

OLA Annual Reports 2017-18
Divisions, Committees, Round Tables, Special Assignments

OLA unit: Public Library Division (PLD)

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Division, RT, Committee Board Members

Chair: Kirsten Brodbeck-Kenney, Driftwood Public Library

Vice Chair/Chair Elect: Jerianne Thompson, Tualatin Public Library

Past Chair: Karen Muller, Hillsboro Public Library

Secretary: Marianne Coalson, Cedar Mill & Bethany Community Libraries

Position #1: Margaret Alexander, Eugene Public Library

Position #2: Jimmy Pearson, Astoria Public Library

Position #3: Sarah Strahl, Salem Public Library

Position #4: Kate Lasky, Josephine Community Libraries

Overall Goals & Responsibilities

The purpose of the Public Library Division shall be to promote public library service and development, to promote the potential for increasing cooperation among public libraries, to represent the interests and concerns of public libraries in relation to the Oregon Library Association and the Oregon State Library, and to develop legislative priorities for public libraries and other issues as may be pertinent to the Division.

Objectives and activities for current year

1. Revisit the OLA Public Library Standards and incorporate them into the Oregon State Library Report.
2. Provide Project Outcome regional training in conjunction with Public Library Directors' meeting
3. Policy clearinghouse
4. Annual directors meeting
5. Annual Banquet and Award
6. Increase PLD member participation in meetings and projects.
7. Explore ways of incorporating Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) elements into PLD initiatives.

Progress on goals and objectives

1. The Standards committee reconvened and completed their revision of the Public Library Standards. These will be revised by a technical writer to ensure parallel language and clarity, and will be presented to the public library directors at the Fall Directors Meeting on September 21st. The Standards Committee is now a standing sub-committee of the Public Library Division, and will continue to meet and review the Standards several times a year going forward.
2. An LSTA grant to provide Project Outcome training to Oregon public librarians was successfully executed. The grant allowed for a day-long Project Outcome training provided by a Public Library Association trainer, who also held two virtual meetings for attendees. Librarians who attended the day-long training organized and presented shorter trainings in geographically diverse areas of Oregon.
3. The policy clearinghouse was back-burnered, but it remains a project.
4. Fall and Spring directors meetings were held, and provided ample opportunity for public library directors to discuss pressing issues.
5. The annual banquet was held at the OLA Annual Conference. Marnie Webb of Techsoup was our speaker, and Thalia Truesdell was awarded the Pearl award.
6. The PLD board made an effort to hold meetings outside of the I-5 corridor, and were awarded with non-board members attending meetings on at least two occasions. The at-large board member titles were changed from "director at large" to "member at large" to encourage non-directors to participate in the executive board. Four individuals ended up running for two open positions on the board, and three of the four were not library directors. The Standards Committee also drew volunteers from the general PLD membership and will continue to do so.

7. The executive board decided to hold a DEI training adjacent to our Fall directors meeting in Bend on September 20th.

Goals for 2018-19 – Advocacy

Incorporate Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion concepts into PLD projects, and hold a DEI training in the fall. Continue to support Project Outcome and outcomes based measurements in Oregon public libraries. Complete publication of the newly revised standards and work with the State Library to create tools for Oregon public libraries to self-assess.

Goals for 2018-19 – Education

Increase membership and engagement in the Public Library Division by regularly reporting out about our activities and actively recruiting members.

Goals for 2018-19 – Leadership

Recognize Oregon public library leaders through the Pearl Award.

Goals for 2018-19 – Collaboration

Hold two directors meetings in the fall and spring to allow public library directors to network and discuss pressing issues and ideas.

Revisit the "library SWAT team" concept, which would allow public librarians to request specific assistance from other librarian volunteers in space assessment, marketing, weeding, and projects.

Work with the OLA Executive Board to explore whether the "policy clearinghouse" concept could fit with the revitalization of Northwest Central.

Participate in the OLA/WLA joint conference in the spring.

Comments