ahead.

“SOFIA 2006: Globalization, Digitization, Access, and Preservation of Cultural Heritage” was the sixth conference in the Globenet series, and was once again organized by Dr. Herbert Achleitner, professor in the School of Library and Information Management at Emporia State University, and Dr. Alexander Dimchev, Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy, and professor in the Department of Library and Information Sciences at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski.” These two professors have been the principal organizers of all of the Sofia



photo by Jim Agee

*Librarians from around the world gather at the fourth biennial Sofia conference in November. The conference was held in Sofia, Bulgaria.*

Conferences. The first Sofia conference was in 2000, and one has been held there biennially since (2000, 2002, 2004, 2006).

The theme of this conference allowed many views from the more than 70 presentations, and encouraged formal and informal discussions among the 225 registered participants. This fourth Sofia conference continued the tradition of an excellent multinational exchange. Approximately 50% of participants were from North America and West Europe, and 50% were from Central and East Europe. A few distant places, such as South Africa and New Zealand, were also represented.

Central and Eastern Europe—from the Baltics to the Balkans—are rapidly changing, as evidenced by Bulgaria’s 2007 entry into the European Union. The common concern for cultural heritage is voiced in many ways, while resources to support cultural heritage preservation and access vary widely from nation to nation and library to library. The chairman of the National Assembly of Bulgaria, his Excellency Mr. Georgi Pirinski, powerfully supported this conference when he recognized the value of cultural heritage institutions, and welcomed the attendees to Sofia and Bulgaria.

Because Central and East European libraries have such vast and interesting collections of unique and rare materials,

Gorman’s comments set the tone, and created a challenge, for the presentations and discussions that followed.

Session themes covered topics ranging from current digitization and preservation initiatives to virtual museums and libraries to cultural heritage issues in preservation and digitization. Also addressed were issues of access, successful collaborations among libraries, and library and information science education.

In addition to the main conference, presented for the first time in concurrent session format, there was a student session with poster presentations, vendor exhibit area, a panel presentation about opportunities for professional publication for librarians, a pre-conference seminar on preservation, and a pre-conference seminar on resource sharing, as well as a sponsor’s product presentation session.

This conference allowed participants a breadth of stimulating opportunities to meet others with shared concerns, to exchange intellectual ideas and working practices in formal and informal settings, and to make connections that will lead to further collaborative studies and projects that cross borders, collections, and languages. These opportunities persist from the first Sofia conference in 2000, and are one of the strengths of the Globenet series of gatherings.

## Participation

[Continued from Page 4](#)

Circle to help organize events during the year. Students in our School of Information at The University of Texas at Austin and at the School of Information Resources & Library Science at the University of Arizona are members of a Student Action Circle; they assist the task forces and the Events Planning Circle in accomplishing their tasks.

### Circle of Literacy

The Circle of Literacy Task Force is planning activities to illustrate support for literacy across cultures and across the lifespan. Plans focus on services for and with indigenous peoples, services for immigrants, and outreach to those who are incarcerated, such as the following.

- A Gathering of Readers virtual celebration of indigenous children's reading and culture will take place in April 2008, during the fiftieth anniversary of National Library Week in the United States. Fifty to one hundred schools around the world that enroll indigenous children will be invited to participate by sharing information about their cultures and/or by visiting a content-rich website. Students will receive incentives. A prototype of the website is available at <http://www.ischool.utexas.edu/~gathread>.

- A website will provide capsule descriptions of notable library services for immigrant populations.

- ALA recently received two years of funding from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation for "The American Dream Starts@Your Library," an initiative supporting English-language literacy in public libraries. The initiative will create programs at ALA, mini-grants to libraries, a toolkit of resources, highlights of successful programs, a website, and regional training. The Circle of Literacy Task Force will help with these efforts.

- WBGH-Boston is developing "We Shall Remain," a five-episode television series of 90-minute programs on American Indian history to air on public television in January 2009. We will help promote library programming around this television series.

### Workplace Wellness

Members of the Workplace Wellness Task Force are planning the following.

- A wellness fair will take place at the 2008 ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California. The fair will provide information and sample products supporting and promoting library workers' health.

- An environmental assessment scan document will help assess the condition of the workplace in supporting library workers' health.

- A stay-healthy-at-conference plan will include literature, exercise, and a conference food guide.

- A website showcasing examples of library workplace wellness programs will be launched on National Library Workers Day, April 2008.

### Supporting Library and Information Science (LIS) Education Through Practice

This Task Force explores the bridge between formal education in LIS programs and supporting students in these programs with practical experience. They are working on several projects as well.

- A national/international database will consolidate fieldwork/capstone/practicum opportunities for students.

- We will support the continuing forums on education at the 2008 ALA Midwinter Meeting and the 2008 ALA Annual Conference, with a focus on doctoral student and master's student experiences.

- We will host Poster Sessions to feature students' fieldwork.

- Student service-work will be highlighted on a project website.

- Several members will cooperate in producing a special monograph on fieldwork in LIS education. The Task Force will celebrate its publication at the 2008 ALA Annual Conference.

- The Task Force will edit a special issue of the *Journal of Education for Library and Information Science* on service-learning.

### Ways to Stay Involved

We invite you to attend the events and participate in our efforts. Here are some ways to stay involved.

1. Nominate a school to participate in the 2008 "Gathering of Readers."

2. Add anniversary events to the timeline calendar. Complete the online form linked from <http://www.lorieneroy.com>.

3. International libraries are also eligible to receive a John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Award. Consider nominating a library with a public relations campaign supporting an initiative in alignment with task force efforts in literacy, workplace wellness, or LIS student service-learning.

4. Send examples of how libraries are involved in services for immigrants, workplace wellness, services for those incarcerated, and fieldwork for LIS students.

5. Watch for the launch of the national/international service-learning capstone database.

6. Consider planning an event related to our initiatives. We would be happy to suggest topics and/or speakers.

6. Follow news about these projects at <http://www.lorieneroy.com>.

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I will attend several international gatherings in 2007 including AMBAC (La Asociación Mexicana de Bibliotecarios, Asociación Civil) in León, Guanajuato, México (May), the Fifth International Indigenous Librarians Forum in Brisbane, Australia (June), IFLA's World Summit on the Information Society in Durban, South Africa (August), and the LIANZA (Library and Information Association of New Zealand Aotearoa) Conference in Rotorua, Aotearoa/New Zealand (September). I look forward to meeting you as we Celebrate Community, Collaboration, and Culture!

# Sister Libraries Committee issues call to action

By Denise Davis

Fellow IRRT members, we invite you to review:

[http://wikis.ala.org/sisterlibraries/index.php/Main\\_Page](http://wikis.ala.org/sisterlibraries/index.php/Main_Page)

The committee aims to improve the functionality of its portion of the website. In conjunction with this goal, at its 2007 Midwinter members committed to verify the current content

of our web presence, particularly the information contained within these links:

- Search the Sister Libraries Database
- Success Stories

If you or someone you know has contributed content to these pages, please review and let us know the status of the information listed. Also, if you are involved in a Sister Library

relationship which is not listed on the site, please send any background information on you and your partner library for inclusion. Please e-mail committee member Denise Davis: [denise.davis@simmons.edu](mailto:denise.davis@simmons.edu) Meanwhile, we will be trying to reach the individuals listed as contacts in the database and success stories.

Thank you in advance for your help!

At the most recent Midwinter IRRT Executive Board meeting, a amendment to the Bylaws was reviewed by the Board and the Board recommended that it be sent to the membership for vote. This announcement is a notice that the Bylaw amendment below will appear on the next IRRT ballot.

Proposed IRRT BYLAW Revision

1. Current BYLAW

Article V. Meetings

Section 1: Annual Meeting

The regular membership meeting of the Round Table shall be held at the time and place of the annual conference of the American Library Association.

2. Revised BYLAW

Article V. Meetings

Section 1: Annual Meeting

The regular membership meeting of the Round Table shall be held at the time and place of the annual conference of the American Library Association **when needed.**

1. Discussion

This change will allow us to clarify that IRRT is not obligated to hold a membership meeting every year. Currently the regular membership meeting is held at the beginning of the Chair's Program on Monday afternoon of Annual conference. The revision will allow the IRRT Board to have more flexibility in determining the need for and the timing of an IRRT membership meeting.

## International Relations Office

American Library Association  
50 East Huron Street  
Chicago, IL 60611 USA

