



Advocating for Minnesota's  
libraries, librarians and  
library staff

## Roundup

### In This March Issue

- [MLA March Board Meeting Report](#)
- [CYP Unconference: Registration now open!](#)
- [Nominations Due April 2 for Academic Innovator Award](#)
- [Registration is open for the RART Spring Retreat!](#)
- [Take Part in a Librarian Wellness Survey](#)
- [Registration for ARLD Day 2018 is Open!](#)
- [ARLD Dialogue: #LibrariansSoWhite: the Conversation Continues](#)
- [MLA Board Update](#)
- [Welcome new members!](#)
- [Thank you renewing members!](#)

### MLA March Board Meeting

I presented my ALA Midwinter Meeting Chapter Councilor report at the March MLA Board meeting, and you can read it in full on the MLA website [here](#).

Here are a few highlights from that report:

- Minnesota submitted to ALA Council a memorial resolution for Lora Landers, ([M-#5](#)). Lora Landers served over 45 years in public libraries, with over 25 years as Deputy Director of Hennepin County Library, was an outspoken advocate on Intellectual Freedom and Pay Equity for Women, and much more. The resolution is included at the end of my full report, linked to above.
- National Library Workers Day is April 10, 2018 and coincides with Equal Pay Day. Although all women lag behind men, data shows that among full-time workers, African American, Latina and Native American women had lower median weekly earnings than White women and Asian women. Why should libraries celebrate this day? As a female dominated profession (over 85%) pay equity is an issue that affects all library workers regardless of gender. Wear red in libraries to symbolize how far women and minorities are “in the red” with their pay. Visit the [website](#) for more information.
- ALA members, remember to vote on the ALA Executive Director Education Requirement (Vote Yes for MLS “Required” or No for MLS “Preferred”). There are pro and con issues presented on the ALA ballot that I encourage everyone to read these before voting (click on “View Information” on the ballot). Also on the ballot this year is a resolution adjusting personal member dues, as well as ALA President-elect candidates and ALA Council candidates.
- ALA President Jim Neal is proposing an ALA governance/member organization structure and system review that will last 12-18 months. The ALA membership is asked to consider the 21st century effectiveness and agility of an organization whose constitution, bylaws, and policies date back over 140 years. Members are confused by the structure and feel disconnected from the association, and new members don't see entry points for participation. The structure of the committees, interest groups, chapters, affiliates, and divisions (with their own structures) has become overly complex. I will be looking for ways to solicit feedback at the MLA annual conference this year.
- Two Resolutions were introduced at ALA Council, but referred to committee. You will hear more about them in my ALA Annual report. The two resolutions introduced were: “Resolution on Socially Responsible Investments for the ALA Endowment Fund” and the “Resolution on Addressing Roadblocks to Diversity in the Leadership

Pipeline.”

--Sara Ring, [ring0089@umn.edu](mailto:ring0089@umn.edu)

## CYP Unconference: Registration now open!

Register now for the 5th annual [CYP Unconference](#). The event will feature a presentation on Nature-Smart Libraries by the Children & Nature Network as well as discussion topics decided on by YOU.

**When:** Friday, April 27, 2018, 9:30 am-3:30 pm

**Where:** Brooklyn Park Library's Mississippi Room, 8500 W. Broadway Ave., Brooklyn Park, MN 55445

Contact Julia Carlis ([jcarlis@gmail.com](mailto:jcarlis@gmail.com)) with any questions.

## Nominations Due April 2 for Academic Innovator Award

ARLD is seeking nominations for the [Academic Innovator's Award](#), which recognizes librarians or project teams who have made an outstanding recent contribution to advance the mission of an academic library in Minnesota. Nominations can be submitted [here](#) before April 2, 2018. Self-nominations are accepted.

## Registration is open for the RART Spring Retreat!

Saturday, May 19th, 10:00am - 2:00pm at the Shoreview Library

The World Of Tomorrow--Today!  
Science Fiction and Fantasy for Everyone

Join us for the RART Retreat 2018 to discuss readers' advisory for science fiction and fantasy. Breakfast and lunch are included. Cost: \$25 (MLA members); \$30 (non-members)

Tentative Schedule:

10:00-10:15: check-in and introductions  
10:15-11:00 presentation  
11:00-11:15 break  
11:15-12:00 presentation  
12:00-12:45 lunch and book speed dating  
12:45-1:30 presentation  
1:30-2:00 open group discussion/RART chat

For more information and to register, go [here](#).

## Take Part in a Librarian Wellness Survey

Please help with a survey on librarian wellness behavior by completing a 5-minute survey funded by the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Medical Library Association. It is completely voluntary and confidential. If you would like to either receive a small thank-you gift (\$10 gift card from Target--limited to approximately 187 respondents) and/or receive updates about this project, please complete the final form.

Please excuse any cross postings and please take the survey only once. You may open the survey in your web browser by clicking the link below:

[Librarian Wellness](#)

If the link above does not work, try copying the link below into your web browser:

<https://cri-datacap.org/surveys/?s=NJWWHTXMHR>

This research proposal has been reviewed and approved by the Children's National Institutional Review Board as an expedited protocol. Librarians from the Children's National Medical Center and MedStar Washington Hospital Center in Washington, DC, are managing the project. For more information, contact Susan Keller, Primary Investigator ([skeller@childrensnational.org](mailto:skeller@childrensnational.org)).

## Registration for ARLD Day 2018 is Open!

**What:** ARLD Day 2018

**When:** April 27, 2018

**Where:** Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, Chaska, Minnesota

[Register Now!](#)

ARLD Day is just around the corner! Join us as we explore anthropological methods for libraries, digital collections, student advisory boards, and many other areas of academic libraries. This annual gathering is hosted by the Minnesota Library Association's Academic and Research Libraries Division (ARLD).

Keynote speaker Andrew Asher, will give a talk entitled *Strange Libraries: Learning through Anthropological Methods*. In this keynote presentation, anthropologist and assessment librarian Andrew Asher will make a case for utilizing anthropological research techniques to understand and contextualize libraries and information practices. Drawing on example studies from a range of institutional settings, this presentation will illustrate how an anthropological approach can provide critical insights into communicating the value and impact of library spaces, services and resources. In addition to his keynote address, Mr. Asher will lead a breakout session on *What's Happening Here? Mapping as an Observational Tool*.

ARLD Day is a great opportunity to share ideas, connect with colleagues, and explore new ideas for your library. Breakout Session information is now available [here](#). We hope you will be able to join us at the beautiful University of Minnesota Arboretum in Chanhassen.

## ARLD Dialogue: #LibrarianshipSoWhite: the Conversation Continues

**Date:** Thursday, April 5, 2018

**Place:** St. Catherine University Library, St. Paul

**Time:** Noon to 2 pm, Lunch Served

Join facilitators Amy Mars and Deborah Torres for a lunch discussion on #LibrarianshipSoWhite: the Conversation Continues. Lunch will be provided free of charge by ARLD.

According to the most current ALA member survey 86.7% of librarians identified as white. Even with numerous programs and initiatives, this number has changed very little in over a decade. What will it take to make progress on this issue?

At MLA 2017 held in Rochester, MN Amy and Deb presented on "[#Librarianshipsowhite: Using Critical Race Theory to Form a Call for Action](#)," which included small group discussions focused on what we should STOP doing, what we should KEEP doing, and what we should START doing to de-center whiteness and cultivate inclusive libraries (see the Google doc [here](#)). This ARLD Dialogue will continue the discussion with academic librarians using the readings below to inspire critical examination of our profession and a call to action.

Free registration is required and available on the MLA website [here](#).

## MLA Board Update

The MLA Board met on Friday, March 16th. The approved minutes from the previous month's meeting may be found [here](#). The agenda from each meeting is posted on the [Board of Directors](#) page several days prior to the meeting. Board meetings are open to the public and members are encouraged to attend

## Welcome new members!

The following members joined MLA in March. Welcome to MLA!

- Mark Anderson
- Martha Chapin
- Julie Fedeler
- Kari Jagusch
- Ellen Jaquette
- Tamra Kowalski
- Christina Olson
- Mark Troendle
- Hannah Van Lith
- Pang Yang

## **Thank you renewing members!**

MLA thanks all of those members who renewed during the month of March!

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