

**American Library Association  
Annual Conference  
President-Elect Report – Sari Feldman  
April 20 – June 23, 2015**

ALA Leadership

As I transition to ALA President, I just want to thank everyone for the past year of support and tutelage. It has been my pleasure to get to know all of ALA Leadership. I submit my ongoing thanks to Courtney L. Young and Barbara K. Stripling, as well as ALA staff including Keith Michael Fiels, Michael Dowling, JoAnne Kempf, Kerri Price, Lois Ann Gregory-Wood, and Cheryl Malden. I look forward to the year ahead and our work together.

E-Lending Strategies – Publishers and Libraries between Competition and Cooperation, Munich, Germany

I had the pleasure of traveling for the E-Book Conference for Librarians: the Future of Libraries on April 21<sup>st</sup> at the Literaturehaus in Munich, Germany. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet with library leaders and to learn more about their strategies for digital content. Our ALA digital strategy is of great interest to the European community. As always, our European friends are gracious hosts.

ALA Legislative Days

I traveled to Washington, D.C. for ALA legislative days and had the opportunity to meet with representatives from Speaker John Boehner's office, as well as staff from the House Education & Workforce Committee, and the National Association of Counties. I also met with staff from Senator Jack Reed's office, and met directly with Ohio Senator Rob Portman. Thank you to Emily Sheketoff and her team for organizing a successful trip.

V International Seminar of Library and Information SIBI 2015 – Lima, Peru

My experience in Peru was amazing, and I hope to have additional opportunities to travel to South America. I often say that if we didn't have libraries in the United States, we would be inventing them. In Peru, that is what they are trying to do. I have an increased respect for the US State Department and the work that they are attempting to do to increase libraries, and library access.

I gave a talk at the SIBI 2015 program and then was part of a US Embassy convening on library development as well as other meetings with Embassy officials over two days.

During this trip, I met some of the most kind and hospitable people. It was truly a culturally and professionally fulfilling experience.

### Congresswoman Fudge Congressional Briefing

“Libraries as 21<sup>st</sup> Century Creative Spaces” was a cooperative convening between the Office of Representative Marcia Fudge and the ALA-OITP. After opening the session panelists Nicola McDonald (NYPL), Jesse Sanders (CCPL), and Dr. Mega Subramaniam (U. of Maryland), discussed youth, libraries, and learning with a focus on connected or digital experience. Congresswoman Fudge gave brief but extremely supportive remarks to a full house of librarians, stakeholders, and congressional staffers.

### Committee on Committees

Thank you to Kerri Price and Lois Ann Gregory-Wood; members of the Committee; Ann Crewdson, Karen Downing, Susan Gregory and Jim Kuhn for all their hard work over the last several months. The appointments have been finalized.

### Committee on Appointments

Thank you again to Kerri Price for her assistance in ensuring that all committee appointments have been made. The appointments have been finalized.

### Presidential Focus

I will be unveiling my presidential initiative at the Inaugural Brunch on Tuesday, June 30th. A large portion of the initiative is a new communication campaign designed to elevate awareness of the ways in which the transforming library environment supports individual opportunity and community progress.

The campaign will increase awareness of libraries’ vibrancy and vitality through active local grassroots programs, a national social and traditional media campaign, and strategic alliances with corporations, media entities and other organizations.

The campaign goals include:

- Elevate awareness of the critical role that libraries and library professionals play in the digital age;
- Update the image of libraries and library professionals;
- Attract the best and the brightest from all walks of life to grow and expand the profession; and,
- Influence key decision makers at the national, state and local levels to generate support for library funding and information policy positions.

### Travel and Speaking Engagements

I continue to take media calls on behalf of ALA, along with several trips scheduled into Fall ‘15.

5/1/15 – Patricia Brown, *New York Times*

5/4/15-5/7/15 – ALA Legislative Days

5/11/15 – Ned Resnikoff, *Al Jazeera America*

5/26/15-5/28/15 – V International Seminar of Library and Information SIBI 2015 –  
Lima, Peru

6/11/15 – Congressional Briefing with Congresswoman Marcia Fudge

6/16/15 – Filmed Interview, *SciTech Now*, *PBS*

6/24/15-7/1/15 – ALA Annual Conference

8/4/15-8/5/15 – NCAAL Conference, St. Louis, MO

8/6/15 – Digipalooza Conference, Cleveland, OH

8/14/15-8/20/15 – IFLA Conference, Cape Town, South Africa

9/16/15-9/18/15 – Kentucky Library Association

10/15/15-10/16/15 – Nebraska Library Conference, Lincoln, NE

10/20/15 – James Prendergast Library Annual Lecture, Guest Speaker, Jamestown, NY

10/21/15-10/22/15 – New York Library Association Annual Conference