

**Spring Executive Committee Meeting  
April 17, 2013, via conference call**

**Topic:** Connected Learning and Libraries

**Background:** Connected learning is a concept that's gaining widespread popularity among policy makers, funders, educators and those engaged in youth development. Its focus is on informal learning that goes on outside of the school day. Libraries have been a place that supports learning since before the term was coined; however, these current initiatives originated from outside the library world and so far have not been very inclusive of libraries. Via ALA Connect the Board has had an informal discussion about possible ways that YALSA could raise members' awareness about connected learning and give them some resources for engaging in connected learning activities locally. The Executive Committee may want to discuss which, if any, of the ideas mentioned by the Board are appropriate to move forward and how that may be achieved. The Executive Committee may also want to explore how YALSA can be better positioned as an organization to engage in national level discussions and activities related to connected learning.

**Action Required:** Discussion

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**Ideas from board discussion:**

- Collect and share best practices and personal stories (similar to what's on [connectedlearning.tv](http://connectedlearning.tv)) related to libraries and connected learning
- Use existing YALSA resources to disseminate information about connected learning and libraries, such as *YALS*, the *YALS*Ablog, conference programming, webinars, the wiki, etc.
- Create new resources, such as a toolkit or a matrix/infographic that members can use to easily relate what they are already doing to the idea of connected learning
- Direct the Programming Guidelines Taskforce to keep connected learning in mind when developing the document
- In order to achieve the above, create a new taskforce or direct the STEM Resources Coordinating Taskforce to take on some or all of the tasks (their term ends in June)

**Better Positioning YALSA in the Connected Learning Arena**

- YALSA is participating in a month long discussion on [connectedlearning.tv](http://connectedlearning.tv) about bringing social media into libraries. What else could YALSA do to help move it to the forefront of connected learning?

**Additional Resources**

- Dr. Mizuko Ito's latest report, "[Connected Learning: An Agenda for Research and Design](#)"
- Use #connectedlearning to find content on Twitter
- Free webinar archive, case studies and personal stories about connected learning at <http://connectedlearning.tv/>