

**American Library Association
June 2017 Executive Board Meeting
Annual Conference
President's Report – Julie Todaro**

EDI

As we all know, our Task Force morphed into a small workgroup. Not only are EDI team members completing their original goals, their audience in a recent program identified the depth and breadth of their work in organizations as “groundbreaking.” They have much to be proud of including their continuing work which includes:

- Vetting the initial report list of content for viable recommendations (creating a shorter list as well as critical prioritizing)
- Prioritizing content for recommendation for implementation
- Working with - as needed - administration for cost issues
- Providing ongoing program at ALA conferences
- Providing programming at related conferences
- Continuing to disseminate content on EDI issues
- Continuing to identify ongoing issues such as immigration, sanctuary, libraries as safe spaces, etc.

ED Search Process

All deadlines have been met so far. Chair, Courtney Young is leading the ALA member team and the hired firm in this process. All Board members should be in the process of being interviewed from hired firm members as to their expectations, general opinions and recommendations. Interviews with a minimum of two candidates will take place in October 2017. Incoming President, Jim Neal - a member of the search committee will continue providing the Board with updates.

TF on Context for Future Accreditation

All deadlines are now met. See in Connect - Board member Peter Hepburn's final report and recommendations distributed, the Board's decision making in regards to the appointment of a smaller team to address some unmet issues and ALA's distribution of content to related groups.

Chapter Task Force

All deadlines met. See in Connect – UFL President, Susan Schmidt's final report. This Group completed their report, vetted it through staff and it will be presented at Annual for our review and recommendations. Susan and Michael Dowling are presenting their report to Board at Annual.

Presidential Focus - Expert

My "Expert" Advisory Committee has completed 90% of their work. We are rolling out information in a Saturday afternoon Town Hall meeting to reprise the Spring 2017 virtual town hall meeting (3,600 registrants) with speakers, and opportunities to elicit opinion from all types of librarians re: HR content, initiative, etc. It will reside on the HRDR website. I am presenting a plan to HRDR and the Advisory Committee on sustainability.

Presidential Focus - Bookclub

- The Book Club reveal of site and author is scheduled for Saturday, 6/24 President's program for a virtual ribbon-cutting and speaker – Sarah Jessica Parker – as BCC Captain.
- We have had and continue to have "expert" activities including a content featured in AL for National Library Week, and a growing list of links of people using the expert/Transform focus and existing and upcoming Because statements focusing on librarians and library workers.

Presidential Focus – 45-115

- **Fight-for-Libraries** continues to engage all of us (hits in the thousands) in advocacy and we continue to talk about sustaining our advocacy for what has proven to be a long fight.
- ALA Program *Making the Case* brings in external experts to identify what content works in making the case for today's and tomorrow library funding. Panelists are speaking on Saturday, June 24th from 11:00 to 12:00 and include:
 - **Shailagh Murray:** former Senior Advisor to President Barack Obama, former Deputy Chief of Staff for Vice President Biden, former journalist for the *Wall Street Journal* and the *Washington Post*.
 - **Larry Grisolano:** Partner at AKPD Media, National Campaign & Media Strategist, Director of Paid Media/Message Development for both Obama Campaigns, Pollie Award winner
 - **Jessie 'Chuy' Chavez:** Google Software Engineer, Diversity & Education Evangelist, Member of Chicago's *Tech50*, Storyteller and Community leader
 - **Sharon Paez:** Partner at Hilltop Public Solutions, Manager of federal & state grassroots campaigns, Media consultant & producer of urban & Spanish-language radio and tv ads.
 - **Jenny Backus:** Strategic Consultant for corporate, non-profit and political organizations including Presidential & Congressional campaigns, national media outlets; DC Public Library Foundation Board member

Fake News

We continue to explore and work with incoming President, Jim Neal's group, to explore opportunities for ALA to collaborate with national fake news initiatives. In addition, we have Because statements re: Fake News.

Travel and Speaking Engagements

015/2016 - Past

August 31 – September 3rd - ALA Headquarters Orientation/Media Training-Chicago (ALA \$)
September 18-19 - Keynote-TLA District Meeting Lubbock, Texas (ALA \$, TLA \$)
October 9 Keynote- TLA District Meeting, Austin, Texas (no \$)
October 23-25th – ALA Fall Executive Board Meeting-Chicago, IL (ALA \$)
November 5-8th – Welcome, AASL National Conference, in Columbus, Ohio (ALA \$)
November 13th – 14th Todaro Initiative Steering/Advisory Committee Meeting (ALA \$)
December 3-5th - Carnegie, “Love My Librarian” event –New York, NY (ALA \$)
December 20th – IMLS Laura Bush Awards LIS Graduation/Keynote- Little Rock, AK (no ALA \$)
January 7-12th - ALA Midwinter Meeting-Boston, MA. (ALA \$)
February 25-27th – Keynote – Texas Comm. College Teachers Association, Houston (no ALA \$)
March 3, 4 Sacramento – ALA Keynote for CC California Directors
March 10th, 11th – ALA Keynote for CC North Carolina Directors
March 25th - ALA Washington Office Orientation – Washington, D.C. (ALA \$)
April 7th Keynote & “Service in ALA/Associations” meeting - Tennessee Library Association Spring Meeting–
Chattanooga, TN 9:00 a.m. (ALA \$)
April 8th – “Libraries Transform” -Denver, CoALA Denver, Colorado (ALA \$)
April 15-17th – ALA Executive Board Meeting-Chicago, IL (ALA \$)
April 20-23 - 3 programs (“Libraries Transform/Expert Initiative”.-TXLA Houston, TX (some ALA \$)
April 27-28th - Keynote-Ohio-Northeast Ohio Regional Library System, NEO Twinsburg, Ohio (ALA \$, NEO \$,
250 \$ to Spectrum)
May 2-3 – Attend – ALA Legislative Day (ALA \$)
May 11th – BEA Chicago (ALA \$)
May 18th, 19th – Oaxaca, Mexico/Libraries Transform (ALA \$)
May 24th, 25th – Keynote on Harris County Graduation/Library Mentor Program/Libraries Transform/Expertise
(a small amount of ALA \$)
May 26th – AALL Webinar/mentoring/librarians as experts (no \$)
June 23 – 28th – ALA Annual Conference – Orlando, FL (ALA \$)
July 19-22nd - Keynote-Library Leadership event Columbus, Ohio (ALA \$)
July 28 - ALA Development Planning Retreat, Chicago (ALA \$)
August 13-19 – IFLA, Ohio
September 9th – PLANT – Texas Public Library Directors – morning presentation
September 12th – Marquette University
September 22nd - Keynote, Kentucky Library Association (ALA \$) (proposed)
November 2-4th – Keynote, NMLA Annual Conference-New Mexico, (ALA \$)
October 7th – Texas – District 3 Keynote
October 17th – San Antonio Area/South Texas School Library Coordinators
October 19th – 22 – Chicago ALA Board
October 26th – 27th – Colorado Philanthropic Conference of the Southwest Keynote for considering libraries for
foundation funding
October 31-November 1 - Closing Remarks, New Mexico Libraries Transform
November 2-4 – Keynote, NMLA Annual Conference-New Mexico
November 6-11 SIBF-ALA Library Conference Sharjah, United Arab
November 11-15 - Arkansas Library Association Annual Conference, Little Rock Keynote
November 15-18, 2016 - 45/115 Meeting - Washington DC
November 28-29 - AIA - Buildings that Define a Community panel at the upcoming Build America Summit in
NYC
November 30-December 4 - NYC Publishers and Carnegie, “Love My Librarian” event
January 17-24 - ALA Midwinter, Atlanta, GA

February 3 - Central Texas IL Symposium Keynote
February 21-22 - NYC Visits to publishers and others
March 22-25 - ACRL Conference, Baltimore, MD
March 29 - Library 2.017 virtual mini conference
April 7-9 - ALA EB Meeting, Chicago
April 19-22 - TLA San Antonio
April 23 - ALA Student Chapter Virtual Presentation
April 26 - ALA Emerging Leaders Webinar
April 27 - UT Panel, Austin
May 1-2 - NLLD, Washington DC
June 8 - Virtual Membership Meeting, Chicago

Upcoming

April 6-9 - ALA EB Meeting, Chicago
April 19-22 - TLA San Antonio
April 27 – UT Austin Panel (Role libraries can play in democratizing education and eliminating barriers to information access)
April 30-May 3 - NLLD, Washington DC
June 8 - Virtual Membership Meeting, Chicago
June 21-28 - ALA Annual, Chicago
July 16 - AALL Speaker, Austin
October 26-29 - ALA EB, Chicago
November 22-24 - New South Wales Public Libraries Association Conference, Sydney, Australia
November 30 - Carnegie, “Love My Librarian” event
January 2018 ALISE Denver, proposal for presentation submitted with Simmons on their IMLS research and their intersection with my initiative

JULIE TODARO MEDIA ACTIVITY REPORT

A Sampling

MAY, 2017

The following is a snapshot of ALA President Julie Todaro press and social media coverage secured from May 1 – May 31. The Public Awareness Office (PAO) and ALA Washington Office secured 22 press articles mentioning Todaro, resulting in a circulation rate of more than 54 million. The totals were captured by ALA's monitoring vendor Meltwater News. Please note that vendor circulation rate is calculated using the number of articles/mentions multiplied by the monthly unique visitors for each media outlet's website.

According to the Newspaper Association of America, there are more than 1,300 daily newspapers and 5,700 weekly newspapers in the United States, so the following highlights should be viewed as a snapshot of coverage.

INTERVIEWS

Sarah Begley

TIME - April 26

Topic: Movies based on books popular among reluctant readers

Lisa Peet

Library Journal - May 2 (Article published May 23)

Topic: The Trump budget

Federal Budget Compromise Keeps—and Boosts—IMLS Funding

<http://lj.libraryjournal.com/2017/05/budgets-funding/federal-budget-compromise-keeps-and-boosts-impls-funding/#>

“ALA is pleased that the FY17 budget proposed by Congress contains a \$1 million increase in funding for the Institute of Museum and Library Services,” said American Library Association (ALA) president Julie Todaro in a statement May 2. “In congressional meetings on Capitol Hill today, participants in the 2017 National Library Legislative Day [NLLD] from all 50 states are saying ‘thank you’ to members of Congress for making our nation’s libraries a priority this year.”

Looking ahead to renewed budget battles come October, however, Todaro added, “This opportunity to say thanks is also a chance to voice our unequivocal opposition to threats to cut funding in FY2018.”

Kyle Fitzpatrick – May 5 (Article published May 5)

ATTN

Topic: Public library fees

Why The Poorest Children Can't Access Free Books

<https://www.attn.com/stories/16998/library-fines-are-preventing-poor-kids-reading>

"We have to ask what are we doing wrong," Todaro shares with ATTN:. "How can we work with a community to basically get them back into the library...Our goal is to really make sure that the most vulnerable populations have access to the resources they need."

For example, Todaro stressed the practice of capping fees to ensure patrons can keep coming back. Beyond that, measures like amnesty programs are created to forgive fines to get materials back.

"The reason why libraries charge fees is because we have limited resources," Todaro explains. "We need to find a way to keep materials circulating."

Alicia Acuna – May 5

Fox News Channel

Topic: Denver Public Library stocking Narcan

Claire Fallon – May 9 (Article published May 15)

Huffington Post

Topic: Library fines

Libraries Are Dropping Overdue Fines — But Can They Afford To?

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/libraries-are-dropping-overdue-fines-but-can-they-afford-to_us_5913733ae4b0b1fafd0dccc2

"When you're younger, one of the first or the only external pressures that's put on you, that's punitive, could easily be from a library setting," American Library Association President Julie Todaro explained to HuffPost. Outside of library fines, "Young people really do not have the credit fears that adults do."

Darren Willis – May 10

WayFairer magazine

Topic: Book Club Central

Miles Jay Oliver – May 16 (Article published June 1)

Yakima Herald-Republic

Topic: A story about "a local library and how it's becoming a greater source/location for everything that brings the community together."

Valley libraries never stop turning the page

http://www.yakimaherald.com/news/local/valley-libraries-never-stop-turning-the-page/article_854c01d4-4750-11e7-be6f-6fb4276039ae.html

Libraries “are unique public institutions” with a mission of meeting community needs that are evolving, said Julie Todaro, president of the American Library Association.

The programs and expanded technology are among the most significant evolutions in library operations since the early 1970s, when computers began changing the way library information was accessed and how libraries were organized, Todaro said.

“It drove architecture, floor plans, how librarians staffed reference desks and how we taught people to navigate and find information,” Todaro said.

John Hanc – May 16

New York Times

Topic: Municipal libraries reinventing themselves

Darran Simon – May 23

CNN Digital

Topic: How libraries are responding to drug overdoses

Shane Dixon Kavanaugh – May 26 (Article published June 6)

Vocativ

Topic: Public library branch closings in Oregon

In Oregon, A Struggling County Just Shut Down Its Last Public Library

<http://www.vocativ.com/434974/douglas-county-oregon-last-library/>

But outside of southern Oregon, where public libraries in the past have sometimes closed and later reopened, a wholesale shutdown is unheard of, national observers say. “The magnitude of this closure is like nothing we’ve seen,” Julie Todaro, the president of the American Libraries Association, told Vocativ.

Nicole Hayden

The Times Herald – May30 (Article published June 1)

Topic: The future of libraries

What will the future of St. Clair County Library look like?

<http://www.thetimesherald.com/story/news/local/port-huron/2017/06/02/next-st-clair-county-library-have-books/359266001/>

Julie Todaro, American Library Association president, said she gets asked all the time if libraries are even needed anymore.

“The resounding answer from research studies says yes,” she said. “Over 25 percent of people in the community don’t have technology at home and that is huge. We know that both public and academic libraries fill a need that is a critical need, not only for providing access to materials but helping people navigate those materials.”

Todaro said much government information and forms are available online and she believes the community has a responsibility to provide a location for residents without the luxury of a computer or internet at home to access that needed public information ranging from tax forms to food stamp applications.

“Libraries level the playing field,” she said. “It helps to make everyone’s access to educational material and resources equal.”

Letters, Statements, Quotes, Mentions

Fight for Libraries

American Libraries – May 1

By Julie B. Todaro

<https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/2017/05/01/fight-for-libraries/>

So, what’s the good news?

For one, we have significant data to make our case about libraries’ excellent value and the return on investment. We need to ramp up our impact data, but all systems are in place to increase standardized data gathering, aggregating, and impact content.

Second, we offer unique programs that meet our constituents’ needs—in all types and sizes of libraries—and are well positioned to expand our critical role in society.

Third, our users need us now more than ever. In a world that depends on technology access, libraries can help bridge the digital divide and help others keep up with the exponential growth of technology and information.

Fourth, our partnerships are integrated into our infrastructures, and like us, these partners care about how we can succeed together.

Fifth, the interconnectedness of infrastructure is precisely how our research and information world is structured, which means identifying our needs and impact is easier, as is the consequence of defunding the library piece of the puzzle.

And finally, we have a dedicated, growing army of stakeholders who champion what we do and who we are. We must accept their willingness to not only speak about us but also use their expertise to help fight for us.

The Internet and Libraries: Improving Infrastructure for Economic Opportunity

Morning Consult – May 1

By Michael Beckerman and Julie Todaro

<https://morningconsult.com/opinions/internet-libraries-improving-infrastructure-economic-opportunity/>

Today, hundreds of librarians are on Capitol Hill to tell elected leaders why libraries in every single congressional district are indispensable. Modern libraries are engines of economic opportunity that transform lives. Libraries have always been centers for learning, but the technology and innovation created by the internet industry have acted as an exponential multiplier of public good for America's more than 120,000 libraries.

Internet-connected libraries allow everyone – from students to veterans to entrepreneurs – in communities all across the country to access new technologies, improve job skills, start new businesses and pursue educational and vocational programs.

Advocacy in Critical Times

American Libraries – May 3

<https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/blogs/the-scoop/advocacy-critical-times/>

Todaro quoted Major R. Owens, a former librarian who served on the US House of Representatives from 1983 to 2007, on a way to make government stories more interesting: Tell them that “federal funding for libraries is about the same as the price of a new fighter jet.”

Librarians Take Capitol Hill

Publishers Weekly – May 5

<https://www.publishersweekly.com/pw/by-topic/industry-news/libraries/article/73517-librarians-take-capitol-hill.html>

Notably, in addition to the suddenly tense political atmosphere in D.C., ALA will have another challenge: rallying librarians for battle with new leadership of its own. Sheketoff is retiring this week after more than 17 years. Hired to raise the library community's profile on the Hill, she has certainly succeeded, notching a string of legislative victories over the year on behalf of libraries, and more precisely, for the public libraries serve.

“Because of her leadership and the hard work of her staff in DC, ALA has been a force for good in Washington,” said ALA President Julie Todaro.

Publishers, Library Vendors Urge Senate to Support Library Funding

Publishers Weekly – May 12

<https://www.publishersweekly.com/pw/by-topic/industry-news/libraries/article/73582-publishers-library-vendors-urge-senate-to-support-library-funding.html>

In a statement, ALA president Julie Todaro welcomed the support of the publishers and vendors.

“The eight leading companies that have urged all Senators to support critical federal library programs are spotlighting an often overlooked and critical aspect of libraries’ service to the public and the nation: libraries mean business,” she said. “In addition to loaning print and electronic materials, modern libraries are job training, job search, workforce-building, entrepreneur-training, veteran-helping and business building centers at the core of almost every community in America.”

Libraries Face ‘Moral Dilemma’ of What to Do About Low-Income Kids Who Can’t Pay Late Fees

Atlanta Black Star – May 12

<http://atlantablackstar.com/2017/05/12/libraries-face-moral-dilemma-low-income-kids-cant-pay-late-fees/>

“We have to ask, ‘What are we doing wrong?’” American Library Association President Julie Todaro told ATTN:. “How can we work with a community to basically get them back into the library. Our goal is to really make sure that the most vulnerable populations have access to the resources they need.”

Businesses Unite to Fight for Library Funding

American Libraries (blog) – May 17

<https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/blogs/the-scoop/businesses-unite-fight-library-funding/>

In a May 17 statement, ALA President Julie B. Todaro praised CCLI, saying, “It’s thrilling to see such significant companies and associations across so many industries come together to fight alongside ALA and librarians for federal library funding.” She added that “libraries mean business,” and that working with CCLI can help ensure “that law- and policymakers fully understand American libraries’ tremendous value to communities and economies in every corner of the country.”

Title II Rollback Reaction Rolls On

Broadcasting & Cable – May 18

<http://www.broadcastingcable.com/news/washington/title-ii-rollback-reaction-rolls/165963>

“Net neutrality is critical to ensuring open and nondiscriminatory access to information for all, and today’s actions by the FCC endanger that,” said ALA President Julie Todaro. “America’s libraries collect, create, curate, and disseminate essential information to the public over the internet, and enable our users to build and distribute their own digital content and applications. Abandoning current protections endangers our mission and ability to serve our communities. The American Library Association has been on the front lines of this battle for more than a decade, and we will continue the fight for an open internet for all.”

Net Neutrality Under Attack

American Libraries – May 18

<https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/blogs/the-scoop/net-neutrality-under-attack/>

“I see it as a trend that is going to take us backward in time,” says Mike Robinson, professor of library science and head of the systems department at the Consortium Library of the University of Alaska Anchorage. “The internet is supposed to represent a democratization of access to information, and libraries are part of that democratization movement. Getting rid of net neutrality undermines that.”

The American Library Association (ALA) agrees, releasing a May 18 statement from ALA President Julie B. Todaro. “Net neutrality is critical to ensuring open and nondiscriminatory access to information for all, and today’s actions by the FCC endanger that,” the statement reads. “We are at risk of maximizing profits for commercial [internet service providers] and large content providers, while degrading internet access and choice for libraries and ultimately all consumers.”

PRIVATE-PUBLIC COLLABORATIVE GROUP ADVOCATES FOR LIBRARY FUNDING

Associations Now – May 18

<http://associationsnow.com/2017/05/private-public-collaborative-group-advocates-library-funding/>

“In addition to the many ways we serve the American public, libraries mean business, and members of the Corporate Committee for Library Investment can tell that story with unparalleled resources and credibility,” ALA President Julie Todaro said in a press release. “ALA could not be more proud to work with them to assure that law and policy makers fully understand American libraries’ tremendous value to communities and economies in every corner of the country.”

FCC Makes First Move Toward Weakening Net Neutrality Protections

Education Week – May 19

<https://marketbrief.edweek.org/marketplace-k-12/fcc-makes-first-move-toward-weakening-net-neutrality-protections/>

Schools and their libraries have become increasingly reliant on digital textbooks and other resources, and they need to be available on demand and without interruption, said Julie Todaro, president of the association, in an interview. The FCC’s action imperils that goal, she said.

Digital materials “are becoming the cornerstone of the education process,” Todaro said. “They have to be deployed in [increasingly] fast, equitable environments.”

Todaro also said she worried that weakening net neutrality protections would hinder the use of open educational resources—free, sharable, re-mixable materials often housed online and widely used in K-12 schools. Creators of those resources might not have the money to ensure their fast delivery, and “if the speed isn’t there, it places them in jeopardy.”

NEH Chair Resigns as Trump Renews Bid to Eliminate Arts, Library Funding

<https://www.publishersweekly.com/pw/by-topic/industry-news/libraries/article/73681-neh-chair-resigns-as-trump-renews-bid-to-eliminate-arts-library-funding.html>

The library community is also gearing up for the coming budget battle. In a statement today, ALA president Julie Todaro said the Trump administration is using the “wrong math” when it comes to libraries.

“America’s more than 120,000 public, school, academic and special libraries are visited more than 1.4 billion times a year by hundreds of millions of Americans in every corner of the nation,” Todaro said. “To those who say that the nation cannot afford federal library funding, the American Library Association, American businesses and millions of Americans say emphatically we cannot afford to be without it.”