

Report to Council and Executive Board

January 22, 2015

Keith Michael Fiels
Executive Director

Strategic Planning

Many boards, committees and other groups are taking time at Midwinter for discussions about the ALA Strategic Directions as part of the Association's strategic planning process, and special discussion sessions have been scheduled with Council and with the Planning and Budget Assembly. Many committees and boards have also held or will be holding virtual discussions outside of Midwinter, and a number of chapters and affiliates have also scheduled forums at state conferences. The goal of the forums is to provide the broadest possible opportunity for member groups to contribute to the vision, assumptions, goals, strategies and objectives in each of the three strategic directions. Our goal is to have draft Advocacy, Information Policy and Professional and Leadership Development plans circulating by mid-April, along with an umbrella Strategic Plan that incorporates the strategic directions and builds on the programmatic priorities adopted by Council. Ultimately, the umbrella plan will go to Council for approval at the 2015 Annual Conference in San Francisco. Comments and suggestions will be welcomed, and will help shape the plans as they are refined over the course of the spring.

Discussion feedback forms and instructions on how to share the results of discussions may be found at the ALA Connect Strategic Planning community <http://connect.ala.org/strategicplanning>.

School Libraries Make a Difference

A new campaign is being launched during the ALA Midwinter Meeting this month to educate the whole of our profession -- and through them, the public -- about the importance of school librarians in the lives of children. Visit the School Libraries Make a Difference web resource on www.ilovelibraries.org for specific ways to get involved, including drafting a letter to the editor or writing an op-ed for a local publication. Letters to the editor and op-eds are an easy way to reach large numbers of community members. If you have never written one of these letters, or need tips along the way, I Love Libraries provides a [comprehensive guide to writing and placing an op-ed piece](#). Please join us in speaking out for school libraries!

A Conversation on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

Equity, diversity, and inclusion are vitally important in the way they relate to ALA, its members, and the future of the library profession. Engage with colleagues at ALA Midwinter in a facilitated dialogue around issues that affect all of us at "A Conversation on Equity, Diversity, and

Inclusion” on Sunday, February 1 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. in McCormick Place West, Room W184a. The forum is sponsored by the ALA Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion and will be facilitated by Dr. Jorge Reina Schement, Vice President for Institutional Diversity and Inclusion at Rutgers University and former Dean of the School of Communications & Information, and Nancy Kranich, lecturer and Special Projects Librarian at Rutgers University and chair of the ALA Center for Civic Life.

2015 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunrise Celebration

Internationally renowned intellectual Dr. Cornel West will keynote the 2015 Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Observance and Sunrise Celebration during the American Library Association’s 2015 Midwinter Meeting and Exhibits in Chicago. The 2015 Celebration will be held from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m. on Monday, February 2, and will bring together leaders from across the Association, including 2014-15 ALA President Courtney Young and ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels. Featured readings will include selected passages from the works of Dr. King. Dr. West’s participation is generously made possible by Beacon Press. Joining Dr. West will be Call-to-Action Speaker Satia Marshall Orange, former Director of the ALA Office for Literacy and Outreach Services (OLOS). Under Ms. Orange’s leadership, OLOS broadened the Association’s support and celebration of traditionally underserved library staff and library communities, developed new ALA member units and increased participation in events and activities, including the initiation of the annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunrise Celebration at Midwinter in 1998. The 2015 Celebration is made possible by the ALA Social Responsibilities Round Table Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Task Force, the Black Caucus of ALA, Inc., and World Book, Inc.

ALA OFFICES

ALA Library and Knowledge Management

Implementation of Library Management System for the ALA Library

Over the months since the 2014 Annual Conference, the ALA Library staff have been working on the implementation of OCLC’s WorldShare[®] Management Services (WMS) as the library management system for the ALA Library. The ALA Library will be using WorldCat[®] Discovery Services to provide access to the print collections of the Library, as well as its electronic holdings. The targeted “go live” date is February 12, 2015. At that time, staff at all ALA offices—including the Washington Office, United for Libraries, and Choice—will be able to log in to access library-licensed resources and their patron accounts. The effort has entailed preparing the existing catalog of some 16,000 monographic items, over 500 serial items, and about 200 digital items for migration. The ALA Library is used by the staff of the Association, and reference services - comprising some 3,500 inquiries annually - are available to ALA members and other library professionals.

“ALA Archives: Building the Record of ALA’s Past.” at the Midwinter Meeting

As a follow-up to the November 13, 2014 in-service day with the ALA Archives staff (see December 2014 report), the ALA Archives staff will be reprising their presentations as one of the

“News You Can Use” sessions during the Midwinter Meeting. During “ALA Archives: Building the Record of ALA’s Past,” scheduled for Monday, February 2, 2015, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m., in [McCormick Place West](#), W183b, two archivists from the ALA Archives at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign will describe what kinds of materials the ALA Archives holds and the worldwide research interest it draws. They will explain how to deposit both paper-based and digital materials with the ALA Archives. There will also be a demonstration on how to use the ALA digital repository, the ALA Institutional Repository (ALAIR).

Office for Diversity (OFD)

A Conversation on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

(See highlights section)

Participation in Series of Short Surveys Encouraged

The ALA Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion invites all members to aid with information gathering through a series of short surveys designed to help understand the culture of the Association, the profession and our communities with respect to equity, diversity and inclusion. The first survey presents the definitions created by the task force — equity, diversity, and inclusion — and asks individuals to consider ALA’s current alignment with those definitions. Responses will be collected through February 16, 2015. Please take a few minutes to answer the [survey](#), which should take no more than seven minutes to complete.

Office for Government Relations (OGR)

Afterschool Funding Available through States

In late December, Congress passed its massive \$1.01 trillion CROmnibus bill providing FY15 funding for much of the federal government. For FY15 programs of interest to the library community, the CROmnibus package provided level funding for most programs while a small number of programs received slight increases or decreases. One example of a library program receiving a slight increase is the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21STCCLC), which received an increase of \$2.3 million (0.2 percent of its budget). As with many federal education programs, funding for 21STCCLC is awarded directly from the Department of Education to state educational agencies that control how the grants are apportioned. Libraries have opportunities to apply for many of the grants.

FOIA Improvement Act Fails to Make it out of the U.S. House

The FOIA Improvement Act (S.2520), passed the Senate on December 8, 2014, and was then sent to the House of Representatives where it died at the end of the 113th Congress. The law would give private citizens greater access to government information. ALA remained active on this bill up until its last breath, including regular contact with Congress and a legislative

advocacy alert to members in West Virginia asking that they tell Sen. John Rockefeller (D-WV) to remove his hold on S.2520 (which he later did). Although this bill did not become law, we will continue to fight the good fight, next congress.

GPO is Now the Government Publishing Office

In December, Congress passed an appropriations bill that funds the federal government and also changed the name of the Government Printing Office (GPO), the federal agency that helps to ensure a more transparent government. Language in Section 1301 of the funding bill renames the Government Printing Office to the Government Publishing Office. While the agency will still retain its well-known initials, this name will better represent its work moving forward. Davita Vance-Cooks, the Director of the Government Publishing Office, stated in an agency press release, “Publishing defines a broad range of services that includes print, digital, and future technological advancements. The name Government Publishing Office better reflects the services that GPO currently provides and will provide in the future.” ALA looks forward to continuing to work with the newly renamed agency.

Office for Information Technology Policy (OITP)

OITP Releases 3D Printer Policy Report

In January, OITP released “Progress in the Making: 3D Printing Policy Considerations Through the Library Lens,” a new report that encourages libraries to take a proactive role in developing institutional policies that address the social, technological and political complexities that will result from the rise of 3D printing. In the report, OITP Information Policy Analyst Charlie Wapner outlines the role 3D printing now plays in libraries and formal centers for learning, and analyzes a number of policy issues, including copyright, trademark, trade dress and product liability, which may arise from 3D printing in public, school and academic libraries. The report also examines various intellectual freedom issues raised by 3D printing with OIF offering guidance to library professionals seeking to craft acceptable use policies in accord with library values. The report is part of the “Progress in the Making” series, an effort to elucidate the implications of 3D printing in the library context.

E-Rate Order Approved: Program Funding Increases \$1.5 Billion per Year

In December, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) approved a landmark E-rate modernization order to address the broadband capacity gap facing many public libraries and schools (and therefore school libraries). The FCC vote confirmed that it will add an additional \$1.5 billion to the yearly program for libraries and schools. FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler called me to thank ALA for our efforts and for OITP Associate Director Marijke Visser’s contributions (as the lead library advocate) on behalf of libraries during the past 18 months. OITP published summaries of the major program changes adopted in July and December and partnered with the Public Library Association (PLA) on a webinar to increase awareness of the program and new funding opportunities. This work to encourage and support libraries in applying for E-rate funding will continue with the E-rate Task Force, PLA and the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA).

ALA Leadership Visits New York City

In December, an ALA leadership delegation met with executives from Penguin Random House, Macmillan Publishers, and Hachette Book Group to discuss library ebook issues. Additionally, the delegation met with leaders of the New York Public Library and Metropolitan New York Library Council (METRO) about digital content and other issues. The delegation was led by Courtney Young and the co-chairs of the Digital Content Working Group, Carolyn Anthony and Erika Linke. Sari Feldman, Barbara Stripling, Alan S. Inouye and I also participated in the delegation were.

Office for Intellectual Freedom (OIF)

Intellectual Freedom Workshops for School Librarians

OIF Deputy Director Deborah Caldwell-Stone led a series of half-day intensive intellectual freedom workshops for school librarians in south central New York State during the first week of December. Workshops were conducted for the librarians of the Otsego Northern Catskills BOCES (Board of Cooperative Educational Services), the Delaware Chenango Madison Otsego BOCES, and the Broome Tioga BOCES. Continuing education trainings are a new and developing source of revenue to support the work of OIF.

OIF Support and Assistance in Challenges

In the last three months, OIF has logged 52 requests for support and assistance in challenges. These challenges have been in elementary schools, middle schools, high schools, and public libraries. The censorship map has flags from Alaska to New Mexico and California to Oklahoma and Boston. One state chapter addressing multiple challenges this quarter is the Delaware Library Association (DLA), which has worked to resolve challenges in three different school districts, including a contentious challenge to the young adult novel *The Miseducation of Cameron Post* in the Indian River School District. The DLA Intellectual Freedom Committee is an active member of the OIF's State Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC) network, and OIF assisted and advised the DLA and wrote letters to each school board to support DLA's defense of the books. This month, two of the challenges resolved in favor of students' free access to library material. OIF has seen a remarkable reversal of challenges to meet ALA values and policies as a result of in-depth work. As a result of OIF's work with the Delaware IFC, OIF has been invited to present a series of intellectual freedom and privacy workshops for librarians, school boards, and administrators, and a state legislator has reached out to OIF to work on a proposed law to improve library users' privacy in Delaware.

Forward Progress in Two Lawsuits Supported by the Freedom to Read Foundation

On November 26, 2014, the U.S. District Court Judge Susan Bolton entered an order in *Antigone Books v. Horne* to stay enforcement of Arizona's broad ban on the dissemination of nude images; the order was agreed to by all parties in order to provide the state legislature an opportunity to amend the over-broad law. On January 12, 2015, the Ninth Circuit Court of

Appeals heard oral argument in *Arce v. Huppenthal*, the lawsuit challenging the Arizona law barring the use of certain books and ethnic studies programs from Arizona high schools that forced the closure of Tucson's successful Mexican-American studies program. News reports said the judges were deeply skeptical of Arizona's claim that there was no discriminatory intent in the passage or application of the law.

Jeff Smith, Featured Speaker at the 9th FTRF Author Event and Fundraiser at Midwinter

Jeff Smith, creator of the BONE comic book series, will be the featured speaker at the 9th annual Freedom to Read Foundation (FTRF) author event and fundraiser, held in conjunction with ALA's Midwinter Meeting in Chicago. The event will take place Saturday, January 31, at the Roosevelt University Library. It is part of the #FTRF45 series of fundraisers in celebration of the 45th anniversary of the Foundation.

2015 Robert B. Downs Intellectual Freedom Awarded to Orland Park Public Library

The faculty of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science (GSLIS) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign have awarded the 2015 Robert B. Downs Intellectual Freedom Award to the staff and trustees of the Orland Park Public Library. The staff and trustees demonstrated their steadfast commitment to intellectual freedom and the principles established in the Library Bill of Rights by maintaining their policy of not filtering adults' internet access despite a protracted year-long controversy fostered by pro-filtering advocates.

Office for Literacy and Outreach Services (OLOS)

News You Can Use @ Midwinter: ELL Practitioners Panel

The Office for Literacy and Outreach Services (OLOS) will be hosting two News You Can Use sessions at Midwinter. The first session, titled "ELL Practitioners Panel: Innovations in Community Engagement" will be held from 3 - 4 p.m. on Sunday, February 1 in Room W183 at McCormick Place West. This hour-long panel will feature Patricia Barch with the Schaumburg Township District Library in Schaumburg, Illinois; Esther Chase from the Berwyn Public Library in Berwyn, Illinois; and Carmen Patlan with the Waukegan Public Library in Waukegan, Illinois, as they discuss their experiences as participants in The American Dream Starts @ your library®, a grant initiative funded by the Dollar General Literacy Foundation and administered by the ALA Office for Literacy and Outreach Services. The three panelists will discuss tips, tools, resources and best practices based on their years of experience serving English language learners in the dynamic and diverse communities surrounding Chicago.

News You Can Use @ Midwinter: Adult Literacy through Library Engagement

The second session, "Adult Literacy through Library Engagement" will be held on Sunday, February 1 from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. in Room W183a at McCormick Place West. According to the recently released Program for the International Assessment for Adult Competencies (PIAAC), one in six American adults struggles with basic English literacy. This amounts to a staggering 36 million people between the ages of 16-65 who struggle on a daily basis to perform basic tasks

such as completing a job application, understanding a medication label, or reading a simple story to their children. To serve adults with low literacy skills, public libraries provide services including special high interest/low reading level collections, test taking and educational advancement resources, access to technology, and private spaces for one-on-one tutoring and small group instruction.

Office for Research and Statistics (ORS)

Annual Referenda Roundup from the November Election

The January/February issue of *American Libraries* includes the annual [Referenda Roundup](#): an overview of how states performed in the November ballots, written by Kathy Rosa, ORS Director. “During the 2014 election year, the ALA Office for Research and Statistics tracked 153 library referenda across 22 states. Of 126 measures, Ohio and Michigan led the way in sheer numbers. Ohio was a big winner in 2014, with 31 of the 34 measures passed. Michigan voters approved 54 of 68 measures. The outcome of local referenda votes is crucial, given that nearly 85% of library funding comes from local sources.”

Second Round of Data Collected for the Digital Inclusion Survey

The ALA [Office for Research & Statistics](#) and the [University of Maryland Information Policy & Access Center](#) collected a second round of data for the Digital Inclusion Survey. Now in its third year, the Digital Inclusion Survey assesses digital infrastructure and services that support workforce development, health and e-government. The three-year study, titled “Public Libraries as Providers of Digitally Inclusive Services and Resources: Transforming Communities,” is funded by a National Leadership Grant award from the Institute for Museum & Library Services (IMLS). The International City/County Management Association (ICMA) and the ALA Office for Information Technology Policy (OITP) serve as partners on the grant. Results of the 2014 survey will be available in the summer of 2015. Links to interactive mapping tools, issues briefs, state reports, infographics and to the 2013 Digital Inclusion Survey results, can be found at the above links.

Public Information Office (PIO)

Libraries Transform Communities

Courtney Young’s article “[How Public Libraries Transform Lives and Communities](#)” was published on December 26 in a magazine supplement for *USA Today*. The piece reached more than 3.2 million readers and has both a national and international reach. Young’s article was also available online and achieved more than 170 Facebook posts. Additional community engagement coverage includes “[Root for Columbus](#),” and highlights Libraries Transform Communities cohort Columbus (WI) Public Library. The Public Information Office (PIO) continues to promote the active role libraries play in community engagement and has recently booked interviews with *Publishers Weekly* and the *Detroit Free Press* with Midwinter special guest Scott Bonner, Director, Ferguson (MO) Public Library.

School Libraries

PIO continues to work with the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) to highlight the value of our nation's school libraries. During Midwinter AASL president Terri Grief and Chicago School Librarian Megan Cusick will participate in a 30-minute in-studio interview with NPR Affiliate WBEZ to discuss the state of school libraries. PIO is also working on an op-ed regarding the same issue for possible placement with the *Chicago Tribune*.

Brad Meltzer new Preservation Week Honorary Chair

Brad Meltzer, host of the History Channel's [Brad Meltzer's Lost History](#) has agreed to serve as honorary chair of Preservation Week 2015. Meltzer will appear in Preservation Week collaterals, recorded audio public service announcements (PSAs), and participate in media interviews. PIO worked with the Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS) to craft an invitation and then reached out to Meltzer on behalf of the ALA. (see *also the ALCTS report*)

ALA Midwinter & Exhibits

PIO continues to promote Midwinter to library trade and Chicago press. Thus far PIO has received more than 15 interview requests for Midwinter participants and [ALA leadership](#). PIO has prepared a Web press kit, multiple press releases that highlight speakers and programs, and event talking points for ALA leadership.

ALA Youth Media Awards

In preparation for the announcement of the 2015 ALA Youth Media Awards, PIO has reached out to national daily newspapers, radio and network producers and reporters to gauge their interest in covering this year's announcements. To-date reporters from *AP*, *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Dallas Morning News*, *Publishers Weekly*, *Detroit Free Press*, among others, have committed to covering this year's announcements.

I Love My Librarian Award

PIO worked closely with the Campaign for America's Libraries to pursue media placement opportunities to promote the 2014 award and its winners. Overall efforts resulted in more than 715 news articles and mentions resulting in a circulation rate of more than 368 million. PIO created and distributed a press release announcing all the award winners and 10 press releases for each individual winner. More than 435 articles were captured by PIO's media monitoring software, Meltwater News. The media stories produced a snapshot circulation rate of more than 290 million. Coverage highlights included the [Associated Press](#), [American Libraries](#), [New York Times](#), [Huffington Post](#), [OC Register](#), [NY1](#) and per Google more than [100,000](#) news websites and blogs posted award results and information.

Public Programs Office (PPO)

Ferguson Library Director Scott Bonner to Speak at Midwinter Meeting

Ferguson (MO) Municipal Public Library Director Scott Bonner will discuss the recent turmoil in his community — and how the library managed to lead through it — at the 2015 Midwinter Meeting. During his talk, [“Leading in Times of Crisis: A Conversation with Ferguson Library Director Scott Bonner”](#), he will share his experiences, strategies and lessons learned since Ferguson entered the national spotlight. The session will be held from 1 – 2:30 p.m. on Monday, February 2 at McCormick Place. The session is sponsored by the Libraries Transforming Communities initiative.

ALA DIVISIONS

American Association of School Librarians (AASL)

Julianne Moore Spokesperson for 2015 School Library Month

Julianne Moore, award winning actress and bestselling author, will serve as the national spokesperson for the 2015 observance and 30th anniversary of [School Library Month](#) (SLM). Celebrated in April and sponsored by AASL, School Library Month honors the essential role that strong school library programs play in a student's educational career. “School libraries make a difference,” said Moore. “I moved around a lot as a young child, and the first place I would visit in a new place was the school library. The librarians guided me, encouraged me, and set the stage for my lifelong love of reading. As educators, school librarians have a tremendous impact on our students’ personal and intellectual growth. School libraries foster creativity, innovation, play, and experimentation and offer a nurturing, and safe place for children to learn. I have a lot of love for librarians.”

AASL Sponsors Emerging Leaders Shannon Harris and Melissa Iamónico

AASL will sponsor two participants in the American Library Association’s (ALA) 2015 Emerging Leaders program. The AASL-sponsored participants will join more than 50 of their peers as the program kicks off at the 2015 ALA Midwinter Meeting. Shannon Harris of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, and Melissa Iamónico of Hartsdale, New York, will participate in project planning workgroups; network with peers; gain an inside look into ALA; and have an opportunity to serve the profession in a leadership capacity early in their careers. In sponsoring these two participants, AASL will defray the cost of attending the 2015 ALA Midwinter Meeting and the 2015 ALA Annual Conference.

Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL)

ACRL 2015 Preconferences, Early-Bird Deadline

Registration is now available for preconferences to be held prior to the [ACRL 2015 Conference](#), “Creating Sustainable Community,” to be held March 25 – 28, 2015, in Portland, Oregon. ACRL is offering six preconferences on Wednesday, March 25, 2015; separate registration is required. Preconference topics include leadership, creating sustainable library instruction, assessment, data management, and more. Complete details on ACRL 2015 preconferences, including learning outcomes and registration materials, are available on the [conference website](#). Early-bird registration ends February 13, 2015.

ACRL 2015 Kick Start the Future Campaign

ACRL is offering approximately 175 scholarships worth more than \$110,000 for the [ACRL 2015 Conference](#). The association typically funds about 100 conference scholarships and this year initiated a new “Kick Start the Future” campaign in honor of the association’s 75th Anniversary that sought to raise the \$50,000 needed to fund additional scholarships. To date, the campaign raised nearly \$56,000, exceeding this goal. Thanks to all who donated. Information on donating to the campaign is available on the [ACRL 75th Anniversary website](#).

ScholCommCamp Unconference @ ACRL 2015

Join the first-ever unconference sponsored by the ARL/ACRL Institute on Scholarly Communication (ISC) to be held from 8:30 a.m.– 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 25, 2015 at the [ACRL 2015 Conference](#). During this community-driven experience, attendees will come together with fellow participants to share skills, learn what has worked at other campuses, and build plans for their library’s scholarly communication program throughout the day. ScholCommCamp is being underwritten by the ARL/ACRL Institute on Scholarly Communication and being offered in conjunction with the ACRL 2015 Conference. Registration for ACRL 2015 is not required to register for ScholCommCamp. Complete details are available on the [ACRL Insider blog](#).

Application Available for Assessment in Action Learning Community

ACRL is seeking applications from all types of higher education institutions for 100 teams to participate in the third year of “Assessment in Action: Academic Libraries and Student Success (AiA).” In order to apply, each prospective institution must identify a team consisting of a librarian team leader and at least two additional team members from other campus units (e.g., faculty member, student affairs representative, institutional researcher, or academic administrator). There is a registration fee of \$1,200 for participating in the third year of the AiA program. For the first two years, the IMLS grant covered the majority of the costs for developing and delivering the AiA program; in the third year, the grant will subsidize only part of the costs. Read full details about participating in the third year on the [ACRL Insider blog](#) and apply online by 5 p.m. (Central), Wednesday, March 4, 2015.

Scholarly Communication Road Show Hosts Announced

The ACRL Research and Scholarly Environment Committee has selected four sites to host the workshop “Scholarly Communication: From Understanding to Engagement” as road show events in 2015. Recognizing that scholarly communication issues are central to the work of all academic librarians and all types of institutions, ACRL is underwriting the bulk of the costs of delivering this proven content by sending expert presenters on the road. The institutions selected to host the 2015 road shows are: Auburn University Libraries (Auburn, Alabama), Iowa State University Library (Ames), Tri-College University Libraries (Fargo, North Dakota), and the University of South Carolina (Columbia). More information on the road show is available on the [ACRL Insider blog](#).

Scholarly Communication Roadshow Presenters Wanted

ACRL is accepting applications from prospective new presenters for the workshop “Scholarly Communication: From Understanding to Engagement.” The day-long workshop, now in its seventh year, is led by two expert presenters at locations across the country. In addition to the in-person workshop, the presenter team is seeking to develop virtual programming, which may be via brief, recorded videos that would be housed in the ACRL scholarly communication toolkit and/or through a live webcast series as part of ACRL’s e-Learning program. Applications are due by 5 p.m. (Central) on Thursday, February 5, 2015, and complete details are available on the [ACRL Insider blog](#).

Draft Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education Update

ACRL’s Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education Task Force received and incorporated feedback on the third draft of the association’s proposed [Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education](#). Members of the task force are grateful for all the robust input in reaction to the proposed Framework gathered through online feedback forms, member forums and hearings (face-to-face and online), member emails, conversations in social media, as well as comments from the ACRL Board of Directors. The Board will discuss the proposed Framework at its Saturday, January 31, meeting at the 2015 ALA Midwinter Meeting.

Assessing Liaison Librarians Released

ACRL announces the publication of *Assessing Liaison Librarians: Documenting Impact for Positive Change* (PIL #67), edited by Daniel C. Mack and Gary W. White. In a series of scholarly essays, *Assessing Liaison Librarians* examines how academic libraries assess liaison activities and offers recommendations for documenting the impact of programs and services. Individual chapters address liaison activities relating to collection development; library instruction; research services; engagement and outreach; online, blended and other learning environments, including MOOCs; scholarly communications and information technology; the importance of assessment in the 21st century research library and professional development of liaison librarians. *Assessing Liaison Librarians: Documenting Impact for Positive Change* is available for purchase in [print](#), as an [e-book](#), and as a [print/ e-book bundle](#) through the ALA Online Store; in [print](#) and for [Kindle](#) through Amazon.com; and by telephone order at (866) 746-7252 in the U.S. or (770) 442-8633 for international customers.

e-Learning Update

ACRL's e-Learning program offered one live webcast during this report period. 19 individuals and 17 groups participated in the e-Learning webcast focusing on the intersections of information literacy and scholarly communication. Upcoming online seminars and webcast topics include reaching out to international communities, data management plans, and research strategies. Full details and registration information are available on the [ACRL website](#).

Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS)

ALCTS Midwinter Symposium on Collection Development Strategies

“Collection Development Strategies in an Evolving Marketplace: an ALCTS Midwinter Symposium,” is a presentation of the ALCTS President’s Program Committee. The starting point for this symposium is the seminal article “Collection Directions: Some Reflections on the Future of Library Collections and Collecting” written by Lorcan Dempsey, Constance Malpas and Brian Lavoie (OCLC). The program explores strategies for selecting, acquiring and budgeting for new materials such as streaming media, unbundled content and institutional open access models. Presenters address front line issues such as how to maximize resources to support user needs, how to manage unknown elements of these new models and how to market and build the library’s profile. Join colleagues from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m., Friday, January 30, 2015, at the ALA Midwinter Meeting. On-site registration is available: \$219 for ALCTS members, \$269 for ALA members, and just \$99 for students and retired members. The Symposium takes place in McCormick Place, Room W192b.

ALCTS Forum Talks Library Publishing

“Libraries as Publishers: Next Steps in Self-Publishing?” is the featured presentation at the Midwinter Forum of the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services at the ALA Midwinter Meeting. The Forum takes place from 10:30 – 11:30 a.m., Monday, February 2, McCormick Place, Room W183b. Look to the “News You Can Use” schedule for this and other important sessions. What is library publishing? And more specifically, how can it work for your library and your patrons? Come hear experts from public and academic libraries speak about their new and up-and-running library publishing programs. Learn innovative ways that libraries are supporting self-publishing both as a community service and as part of the library’s mission...and how libraries are taking steps to ensuring good quality products along the way. Presented by Chris Le Beau and Heather Lea Moulaison, Steven Potter of The Woodneath Press and Allison Brown, who will answer these questions and more.

Important Discussions at Midwinter

[ALCTS News](#) carries all the important discussions whether forum or Interest Group.

Brad Meltzer Honorary Chair of 2015 Preservation Week® April 26-May 2

ALCTS is excited to the present Preservation Week ® and welcomes Brad Meltzer, NY Times bestselling author as its 2015 Honorary Chair. “Pass It On”, a week of celebrating the importance of preserving personal and community cultural heritage, brings workshops, webinars, information resources and more to libraries across the nation. Learn more at the [Preservation Week ® web site](#) and at the “[@your library](#)” site. Visit the Preservation Week ® booth at Midwinter and ACRL National Conference in March.

ALCTS 2015 President’s Program Features Maryanne Wolf

Dr. Maryanne Wolf, John DiBaggio Professor of Citizenship and Public Service, and Director, Center for Reading and Language Research at Tufts University is the featured speaker at the ALCTS President’s Program at the 2015 ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco. The program is Monday, June 29, at 10:30 a.m. Dr. Wolf received her doctorate from Harvard University where she began her work on the neurological underpinnings of reading, language, and dyslexia. She was a Fulbright Fellow in Germany. She has been awarded a National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) Shannon Award for Innovative Research and several multiyear NICHD grants to investigate new approaches to reading intervention. She has edited the book, *Dyslexia, Fluency, and the Brain* and is the author of *Proust and the Squid: The story and science of the reading brain* (2008) published by HarperCollins.

ALCTS Spring Workshop Schedule Available

The ALCTS spring workshop schedule will be available soon on the [ALCTS Web site](#) under Conferences and Events. Web courses are being offered, all in the “Fundamentals” series: Acquisitions; Collection Assessment; Collection Development and Management; Electronic Resources Acquisitions; Cataloging; and Preservation.

Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC)

ALSC Begins Advocacy Button Campaign at Midwinter

As part of its grassroots [Everyday Advocacy](#) initiative, ALSC is launching an advocacy button call to action campaign during the 2015 Midwinter Meeting. The ALSC Advocacy and Legislation Committee developed a tip sheet to accompany each button with talking points articulating the value of youth library service. An overview of the campaign will be provided during the Leadership & ALSC session on Saturday, January 31 at 8:30 a.m. in MCP-W179.

ALSC Awarded USBBY Bridge to Understanding Award

ALSC was award the 2014 USBBY Bridge to Understanding Award for its work in both 2013 and 2014 by the United States Board on Books for Young People (USBYP) for its work on the Día Family Book Club program. ALSC will receive the award during the [USBYP program](#) at Midwinter on Friday, January 30 from 8 to 9 p.m. at the Hilton Chicago – Wiliford A Room.

Building STEAM with Día Booklist

ALSC has released four [Building STEAM with Día book lists](#) for children from birth to 8th grade. Intended to accompany [Día programming](#), the lists are comprised of multicultural titles that showcase STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) topics. Titles and activities were selected and developed by members of ALSC's Quicklists Consulting Committee. These free book lists were made possible through the Everyone Reads @ your library grant funded by the Dollar General Literacy Foundation.

Día Get Together

ALSC hosted a [Día Get Together](#) Facebook chat on the [Día Facebook Page](#) on Thursday, January 15 at 2 p.m. (Eastern). The chat was hosted by members of ALSC's Public Awareness Committee and Colorín Colorado. During the chat a wealth of Día and multicultural resources and best practices were shared by both groups and attendees; all are [archived online](#).

ALSC Blog Increases Readership for the Third Year in a Row

Thanks to a successful group of regular bloggers, representatives from ALSC committees and over 100 guest bloggers, the ALSC Blog increased readership by more than 7% in 2014 over the previous year. On Saturday, January 10, 2015, ALSC Blog Manager Mary Voors shared the [blog's yearly review](#), which included the top posts, most tweeted, and the post with the most comments. This is the third year in a row that the blog increased readership, including higher levels of users, pageviews, and sessions.

Winter Online Courses

Four [online courses](#) began on January 5: *Children with Disabilities in the Library*; *Science Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Programs Made Easy*; *Storytelling with Puppets*; and *Storytime Tools*.

Awards-Focused Preconference to the 2015 Annual Conference

ALSC will pilot an awards-focused preconference titled, *Also Truly Distinguished: An Afternoon with ALSC, Honoring the 2015 Honor Winners*, on June 26 from 11:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. during the 2015 ALA Annual Conference. The 2015 honor book winners (Newbery, Caldecott, Sibert, Geisel, Batchelder and Pura Belpre) will get their moment in the sun (or San Francisco fog) as the creative process and the history and tradition of honor books and their creators are recognized. More information will become available after the Midwinter awards announcements.

ALSC Charlemae Rollins President's Program at the 2015 Annual Conference

During the ALSC Charlemae Rollins President's Program, "More to the Core: From the Craft of Nonfiction to the Expertise in the Stacks," on Monday, June 29, 2015, awarding-winning author

and illustrator Melissa Sweet will present an informative and inspiring look at the creation of excellent nonfiction and the matchmaking of great books with kids who need them. The session will also address the libraries' important role in implementation of innovative programs and services to support the Common Core Standards and the communities we serve.

Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA)

ASCLA Direct

ASCLA launched its first [weekly e-newsletter](#) in mid-December for members only. It contains items exclusively from, about and for ASCLA from the ASCLA office, including news, announcements, online learning offerings, ASCLA trips, etc., and will help cut down on the many individual emails sent to our members.

ASCLA/COSLA Networking and Happy Hour

Kick off the 2015 ALA Midwinter Meeting in style with the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA) Networking and Happy Hour—an opportunity to socialize, network, and learn more about ASCLA. The event is open to all current ASCLA members, friends of ASCLA and those meeting attendees interested in learning more about the association and networking with peers. Attendees will have the opportunity to meet ASCLA's leaders. The event takes place: Friday, January 30, 2015, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m., Renaissance Blackstone, Lower Lounge Bar.

Library and Information Technology Association (LITA)

LITA Workshops at the Midwinter Meeting

Workshop registration is handled through the ALA Midwinter registration process. Please note: you do not have to register for the Midwinter Meeting in order to register for one of these workshops. If you are registered for Midwinter, you can simply add a workshop to your registration. Registrations will be accepted on site as well.

- On Friday, January 30, LITA will offer *Introduction to practical programming* with Elizabeth Wickes, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. This workshop will prepare participants to write their own programs and provide essential experience and background for the evaluation of computing reference materials and workshop development.
- On Friday, January 30, LITA will offer *From Lost to Found: How user testing can improve the user experience of your library website* with Kate Lawrence and Deirdre Costello, EBSCO. This workshop will prepare participants to write their own programs and provide essential experience and background for the evaluation of computing reference materials and workshop development.

LITA Meetings at Midwinter

On Saturday, in addition to the all committees meeting in the morning, a number of Interest Groups (IGs) are holding discussions both in the morning and during the afternoon. The IG sessions continue through Sunday. The Top Technology Trends discussion is scheduled for Sunday morning, and, the LITA Open House happens Sunday afternoon. The Open House is followed by the Happy Hour at Lizzie McNeill's Irish Pub. The LITA Town Meeting is scheduled for Monday morning. Visit the LITA website for details on all things [LITA at Midwinter](#).

Public Library Association (PLA)

"This Week in Libraries" Interview with PLA President Larry Neal

PLA President Larry Neal was interviewed for an episode of "This Week in Libraries" at the National Library Conference of The Netherlands in December. Neal gives advice to introverted librarians, about navigating library politics and about the library as a symbol for the quality of life. [Watch the interview online](#).

PLA to Host Happy Hour at ALA Midwinter

PLA and its Membership Advisory Group, chaired by Richard Kong, Skokie Public Library, will host a PLA Happy Hour during ALA Midwinter on Friday, January 30 from 7-9 p.m. at Howells and Hood. All are invited to eat, drink, and mingle with other public librarians as well as learn more about how to get involved with PLA. [Find more details online](#).

PLA to Recognize the Ferguson Public Library and Scott Bonner at ALA Annual

PLA with support from LSSI will present a special recognition to the Ferguson Public Library and its Director, Scott Bonner, at the 2015 ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco. The recognition is in honor of the Ferguson Public Library's response to recent events of civil unrest and school closures in the community. [Read the complete release](#).

PLA BIG IDEAS at ALA Annual

PLA President Larry Neal invites you to the San Francisco Public Library on Friday, June 26, of the 2015 ALA Annual Conference, for a day of "BIG IDEAS." These are ideas and messages that can impact and empower the way you think, act and work. The thought-provoking day will feature experts outside the library world and activities around three areas—strategy, leadership, and creativity. A lunch and after-reception will be included in the day. [Find more details online](#).

PLA Preconferences @ ALA Annual

On Friday, June 26, of the 2015 ALA Annual Conference, PLA will sponsor preconferences ideal for public library professionals.

- *Designing the Future: A Design Thinking Toolkit* The challenges facing librarians are real, complex and varied. As such, they require new perspectives, tools and approaches. With

support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and in partnership with Chicago Public Library and Aarhus Public Library, IDEO created a toolkit for using design thinking to better understand library patrons. This step-by-step, open source guide will be used to explore and practice design thinking during the session. [Find more details online.](#)

- *Safer at Work: Library Security for Everyone* With everyone from rambunctious teens to “difficult” patrons to actual criminals coming through the doors, libraries have to involve everyone in the security process. This preconference will share tips on creating a culture of safety, cover nuts-and-bolts training, and identify policies and procedures that work. With all staff members invested and involved, everyone can be safer at work. [Find more details online.](#)

Reference and User Services Association (RUSA)

Book and Media Reception

All ALA Midwinter Meeting attendees are invited to celebrate the announcements of adult literature’s next classics at RUSA’s upcoming [Book and Media Awards Ceremony and Reception](#) in Chicago. This year the event will host special guest Margaret Hawkins, author of “Lydia’s Party” (Viking, 2013). The Chicago-based author has written two previous novels, “A Year of Cats and Dogs” and “How to Survive a Natural Disaster” and a memoir about her sister, “After Schizophrenia: The Story of My Sister’s Reawakening.”

RUSA Direct

RUSA launched its first [weekly e-newsletter](#) in mid-December for members only. It contains items exclusively from, about and for RUSA from the RUSA office, including news, announcements, online learning offerings, etc., and will help cut down on the many individual emails sent to our members.

RUSA Leadership Development and Speed Mentoring Session in Chicago

Join a group of experienced RUSA leaders and engage in a fun, interactive [“speed mentoring” session](#). Similar in format to “speed dating”, MLS students, new librarians, and mid-career librarians are invited to participate in this session where they will have the opportunity to gain leadership advice from a number of senior librarians and RUSA leaders on Saturday, January 31, 2015, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Hilton-Chicago, Waldorf.

United for Libraries: the Association for Library Trustees & Advocates (UNITED)

Ten-Part Series Available on the Role of the Trustee, “Short Takes for Trustees.”

United for Libraries has finished a ten-part series on the role of the Trustee called, “Short Takes for Trustees.” It will be available free to states who have purchased a statewide membership in

United and for a low cost to others. This series was created from a collaboration with Reach Across Illinois Library System (RAILS) and will be provided free to all their members.

United for Libraries Hosting an Auditorium Speakers Program at Midwinter

United for Libraries will be hosting an Auditorium Speakers Series program at the 2015 ALA Annual Conference. The program will be a “cover to screen” event featuring author Joshua Davis who’s novel, *Spare Parts*, has been made into a movie starring George Lopez, Jamie Lee Curtis, and Marisa Tomei. Trailers for the movie can be viewed here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=myjar5KqQZA>; and

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GXOLwllHuCs>.

Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA)

2015 Teen Tech Week™

Join YALSA in celebrating Teen Tech Week™ March 8 – 12, 2015 with the theme “Libraries are for Making _____.” Visit the [Teen Tech Week™ website](#) for information, planning resources, free downloadable bookmarks and posters, free webinars, and online forums to help plan and prepare for a great event. Teen Tech Week™ offers library staff the opportunity to throw open their physical and virtual doors and show teens and their families all of the great digital resources the library has to help teens succeed in school and prepare for college and careers.

YALS Online

A digital version of YALSA’s award winning quarterly journal, [Young Adult Library Services](#), is now available full text, online, free to members and subscribers. Others can access the digital version for free for four months after its initial release. .

Fact Sheets and Presentations to Promote Teen Services

Last year YALSA released a report “The Future of Library Services for and with Teens: a Call to Action.” A taskforce has created free [one page fact sheets](#) tailored to specific audiences, such as library administrators, to help connect with stakeholders and garner support for teen services.

[Teen Services 101: a Practical Guide for Busy Library Staff](#)

Is your plate so full you’re struggling to find time to provide core services for and with teens? Do you know a colleague who got ‘stuck’ with serving teens? This book is for both of you! Full of practical information and tips, this book is a guide to providing basic but effective teen services. Learn how to leverage volunteers and community partners to save time and boost your impact.

Tell YALSA How You #act4teens!

Please take 60 seconds to fill out this brief [online form](#) to tell us how you're re-thinking teen services since reading the report, "The Future of Library Services for and with Teens: a Call to Action." YALSA could use your example for a blog post or article in YALS.

Upcoming YALSA Activities & Events

- February 1, preliminary program announced for YALSA's 2015 [YA Services Symposium](#),
- February 1, deadline to apply for Advocacy Stipend via this [online form](#)
- February 2, winners of ALA, ALSC and YALSA [youth media awards](#) announced,
- February 9, [Evaluating YA Literature e-course](#),
- February 10, free Teen Tech Week™ webinar, [Leveraging Local Experts for Maker Programs](#)
- February 19, [Library Policy Tune-up webinar](#),
- February 24, Virtual Town Hall with YALSA's President from 3 p.m. – 4 p.m., (Eastern), via [Adobe Connect](#)
- March 8 – 14, [Teen Tech Week™](#),
- March 19, [Teen Services Guidelines: What they mean for you and your library webinar](#),
- March 24, free Teen Tech Week™ webinar, [Activities for Older Teens](#),
- April 16, Celebrate Teen Literature Day when YALSA launches its Teen Read Week site and announces the Teens' Top Ten nominees.
- April 16, [Teen Services Programming: Opportunities & Outcomes webinar](#),

For more events and information, visit YALSA's [wiki](#) or [Google calendar](#).

ALA PUBLISHING

American Libraries Apps

American Libraries launched both an iPad/iPhone and Android app for its digital supplements in December. The apps can be found in the [iTunes](#) store and [Google Play Store](#).

American Libraries Live Programs

American Libraries Live featured a program on [Web-Scale Discovery, Quality Information, and User Habits in K-12 and Public Libraries](#) and will air a program on [A Library's Guide to Storage, Disaster Recovery and Archiving in the Cloud](#) on January 22. Register or review archives at www.americanlibrarieslive.org .

Booklist Editors' Choice Lists in Seven Categories

With the end of the year came the usual excitement surrounding best-of and year-end lists. *Booklist* offered its expert opinion on the outstanding books and media of 2014 with its Editors' Choice lists in seven categories ([Adult Books](#), [Books for Youth](#), [Adult Books for Young Adults](#), [Audio for Youth](#), [Audio for Adults](#), and [Reference Sources](#)), as well as the [Top of the List](#) announcement, gleaning the best from the Editors' Choice lists. In addition to serving as an

essential resource for librarians and patrons, the *Booklist* Editors' Choice list is also drawn from when selecting the Andrew Carnegie Medals for Excellence in Fiction and Nonfiction longlist titles, which will be announced after the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Chicago.

Booklist/ERT Author Forum

ALA conferences are always an excellent opportunity for *Booklist* staff to meet with readers, subscribers, publishers, and advertisers, and there is special excitement about [this year's *Booklist*/ERT Author Forum](#), featuring four acclaimed graphic novel authors and artists: Cece Bell, Françoise Mouly, Jeff Smith and Gene Luen Yang. The forum is on Friday, January 30 from 4 - 5:15 p.m. at McCormick Place and will be moderated by *Booklist* Graphic Novel Editor Sarah Hunter and Eva Volin, Supervising Children's Librarian for the Alameda Free Library.

@ALA Booklist Twitter account

The @ALA_Booklist Twitter account broke 18,000 followers in December. booklistonline.com

ALA-APA

#NLWD15 is Coming!

Plans are now underway for this year's celebration of National Library Workers Day (#NLWD15) on April 14, 2015. Sponsored by the [ALA-Allied Professional Association \(ALA-APA\)](#), this day, celebrated on the Tuesday of National Library Week, is for library users, administrators, staff, supporters and friends to recognize the valuable contributions made by all of those who work in libraries. Library organizations are encouraged to host a celebration and submit a star to honor a great worker, team or department. To jumpstart the celebration, t-shirts are on sale in the ALA Midwinter Store at a reduced rate of \$12. After Midwinter, pre-orders for t-shirts will sell for \$15 (which includes shipping). A "free" poster will be given to any library organization ordering 10 or more t-shirts through March 20, 2015. For more information about NLWD15 and to learn ways to celebrate, visit: www.ala-apa.org/nlwd/. You can also follow the APA on Twitter [@alaapa](#) (using #NLWD15) or like us on [Facebook](#). To share stories or plans on how your library organization plans to celebrate, please send them to: libraryworklife@ala.org.