I. Board Report—April 2018

II. Diversity Committee

III. Members: Joy Doan (2015) Chair; Randye L. Jones (2015); Vincent H. Pelote (2015); Lisa Shiota (2015); Patrick Sifuentes (2015); Wendy A. Sistrunk (2015); Mallory Sajewski (ex officio, Chair Membership Committee); Misti Shaw (2017); Sara K. Nodine (ex officio, Officer, Publicity & Outreach); Winston Barham (2018); Callie Holmes (2018); Terra Merkey (2018); Sara Outier (2018); Sylvia Yang (2018)

IV. Board Action Required
a. None at this time.

V. Summary of Activities
a. MLA 2018 (Portland, OR) --
   i. The personal pronouns ribbons, as well as photography permission signage at MLA’s Annual Meeting was a success. We again thank the Board for their support of these initiatives.
   ii. The joint session (proposed with the Public Services Committee) “Diversity & Inclusion through the Lens of Critical Librarianship” was a success. We thank the Programming Committee for their support of this townhall panel, as well as the Board’s support of this session as a free-streaming session during the conference.

b. We have completed the first year of our commitment of three (3) columns per year in the MLA Newsletter (also mentioned in the April 2017 report to the Board). Examples of columns include, “MLA Diversity in Action: Adaptability, You’re Already Doing It” by Patrick Sifuentes (July-August 2017) and “MLA Diversity Scholar: Spotlight” by Ricky Caboverde (November - December 2017).

c. MLA 2019 (St. Louis, MO) --
   i. The Diversity Committee met on March 26, 2018. If the proposal is accepted, we will be sponsoring a plenary (or session) by the Musical Theater Interest Group, that will focus on ethnic diversity and inclusion in musical theater. We will also--if accepted--be co-sponsoring a session with the Education Committee on an introduction to and best practices concerning microaggressions.
   ii. The Diversity Committee has also proposed a session, in conjunction with Sara Outier--in the capacity of her role as MLA’s Placement Officer--on recruitment and retention in music librarianship. One of our foremost thought is to provide best practices for removing inherent bias from the hiring process. Moreover, our proposed session will provide discussion on the retention of diverse colleagues.