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Update from the MLA Board of Directors

The Board of Directors met on Friday, April 17, 2015.

Engaging our members

MLA and its various subunits are sponsoring numerous events in the coming months.

Here’s just a few:

- ARLD Day
- PLD Day
- RART Retreat: RART has partnered with CYP and DORT for a discussion on racial and cultural diversity and how it affects readers' advisory and libraries.
- CYP Unconference
- MILE
- IRT Workshop with Char Booth
And, of course, planning for the 2015 Annual Conference continues. The Conference Program Committee will meet in May to select the sessions for the conference. Additionally, a committee has formed to celebrate MLA’s 125th anniversary in 2016.

**Strengthening our organization**

We are working to standardize event pricing especially for non-members. We want to encourage people to become members in order to receive the member rate at conferences and workshops.

We have also started a review of the procedures manual. With the move to Management HQ we want to verify that all the policies and procedures are up-to-date.

President Snow announced that the Nominating Committee will begin its work soon. They will seek candidates for ALA Chapter Councilor, President-Elect, Treasurer, Intellectual Freedom Committee Chair, and Member-at-Large.

**2015 MLA Annual Conference: Call for Sponsors, Exhibitors and Advertisers!**

The 2015 MLA Annual Conference will be held October 8-9 at the St. Paul RiverCentre. There are several great opportunities for your organization to join us in St. Paul! We recommend you respond quickly. Sponsor, Exhibitor and Advertiser opportunities are limited, and are awarded on a first come, first served basis. Sponsor applications are due **July 19, 2015**; Exhibitor and Advertiser applications are due **August 16, 2015**.

Learn more and apply today on the [MLA Conference Page](https://mnlibraryassociation.site-ym.com/admin/email/bulk_email_body.asp?id=1870998).

**ARLD Day Recap**

133 academic librarians gathered on April 24 for ARLD Day 2015 at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. Our keynote speaker, Stephanie Davis-Kahl, Scholarly Communications Librarian at Illinois Wesleyan University, spoke about how librarians can help students become scholarly entrepreneurs, using library resources to solve problems in the community and sharing the solutions through their institutional repository. Transferring Clark Terry’s jazz improvisation rules of imitate, assimilate, innovate to the research process, Davis-Kahl encourages not just the teaching of research skills, but the fostering of innovation. Several subsequent sessions followed the conference theme of The Open Library, including sessions on institutional repositories, freeware, and partnering with undergraduates on library initiatives. Despite the rain, it was a wonderful day of sharing and learning.

**A Note from the ALA Chapter Relations Office**

To MLA Academic Members:

Thanks to all of the MLA members who participated in the ‘Minnesota Libraries into the Future’ session at ARLD Day. The turnout was one of the biggest at any of these programs at various state conferences. It shows the interest of the academic library community in Minnesota to create a bright future for libraries and all that you serve.

The results of the discussion are now posted in [ALAConnect’s Strategic Planning Community](https://mnlibraryassociation.site-ym.com/admin/email/bulk_email_body.asp?id=1870998).
are also results from other associations.

As I mentioned in the session the facilitated discussion is part of a wider effort from ALA with the Harwood Institute for Public Innovation to assist libraries turning outward to help their community.

Here is the link to the [free 74 page A step-by-step guide to “turning outward” to your community](https://mnlibraryassociation.siteym.com/admin/email/bulk_email_body.asp?id=1870998).

If anyone has more questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Michael Dowling
Director, ALA Chapter Relations Office
mdowling@ala.org
800-545-2433, ext. 3200

**Challenges to Library Materials**

Have you or a colleague dealt with a challenge recently? Please fill out the [MLA IFC Challenge Reporting Form](https://mnlibraryassociation.siteym.com/admin/email/bulk_email_body.asp?id=1870998). Collecting data helps us determine the true scope of challenges across Minnesota and helps us decide how to best help you. You may remain anonymous, but we require the title and reason for the challenge.

When ALA released the first images of the 2015 Banned Books Week it was unprepared for the backlash. They ultimately decided to keep the [image in question](https://mnlibraryassociation.siteym.com/admin/email/bulk_email_body.asp?id=1870998).


**MLA Webinar Recordings**

Over the past month we have offered a series of webinars based on popular sessions and presenters that appeared at the MLA Conference in 2014. The presentations are recorded and available online. If you have suggestions for future encore session topics and/or speakers, please send them to Kristen Mastel ([meye0539@umn.edu](mailto:meye0539@umn.edu)).

- [The Video Lifecycle Webinar](https://mnlibraryassociation.siteym.com/admin/email/bulk_email_body.asp?id=1870998)
- [Productivity Hacks: Learn the Secrets of Highly Productive People](https://mnlibraryassociation.siteym.com/admin/email/bulk_email_body.asp?id=1870998)
- [How to Host a How-To Festival](https://mnlibraryassociation.siteym.com/admin/email/bulk_email_body.asp?id=1870998)

**Participate in the Student Learning Assessment Workshop in Duluth**

Join the Instruction Roundtable for a half-day workshop on student learning assessment on the afternoon of June 4, 2015 at the University of Minnesota Duluth! This workshop will engage participants in discussions and activities geared toward developing small and large-scale information
literacy assessment initiatives that are strategic and well designed. Facilitator Char Booth will highlight how even small assessment efforts can lead to significant gains in determining and showing the value of program impact and student learning, and participants will come away with best practices and tools to apply in their own contexts.

This workshop is sponsored by the Minnesota Library Association and the Minnesota Library Association Instruction Roundtable. Registration is limited to 50 participants; sign up today!

When: Thursday, June 4, 2015

12:00 -1:00: Lunch

1:00 – 4:00: Workshop

Facilitator: Char Booth

Where: University of Minnesota Duluth Kathryn A. Martin Library

Cost: $25 for MLA members, $30 for non-members

Registration Here.

Char Booth explores the integration of pedagogy, research, technology, and design in libraries. Char is the Director of Research, Teaching, and Learning Services at the Claremont Colleges Library, and a faculty member of the ACRL Information Literacy Immersion Institute.

Register for the Lake Superior Libraries Symposium

Registration for the 2015 Lake Superior Libraries Symposium is now open! LSLS15 will be held on Friday, June 5th at the University of Minnesota Duluth. Library staff, administrators, trustees, and students from the Upper Midwest and beyond are invited to attend and participate.

Register today!

Reflecting this year’s conference theme, Sharing Our Stories, breakout sessions will focus on learning from our successes and failures, and crafting stories to demonstrate our impact and advocate for change. Our keynote speaker is Char Booth, Director of Research, Teaching, and Learning Services at the Claremont Colleges Library, and a faculty member of the ACRL Information Literacy Immersion Institute. The conference also features a lightning round, deluxe taco bar, and two social events. More information: http://lakesuperiorlibrariessymposium.com/symposia/lsls15/

Registration for the 2015 Lake Superior Libraries Symposium is now open! LSLS15 will be held on Friday, June 5th at the University of Minnesota Duluth. Library staff, administrators, trustees, and students from the Upper Midwest and beyond are invited to attend and participate.

Welcome New Members!

Jessica Storlien
Elizabeth Shirek
April Ide
Adja Ann
Nominate your colleagues for the MLA Member Spotlight!

Each month the Roundup features one of our members and highlights the great work that is being done at libraries around the state. Please nominate MLA members that should be featured in the monthly Roundup Member Spotlight. Submit a nomination form.

Calendar

Here’s a quick snapshot of upcoming MLA and other professional events you may be interested in attending. Check Upcoming Events for further details.

Tuesday, May 19: RASS Rendezvous

Thursday, June 4: Instruction Roundtable with Char Booth

Friday, June 5: 4th Annual Lake Superior Libraries Symposium

Sincerely,

The Minnesota Library Association

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