

2015-2016 ALA Tribute #4_FINAL
2016 ALA Annual Conference

This resolution was adopted by the ALA Council on Tuesday, June 28, 2016

A TRIBUTE RESOLUTION HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
MORTENSON CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL LIBRARY PROGRAMS,
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS LIBRARY AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Whereas the Mortenson Center for International Library Program was founded in 1991;

Whereas the Mortenson Center was established to strengthen international ties among libraries and librarians worldwide for the promotion of international education, understanding, and peace;

Whereas the Mortenson Center celebrates its 25th anniversary in 2016;

Whereas the Mortenson Center was established by a generous gift from C. Walter and Gerda B. Mortenson, whose vision was that librarians sharing information is one of the shortest and surest roads to peace;

Whereas the Mortenson Center has trained upwards of 1,300 librarians from more than 90 countries;

Whereas the Mortenson Center has raised \$2.5 million in grant funding to strengthen skills and modernize libraries;

Whereas the Mortenson Center's Associates Program is a unique non-degree program that offers an opportunity for international librarians and information specialists to come to the University of Illinois to develop into leaders and innovators;

Whereas the Mortenson Center offers in-country customized training programs for partner institutions and organizations worldwide;

Whereas the Mortenson Center has demonstrated its impact from its training programs, whereby 70% of participating librarians introduced a new tool, service, or resource; 79% of librarians believe their library is more prepared to serve users; and 1 in 3 librarians went on to take leadership roles in professional networks (2013 Arabella Advisors independent evaluation);

Whereas the Mortenson Center held its 25th Annual Mortenson Distinguished Lecture in 2015, a lecture series to promote understanding and intellectual freedom; and

Whereas the Mortenson Center welcomes short-term visits to the University of Illinois from librarians and those engaged in library-related activities internationally, and designs a program that fits their needs; now, therefore, be it

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Resolved, That the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. congratulates the Mortenson Center for International Library Programs for its 25 years of outstanding contributions to the international library profession;
and
2. commends its commitment and achievement in developing librarians worldwide and wish its staff continued success in promoting international education, understanding, and peace.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association
Tuesday, June 28, 2016, in Orlando, Florida



Keith Michael Fiels
Executive Director and Secretary of the ALA Council