2022 SDLA Annual Reports

President’s Report - Shari Theroux

Conferences:
2022 conference will be in 2 weeks as of this writing. Planning is going well. This year we did not have as many conference proposals as usual, so we set aside one block of time for vendor presentations. If this goes well, we may want to consider offering this in future years as the vendors liked it and may be more likely to attend if this continues to be an option. We hope that participation will be higher in the future as people get used to in-person conferences again. Contracts are signed for future conferences through 2026, next year we will need to choose locations for a few future years and sign the contract for 2027.

Book bans:
We had SDLA join the “Unite Against Book Bans” campaign through ALA. We received a package of promotional materials that will be available at a table at SDLA conference. Nancy Swenson and myself did at least 3 interviews for television/radio (maybe 4?) about book banning in South Dakota. While we haven’t had a lot of book challenges reported to us, they are on the rise nationally and we want to make sure SDLA is tracking it and helping where we can. Eric Erickson planned to testify at the legislative session about a bill impacting school libraries, but there were so many people wanted to speak about it that the bill got tabled and went no further. He keeps us posted on any legislation that may impact libraries. He will also be speaking at SDLA about steps libraries can take when presented with these challenges.

Budget:
The budget for this year was tight and we expect next year’s to be also. Membership is dropping and costs of everything are going up. The board worked with Jamie Formanek to present a balanced budget for next year. We will not be having lunch on legislative day next year as one of the budget cuts. We plan to still have librarian representation and Eric Erickson has offered to help with tracking down representatives and introducing us to them.

SDLA participation:
Participation in all areas was low this year; it was difficult to fill committee spots and elected positions, as well as the drop in submissions for posters and sessions at conference. The board worked to come up with ideas to increase participation in future years.
Report of the Past-President - Julie Erickson

The following items have been completed as part of the role:

- Attended executive board meetings
- Wrapped up the 2021 virtual conference -- including issuing continuing education contact hours certificates and lists of grad credit recipients to the SDSL continuing education coordinator.
  - 9 participants earned credit at USF (by viewing/attending at least 15 hours of content)
  - 57 participants earned a total of 550 continuing education contact hours. Attendees earned a range of hours, with the largest number of hours earned 24. Being able to go back and view archived sessions is a bonus that virtual conferences provide.
- Assisted the current president with conference brainstorming
- Provided possible names for officers
- Received information about bylaw changes after the July deadline -- make note for next year to look at bylaws for
  - Public Relations Committee (choosing award winners)
  - Children’s book award committee (hosting of award lists)
- Evaluation of contracted employees -- will be finalized at the November meeting
Vice-President/President Elect Report – Jamie Formanek

Attended the executive board meetings
Prepared the 2023 budget
Set the conference theme for 2023 “Roll for Initiative: Everybody in”
  o Kelly made the logo for the theme. Thank you, Kelly!
Started looking for keynote speakers for 2023 conference
Filled committee openings for the 2023 spots
Executive Secretary/Treasurer report, Krista Ohrtman

Current Membership:
359 Individual members (including legislators, students, trustees and retirees)
31 Institutional members

Current Account Balances:
Wells Fargo Savings: $7,022.74
Wells Fargo Checking: $29,015.52
Ameriprise Savings Certificate #1: $14,870.56
Ameriprise Savings Certificate #2: $19,085.18
Leon Raney Endowment: $97,617.18 ($14,508 available for disbursement)

Activities:
● Regular monthly tasks include processing memberships, correspondence, bills, and reconciling accounts.
● Worked with KMWF (our accounting firm) to prepare annual tax returns/filings. Executive board members affirmed that investing in professional accountancy services for annual filings (as well as professional financial audits every 3 years) is important to avoid financial penalties.
● Filed annual report of sales tax with Department of Revenue and annual Incorporation for SDLA.
● Facilitated election of officers.
● Supported preparation for conference:
  ○ Accepted session proposals
  ○ Registration for individuals and exhibitors/vendors
  ○ Awards
● Supported creation of 2023 draft budget
● Dispensed professional development funds from Leon Raney Endowment as directed by the professional development grants committee.
ALA Councilor Report – 2022 – Danielle Loftus

After I was elected the ALA Councilor for SDLA I attended ALA Information Session and Virtual Governance Meetings in January to learn what was expected of me.

ALA Annual Conference June 23-28
Annual was hybrid, and was held in Washington D.C. I attended virtually.
Conference attendance: 13,990.

June 25. Hybrid Council Meeting
Resolutions Committee chair Aaron Dobbs gave the committee’s report and brought four resolutions to Council for a vote (CD#10.2).
Resolutions calling on President Biden to cancel student loan debt for all borrowers (VMD#2) was adopted
Condemning the destruction of libraries, schools, and cultural institutions in Ukraine (CD#57) was adopted.
A resolution in defense of the right to engage in political boycotts (CD#55) was defeated.
We voted to refer a resolution in support of continuing virtual access to ALA membership meetings to ALA’s Budget Analysis and Review Committee (CD#59).
Amy Lappin, chair of Transforming ALA Governance (TAG), presented her task force’s initial recommendations and called a vote on TAG Action Item #1.
An amendment to the TAG recommendations passed by a narrow vote of 76 to 64, with four abstentions. This amendment means that Council will retain its authority as a policy-making body, rather than handing that power off to a reconstituted Executive Board and taking on an advisory role.

June 26. Hybrid Council Meeting
Jim Neal, chair of Committee on Organization presented a proposal recommending changes in the Committee of ALA’s Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services meant to expand its capacity and foster continuity. The proposal passed.
LaVerne Gray, chair of the Committee on Education, presented a draft motion regarding the Core Competencies of Librarianship (CD#41.1) to incorporate committee and stakeholder feedback. A motion to refer it back to the committee passed with the recommendation that the committee work with the American Association of School Librarians to amend language pertaining to the accreditation of school librarians.
Continuing our work to streamline governance, we also voted to disband Council Forum. It is an informal gathering prior to Council meetings. It passed by a narrow margin, 71 yes to 69 no with 7 abstentions.
These close votes are highly unusual for Council, which generally sees majorities of over 80 if not 90 percent.

June 27. Hybrid Council Meeting:
Discussed book challenges. Freedom to Read Foundation President Barbara Stripling briefed Council on troubling trends, such as obscenity litigation, criminal prosecution of librarians, and organized attempts to subvert the accessibility and visibility of materials
The conference is supposed to be in New Orleans next year. A resolution barring ALA from holding conferences in states with restrictive abortion policies (CD#61), in light of the US Supreme Court’s recent decision and its impact on states, was rejected by a nearly 3-to-1 margin after extended debate.

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I attended a special Council Meeting August 26 called by ALA President, Lessa Pelayo-Lozada. The purpose of this special meeting was to satisfy a procedural step to rescind the American Library Association Constitution.
During the Annual Conference this past June in Washington DC, the ALA Council voted overwhelmingly in the affirmative to rescind the ALA Constitution and tasked the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws with creating instead a thoroughly revised set of ALA Bylaws that integrates content from the Constitution into a single updated Bylaws document that reflects a modern, forward-looking Association.

Respectfully submitted
Danielle Loftus
The Tri Conference between the Montana Library Association, Pacific Northwest Library Association and MPLA was held August 3rd-6th, 2022. There were over 300 in attendance.

The membership committee presented recommendations to the board to engage and boost membership. There were two items of action:
1 - Change institutional memberships to include receiving 3-6 individual memberships based on the level of dues to give out at their discretion to their employees and allow them to attend the annual conference at membership rate.
2 - Explore dual memberships with State Associations. MPLA will be piloting and entering negotiations with Utah and Wyoming Library associations, with Kansas Library association as a backup, to offer a dual membership discount to work out the logistics.

The MPLA Archives Task Force also provided an update: Annie Epperson, CO, reported that the Taskforce started with 43 boxes of MPLA materials and, after weeding, ended up with 3 boxes and 1 flat folio. She showed the board some highlights from the collection. Roy Delger, Webmaster from OK, reported that 2 Oklahoma State University students will assist with the scanning process of the project. The Taskforce’s action plan and timeline going forward will be added to the MoP.

The next MPLA joint conference is planned for March 8-10, 2023 “Building for the Future block by block, with the Oklahoma Library Association. It will be MPLA's 75th anniversary.
https://www.oklibs.org/page/annual_conference

The MPLA Leadership Institute will be held May 7-12, 2023, at YMCA of the Rockies, Estes Park, CO. There are two fellows from South Dakota, Shari Theroux – South Dakota State University & Krista Ohrtman - Augustana University, South Dakota. Moving forward, the institute will be held in an odd year.
Recording Secretary – Sean Minkel

The Executive Board met on the following dates:
February 8, 2022 (Video Call)
April 29, 2022 (Video Call)
July 15, 2022 (Video Call)
Will meet September 28, 2022 (SDLA Conference)
Minutes were recorded for each meeting and updated on the SDLA website upon approval of
the Executive Board.
Report of the Book Marks Editor, Kelly Thompson

I compiled, produced, and distributed last year’s newsletter to members 3 times this year and will do one more issue after the 2022 Conference in Brookings. I have continued to distribute issues digitally.

This year there is no printed conference booklet despite this being our first in person conference since 2019. The cost effective printing vendor I had used prior to the pandemic, Augustana University Creative Services, is no longer taking outside jobs. I found that the printing costs at commercial vendors were very high. The board decided to go digital with the schedule and I looked into three companies. We ended up going with Sched and it has been very easy to set up. The cost is comparable with printing a schedule with the added benefits of saving paper and I can easily update and change the schedule. I have high hopes that the conference attendees will like the change but I will also bring simplified printed versions of the schedule.

I have been posting on the SDLA Facebook page/Twitter page with a mix of general library posts, updates on SDLA deadlines and news, and advocacy posts.

I have refreshed the website’s Career Center and regularly answered contact submission forms. The biggest change on the SDLA website is that we now host the pages for the Prairie Book Awards and the Teen Choice Awards. The South Dakota State Library is unable to continue to host the pages on their website. I remade the pages for all the awards and am working closely with the Children’s Book Award Committee and the Teen Choice Awards Committee to keep the information updated.

https://www.sdlibraryassociation.org/page/ChildrensAwards
https://www.sdlibraryassociation.org/page/TeenChoice

Continuing the trend of the last couple years, I have had fewer voluntary submissions for Book Marks. I have to seek out stories, get creative, and specifically request submissions to fill the newsletter. Library staff are focused on recovering from pandemic overload and I appreciate all the great stories that people do send for the newsletter.

The next issue is Oct/Nov/Dec 2022, with an October 21 deadline. I want to encourage section leaders and committee members to send me updates for this issue.
The SD State Library awarded nearly two million dollars of Federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to school, public, and academic libraries in South Dakota in 2021-2022. Projects and items funded to help improve libraries in SD were: automation, One-Button studios, instructional classrooms, many new computers, scanners, printers, 3D printers, books, big screen TV’s, Promethean Boards, and furniture with embedded technology.

Carson Block was hired by SDSL to complete the evaluation of the State Library 2018-2022 IMLS LSTA 5-Year Plan. A committee of SDSL staff members worked to create the new 2023-2027 LSTA 5-Year Plan, which was submitted to IMLS prior to June 30.

The Electronic Resources Task Force met to review SDSL database offerings and recommended changes for new contracts. Swank, a K-12 streaming database that offers movies, documentaries, and foreign language films for instructional support, was purchased by the DOE/SDSL.

The SD Department of Education, of which the SD State Library is a division, undertook an extensive review of policies, procedures, website materials, and program reviews as directed by Executive Order 2022-02. Future programs, communications, and consultations will be governed by considerations in this EO.

Many libraries across the United States are facing more book bans and challenges. SDSL held Zoom meetings for school, public, and academic libraries to discuss collection development policies, request for reconsideration forms, and procedures for challenge situations.

George Seamon was hired as the new SD State Librarian and began his duties July 25.

Submitted by Brenda Hemmelman
South Dakota Library Association Public/Trustee Section 2022

Section Information:
Outgoing Chair – Daniel Burniston, Library Director, Vermillion Public Library
Incoming Chair – Katherine Eberline, Children’s Services Coordinator, Brookings Public Library
Incoming Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect – Brittany Moeller, Dell Rapids Carnegie Library
Children’s Book Awards Committee:
Juliet Heltibridle (2023), CHAIR, Public/SDLA
Korey Erickson (2022), At-Large
Kristyn Labine (2924), School/SDLA
Sheleen Bauer (2021), At-Large
Karla Bieber (2024), Public/SDLA
Kim Bratland (2024), SDEA
Lisa Martin (2022), Public/SDLA
Becky McGregor (2024) School Admin
Heidi Sackreiter (2023), College Lit. Prof., South Dakota State University
Tyler Muth (2024), At-Large
Amanda Raiche (2023), At-Large
Thea Teasley (2022), At-Large
Laura Kelly, State Library
YARP Book Awards Committee:
Jeri Light, Chair
Lucy Steiger, Secretary
Wendy Nelson, Membership
Scottie Bruch, SD State Library Liaison
Jayde Gauer, Book Nominations
Emily Benvenga
Amanda Bremmon
Michelle Clayberg
Susan Farrell-Pooncelet
Jayde Gauer
Emily Harris
Julie Jordre
Joanne Kallhoff
Jean Kirshenman
Jennifer Lachler-Starace
Krista Licht
Cindy Meinen
Shayna Monnens
Kris O’Brien
Mary Peters
Shelley Rath
Sharon Schwebach
Kerri Smith
Sherri Wolles
Tammy Wollschlager

Children's Book Award Committee Report – Juliet Heltibridle
The Prairie Bud, Prairie Bloom, and Prairie Pasque Children's Book Awards are sponsored by the South Dakota Library Association. The Prairie Bud award is determined by PreK, K, & 1st grade students. The Prairie Bloom award is determined by 2nd and 3rd grade students, and the Prairie Pasque award is determined by 4th and 5th grade students.

Students in 28 communities participated in the voting during the 2021-2022 school year. There were 9,760 votes cast for Prairie Bud; 9,904 votes for Prairie Bloom; and 2,440 for Prairie Pasque.

Following are the results from the 2021-2022 South Dakota Children's Book Awards voting:
Prairie Bud winner: I am a Tiger by Karl Newsom & Ross Collins
Prairie Bloom winner: Rumple Buttercup by Matthew Gray Gubler
Prairie Pasque winner: A Wolf Called Wander by Rosanne Parry

Due to Executive Order 2022-02 Restricting CRT in DOE Policies, the committee was notified in May that the SDLA awards would no longer be hosted on the State Library’s website. Bookmarks Editor Kelly Thompson was able to quickly back up the awards information and have it moved to the SDLA website. The Children's Book Awards Committee held their annual meeting on July 22 by Zoom. The committee chose the nominations for the 2023-2024 lists. The committee also discussed updates to the committee procedures, which are being submitted to the Public Library/Trustee section for approval.

Section Chair:
Attended SDLA Executive Committee Meetings.
Section chair worked with Children's Book Award Chair to fill upcoming vacant positions.
Section chair worked to recruit candidates for the incoming Section Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect role.
Assisted with questions throughout the year as people reached out.
Section chair drafted a letter to the South Dakota Department of Education on behalf of the SDLA Executive Committee offering assistance and participation in the South Dakota State Librarian hiring process if needed.
Section chair participated on the South Dakota State Librarian Interview Committee, one round in December 2021 and a second round in May 2022.
Worked with Children’s Book Awards Committee Chair Juliet Heltibridle on the process to revise the Children’s Book Award Committee Bylaws.

Sincerely,
Daniel Burniston
Public Library/Trustee Chair
Academic and Special Libraries Report 2021-2022

“Reinvention: the action or process through which something is changed so much that it appears to be entirely new.”

This year, reinvention is an apt word for the Academic, Health, and Special Libraries section of SDLA. We have the opportunity to reinvent ourselves to be an active force in the state of South Dakota. Despite the challenges this year presented, we can make the year 2023 one where the Academic, Health, and Special libraries share what we can offer to the community. We can do this by being involved in the South Dakota Library Association.

The 2022 year started slowly when we couldn’t recruit a vice chair. Despite my efforts, the president of SDLA, and our many resources, the position wasn’t filled until December. Kristin Echenkamp agreed to be the Vice-Chair for the 2022 year. The vice chair assumes the role of the chair after their one-year term. Their primary role is to arrange the poster presentations for the conference. It is a low-maintenance position but rewarding. The position allows you to reach out to librarians from across the state and field and see what is happening in the school, public, or academic libraries.

Poster sessions are a vital part of library conferences, and despite our best efforts, we had one submission this year. The vice chair posted the announcement on social media, through listservs, and the quarterly newsletter Bookmarks for SDLA. With very little enthusiasm for presenting, the SDLA executive committee decided to cancel the poster presentations for this year.

We can change how Academic, Health, and Special Libraries actively participate in our state library association. We have the chance to share what we are doing through break-out sessions and poster presentations, and we can encourage others to attend. By being present, we can share the stories and advocate the importance of libraries in higher education. The conference is what we make it out to be. We can reinvent this group to be a force within the library community. This is our moment, and we must seize it.

Kara L. Vehar
Chair, SDLA Academic, Health, and Special Libraries
Access Services Librarian, Wegner Health Sciences Library
Support Staff Section – Josh Easter

Looking forward to the SDLA 2022 Conference to connect with those in attendance and visit with them about what resources and training would be helpful support for them. Because the support staff section meeting is during the other section meetings our section is usually more lightly attended because staff understandably want to know what is happening in the type of library they work in. I am currently recruiting a team of support staff from various sections (Primarily Public and Academic, but hopefully also School, and Special) to form a committee to help with the next in-person Branch Out and programming.

The mission of the support staff group continues to be:
  a) To enhance the professional image and status of South Dakota’s library support staff.
  b) To further their professional growth through encouraging participation of support staff in library associations, conferences, and continuing education.
  c) To provide a network for communication to our members and the profession on library support staff issues and trends.
  d) To network and cooperate with library organizations on local, state, national and international levels.
Intellectual Freedom Committee Report

3 materials challenges have been reported to SDLA in 2022—1 public library, 1 school library, 1 school overall. There have likely been more, we just aren’t hearing about Them.

Committee Members have done a number of talks and interviews regarding intellectual freedom since the last SDLA Conference.

- Nancy Swenson (NS) wrote Bookmarks article about policy development related to book challenges (fall 2021)
- NS participated in SDSL policy development discussions with SD libraries (3 sessions – fall 2021)
- NS & Nita Gill (NG) interviewed by Keloland about censorship (2/2022)
- NS spoke to SDSL Digital Resources class about intellectual freedom and the first amendment (2/2022)
- NS & Shari Theroux (ST) interviewed by Keloland about book banning (5/2022)
- NS & ST interviewed by KNBN (Rapid City) about book banning (5/2022)
- NS & ST interviewed by SDPB about book banning (8/2022)

Committee is currently drafting a reporting form to add to the SDLA website so there is a consistent way for members to report challenges to SDLA.

The IF Committee would like to remind SDLA members to report materials challenges as they occur to both SDLA and ALA. SDLA is tracking challenges so that there’s an overall picture of what’s happening in the state with challenges; ALA also tracks challenges and offers resources and assistance for those going through challenges.
The Public Relations Committee created a video to promote the SDLA Awards to promote nominations.
Feedback from those who viewed the video is positive. The committee evaluated the nominations for this year’s winners and coordinated those efforts.
We discussed the idea of merging the Public Relations and Social Media Committee to create more people to help with the goals of the group.
We reread the bylaws and have some ideas and suggestions for updates to those rules. One thing we would like to discuss is being able to move a nomination from one year to the next if the person isn’t selected. This would require reaching out to the nominator to see if they are interested and updating any nomination forms. If anyone has any feedback on the idea, we’d love to hear before we formally make this recommendation.
As of September 20, the Professional Development Grants Committee has received four applications for grants and scholarships, and three applications for SDLA conference grants.

The committee awarded available funds as follows:
$450 Professional Development Grants to:  
Marilyn Mendenhall, Crow Creek School District  
Sarah Jones-Lutter, Redfield Carnegie Library

$500 Scholarship to Emmeline Weber of Briggs Library/SDSU, for MLS studies.

$400 SDLA conference grants to:  
JoAnne Freitag, Presentation College/Aberdeen  
Sarah Shoop, Phoebe Apperson Hearst Library/Lead  
Lyle Weekly, Parkston Public Library

Submitted by Brenda Hemmelman, chair  
Committee members:  
Mary Francis  
Sarah Jones-Lutter