

ALA American Library Association

2020 Executive Board Candidate Bio



Sandy Hirsh
Professor and Director
School of Information
San Jose State University
San Jose, CA

Type of Library: Library and Information Science School

Statement of Professional Concerns:

This is a period of major change for ALA – and we need to position ALA strongly for the future by focusing on membership and financial stability. My experience in library and information science education would bring a unique perspective to the board, which is especially needed as ALA looks to recruit the next generation of information professionals. Throughout my career, I have focused on library advocacy, international engagement, and the importance of professional development opportunities. I also bring leadership experience from serving as president of other professional associations which are facing similar issues. I am deeply committed to ALA and I would be honored to serve on the ALA Executive Board to draw on my strengths as a strategic thinker, experienced leader, and collaborative problem-solver to help navigate this new future.

Previous Positions:

- Lead User Researcher, LinkedIn, March-June 2010
- Senior User Experience Researcher and Manager, Microsoft, October 2004-March 2010.
- Information Research Program Director, HP Labs, July 1998–October 2004.
- Assistant Professor, School of Information Resources & Library Science University of Arizona, 1995–1998.

Education:

- UCLA, PhD Library and Information Science, 1996
- University of Michigan, MLIS, 1990
- UCLA, B.A. Political Science/International Relations, 1988

Affiliation(s):

- RUSA
- IRRRT

ALA and/or ALA-APA activities:

ALA

- IRRRT Councilor, 2015-2018, 2018-2021 (2 terms).

- ALA Center for the Future of Libraries Working Group (Member), 2015-2018, 2018-2020 (2 terms).
- ALA Publishing Committee (Chair), 2015-2016, 2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019 (4 terms).
- ALA Associate Executive Director Publisher Search Committee (Member), 2016-2017.
- ALA Editions Publisher Search Committee (Member), 2015-2016.
- ALA *American Libraries* Advisory Committee (Chair), 2013–2014, 2014-2015 (2 terms).
- ALA Membership Committee (Student Representative), 1990–1994.

RUSA/RASD (Reference and User Services Association)

- Organization Committee (Member), 1998–2000.
- Denali Press Award Committee (Member), 1994–1998.
- Publications Committee (Chair), 1992–1993.
- Publications Committee (Member), 1989–1992.
- Publications Committee (Intern), 1988–1989.

IRRT (International Relations Round Table)

- IRRT Executive Board (Member), 2015-2018, 2018-2021 (2 terms).
- Sister Libraries Committee (Cochair), 2011-2014.

NMRT (New Members Round Table)

- Membership Promotion and Relations Committee (Member), 1990–1991.

Offices held in state/regional library associations and other associations:

- Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE) President Elect, 2019-2020
- Califa Library Group, Vice President, 2019-2021.
- IFLA Continuing Professional Development & Workplace Learning Standing Committee Co-Chair (2017-2019), Secretary (2013-2015), Member (2013-2017, 2017-2021), Corresponding Member (2011-2013).
- Association for Information Science & Technology (ASIS&T) President Elect, President, Past President, 2014-2016
- ASIS&T Arizona Chapter, Secretary, 1995-1997

Honors and/or Awards:

- UCLA Library and Information Studies Distinguished Alumni Award, University of California, Los Angeles, 2019.
- Invited Visiting Scholar, Rikkyo University, Tokyo, Japan, October 2017.
- SJSU Salzburg Fellow, San Jose State University, 2013.

Major Accomplishments:

- Co-founded the global Library 2.0 virtual conference series in 2011, and continue to co-chair these conferences; these provide free professional development to information professionals around the world. <https://www.library20.com/>

Publications:

- **Hirsh, S.** and Alman, S. (2019). Co-editor, *Blockchain (Library Futures Series, Book 3)*. Chicago: ALA Neal-Schuman.
- **Hirsh, S.** (2019, March/April). From Perceptions to Facts: How Well is LIS Education

Preparing Tomorrow's Leaders? *Online Searcher Magazine*, 43(2).

- **Hirsh, S.** (2018). Editor, *Information Services Today: An Introduction*, 2nd Edition. New York: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc.
- **Hirsh, S.** (2016). One MLIS degree: Many career possibilities. In D.E. Anderson and R. Pun (Eds.) *Career Transitions for Librarians: Proven Strategies for Moving to Another Type of Library* (pp. 53-58). New York: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc.

Number of Years as an ALA Member: 20 years