October 2023 Roundup

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Academic and Research Libraries Division (ARLD) December Social

Cold weather is coming which means our ARLD socials are pivoting away from the outdoors and towards virtual gatherings! Come play games on Zoom with your academic library colleagues from around the state. Register via the RSVP link below and we will send you the Zoom info in advance.

Event Details
When: Friday, December 1
Time: 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Where: Zoom
RSVP here: https://z.umn.edu/ARLDdecembersocial

Annual Conference Was a Success -Thank you!

The MLA Annual Conference Program Committee thanks all the library administrators who budgeted for staff to register as conference attendees, and provided time away for staff to attend the conference, along with the resources and encouragement to be a session presenter. Our annual conference could not be successful without this support from library managers across the state. Your support for staff participation builds professionalism and helps us all learn to grow in the work we do. Thank you so much for supporting libraries across Minnesota in this way.

Steve Harsin, Program Committee Chair

Apply to be Instruction Round Table (IRT) Co-Chair - Deadline Extended!

The IRT seeks a Co-Chair for 2024-2025! This is a fun and low pressure way to gain experience in a leadership role. IRT provides a forum for staff from all types of libraries to share information,
resources, and best practices related to library and information literacy instruction. The round table offers opportunities for training, discussion, idea-sharing, and networking among library staff who teach. This year, IRT hosted an online chat about AI and will be hosting an online chat about instruction assessment on November 6.

The new co-chair elect would officially join Kayleen Jones as co-chair in January 2024. The deadline to apply is November 6.

For more information about the responsibilities of a subunit chair, see this document. If you are interested in nominating yourself or another awesome person you know, please complete this form. Library folks who do instruction in any type of library are encouraged to apply.

Questions about the role? Email current IRT co-chairs Kayleen Jones or Angela Vetsch.

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Information and Technology Educators of Minnesota (ITEM) Updates

Thank you to all ITEM members who were able to attend the 2023 MLA Conference and attend our Membership meeting. Here are a few quick ITEM updates:

- ITEM members are starting to update our standards (here are the current standards) and add benchmarks. If you would like to join this group, email president@mnitem.org
- State Library Services has released the first round of the school library survey/status report for schools. This short survey will come via an email from Verena Getahun and only take 5-10 minutes. A link was also sent out via ITEMList from Ashley Dress. Please take the time to fill it out for your school library.
- ITEM is happy to announce the release of the updated Library Media Specialist Licensure Guidance from PELSB. This document serves as an amazing advocacy tool and should be shared with school administration and school board members.

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Instruction Round Table (IRT) Instruction Assessment Event

Register now for IRT’s Digital Debriefing: Instruction Assessment virtual event held on Monday, November 6! Join the IRT on Zoom from 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. to discuss instruction assessment with other library folks.

Library instruction assessment is an important part of our library work so let’s chat about it!

Discussion topics will include:

- How does your library assess its information literacy instruction? We want to hear about big and small assessment strategies.
- How does your library use the ACRL Framework, or other guiding documents, for assessment?
- How does your library use assessment results to support the library goals, student learning outcomes, institution goals, mission or vision?

This event is free. Library folks who do instruction in all types of libraries are welcome to attend!

Register by Friday, November 3 for the Zoom link.

Questions? Email IRT co-chairs Kayleen Jones or Angela Vetsch
Public Libraries Division (PLD) Updates
Official Call for Nominations
The call for nominations for PLD Executive Committee positions is officially open. PLD is seeking one Chair Elect (three-year term that cycles through Chair Elect, Chair, Past Chair) and one Member-at-Large (two-year term). If you would like to apply for either position, please submit a statement of interest and short bio via email to PLD Chair Jamie Hoehn by Friday, November 10. If you have questions or would like more information, feel free to email Jamie.

PLD Division Meeting
Thank you to everyone who was able to attend the PLD Division Meeting at MLA! It was wonderful to see so many public library workers all gathered together in one place. We received some great feedback on the survey and are looking forward to using that information to help inform future decisions, objectives, and goals for PLD.

School Library/Media Center Research Survey
Help Erin Rathke, Eastern Carver County Schools Assistant Superintendent (and 2023 MLA Presenter) with dissertation research by completing a survey!

To participate in this study, you will be asked to complete a survey that is approximately 16 minutes long. This survey includes a series of questions about your collection development habits, budgets, administrative support, and censorship. All responses are anonymous.

The survey link can be found here. Please contact Erin with any questions.

Small and Rural Libraries Roundtable (SRLRT) Meetup
The SRLRT will be holding a virtual meetup on Wednesday, November 1 at noon. Bring your lunch and chat with us about your successes and concerns working in small libraries!

Register and join the meetup via Zoom here. Hope to see you there!

Welcome New Members!
September new members

Thank You Renewing Members!
September renewing members

MLA is strong because of you. Thank you for being a member.