

# Council Committee Report Form

**TO:** ALA Council

**DATE:** June 14, 2022

**RE:** ALA Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship (COSWL)

- ACTION REQUESTED
- INFORMATION
- XX REPORT

**ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT:** *(add below)*

ALA Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship (COSWL)

Report – June 2022

COSWL members worked as a strong team to present six events about topics of interest to women in librarianship, and to keep COSWL’s Facebook page updated. Members and ALA staff liaison started a new Twitter page. At the beginning of the year, members conducted an internal survey to identify issues of interest to women in librarianship. Webinars’ themes were based on the survey. COSWL’s webinar “Saying No: Harassment in the Library” was presented in conjunction with ACRL’s Women and Gender Studies Section and with SRRT’s Feminist Task Force which also collaborated to identify content for the event. COSWL members also reviewed [ALA-APA Wellness](#) page to add new resources. Big thanks to ALA Staff Liaison Beatrice Calvin for her support.

All resources included in the report, here: <https://www.ala.org/aboutala/committees/ala/ala-coswl>

**COSWL’s Facebook Page** <https://www.facebook.com/ala.coswl/>

**COSWL’s Twitter Page NEW!** [https://twitter.com/ala\\_coswl?lang=en](https://twitter.com/ala_coswl?lang=en)

## Webinars

- [Women in Librarianship and Wellness](#), Webinar, Held: June 7, 2022. [Slides from session](#) (pdf). Conversation with library leaders sharing recommendations and best practices on how we can foster wellness for ourselves and others. Speakers, all ALA library leaders:
  - Emily Drabinski, soon to be ALA President-Elect, and Chief librarian at The Graduate Center, City University of New York.
  - Robin Kear, Faculty Librarian, University Senate President at the University of Pittsburgh, Chair ALA Conference Committee
  - Shauntee Simpson, President of the Black Caucus of the American Library Association, and Manager of School Outreach for The New York Public Library

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- Cindy Hohl, Past President of the American Indian Library Association, and Kansas City Public Library's Director of Branch Operations
- [Ageism and the Library Workplace](#), Webinar, Held: March 11, 2022. The webinar sought to look at ageism in the library workplace and provide resources and strategies. Speakers included experts in organizational development and librarians.
- [Saving No: Harassment in the Library](#), Webinar, Held: Dec. 7, 2021. Co-hosted by the American Library Association's (ALA's) [Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship](#) (COSWL), the [Association of College and Research Libraries Women Studies Section](#) (ACRL - WGSS), and the [Social Responsibilities Round Table Feminist Task Force](#) (SRRT - FTF), the webinar incorporated a robust discussion on the critical topic of harassment including a speaker from the mental health field and librarians.

## Programs presented at conferences

**“Women in Librarianship and their Role in Climate Change,”** event presented during LibLearnX with speakers from the United Nations, ALA’s Resilient Communities: Libraries Respond to Climate Change, ALA Sustain RT, and BirdLife International. Moderated by Loida Garcia-Febo.

**"Bridging the Gap: In Support of Women in Librarianship"** Free pre-conference requested by the REFORMA National Conference VII.

Thursday, November 4, 2021, from 11:00am to 2:30pm ET

Event in English with Spanish translation

\*Conversation with Zoe Mendelson and Maria Conejo, authors of the very educational PussyPedia.

\*Interactive session about microaggressions and workplace stress/harassment.

\*Conversation with Alicia Monsalve, author of Inficciones about women stories during the pandemic.

\*Panel conversation about women empowerment with Latinx & BIPOC library leaders.

\*Collective compilation of outcomes from the panel conversation and interactive session to create an actionable list of resources librarians can consult or/and practice for empowerment

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**"Bridging the Gap: In Support of Female Librarianship."** Invited to present this panel with library leaders on July 30 during the NCAAL XI Conference from The Black Caucus of the American Library Association.

## Statements & Notes from COSWL

### **COSWL Supports Library Workers during COVID-19 Pandemic, January 6, 2022.**

The American Library Association's Committee on the Status of Women in Librarianship (ALA COSWL) is in solidarity with library workers in the midst of another COVID surge. We want you to know that we see you and support you during this time. We have listed a few links to provide support from afar:

- Resolution to Prioritize Library Workers to Receive the COVID-19 Vaccine
- ALA Statement on COVID-19
- Pandemic Preparedness: Resources for Libraries

### **COSWL Endorses the ALA Social Responsibilities Round Table's (SRRT) Statement regarding ALA meeting in Texas for LibLearnX 2022, September, 2021.**

Submitted by Loida Garcia-Febo, COSWL Chair

#### COSWL Members:

**Loida A. Garcia-Febo**(Chair, July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022)  
**Martha Adkins**(Member, July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2023)  
**Erin Barnthouse**(Member, July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2023)  
**Shatha Baydoun**(Member, July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2022)  
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**Ms. Laurel M. Bliss**(Member, July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2023)  
**Loida A. Garcia-Febo**(Member, July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2022)  
**Thalia L. King**(Member, July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2023)  
**Mrs. Alyssa Koclanes**(Member, July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2022)  
**Nicole LaMoreaux**(Member, July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2022)  
**Heawon Paick**(Member, July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2023)  
**Deborah Smith**(Member, July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2022)  
**Meagan N. Stone**(Member, July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2023)  
**Natalie R. Boulanger**(Committee Associate, July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2022)  
**Lauren Renee Dubell**(Committee Associate, July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2023)  
**Beatrice Calvin**(Primary Staff Liaison, May 11, 2018, to June 30, 2024)

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**ACTION REQUESTED BY:** *(add committee name)*

**CONTACT PERSON:** *Loida Garcia-Febo, COSWL Chair*

**STAFF LIAISON CONTACT:** *Beatrice Calvin*

**BACKGROUND:** *(add information)*