### FEATURE ARTICLES

#### You Gotta Fight for Your Right to Read Banned Books! (Left)  
11
In celebration of Banned Books Week 2017 the Intellectual Freedom Panel (IFP) and Teen Interest Group (TIG) co-hosted the fall program, You Gotta Fight for Your Right to Read Banned Books!

#### Remembering Steve LaBash  
13
The members of the Intellectual Freedom Panel (IFP) regret to announce that Steve LaBash, long-time MLA member, passed away in February of amyloidosis. Members of the IFP will be making donations to the Freedom to Read Foundation in Steve’s memory.

#### GIIG Launches Two Programs at the 2018 Annual Conference  
14
The Government Information Interest Group will offer two exciting programs at the Joint Annual Conference of the Maryland Library Association and Delaware Library Association.

#### Adult Reading Programs Are a Hit at the Ruth Enlow Library  
15
There has been a pleasant discovery at local libraries in Garrett County – that summer, winter, and other special reading programs for adults are popular with patrons.

#### ALA Councilor’s Report  
17
ALA Midwinter 2018 was a whirlwind conference amid whirlwind weather in Denver – from snow to 60 degree sunshine! Although smaller than in recent years (almost 8000 attendees compared to almost 9000 in Atlanta and more than 11000 in Boston), there was a great flurry of activity and productive discussion throughout the conference.

#### Space Place: What Is the Ionosphere?  
20
High above Earth is a very active part of our upper atmosphere called the ionosphere. The ionosphere gets its name from ions—tiny charged particles that blow around in this layer of the atmosphere. How did all those ions get there?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THIS ISSUE</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Editor’s Note</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President’s Message</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEWS</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACRL Maryland Goes Bowling! <em>(below)</em></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland Author Award Luncheon</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TSD: Presenting at the Annual MLA/DLA Conference and Boosting Membership</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Don’t forget: In addition to these Contents pages, you can use Bookmarks to navigate through your Digital Magazine!
Editor’s Note

Happy Spring to Crab readers! As I write this, of course, there is impending snow in April, but hopefully, by the time you are reading this, the weather will take a turn for the warmer and we’ll be ever closer to the upcoming MLA-DLA Conference in early May.

Speaking of the Conference, the Crab has some conference previews for you in this issue. On page 9, learn more about the Maryland Author Award Luncheon to be held on Thursday, May 3. Gayle Danley, famous slam poet, will be honored as the William G. Wilson Author Award recipient. On page 10, Technical Services Division (TSD) describes its conference programming on the future of cataloging standards. As well, the Government Information Interest Group (GIIG) describes two exciting conference programs on hosting a Mapathon and retrieving Census data (see page 14).

On a more somber note, I regret to note that Steve LaBash, long-time Maryland Library Association member and “guiding light” of the MLA Intellectual Freedom Panel (IFP), passed away in February 2018. Monica McAbee provides tribute to Steve on page 13. IFP also provides a recap of its successful Banned Books program, in which they partnered with the MLA Teen Interest Group (TIG). Steve LaBash facilitated the panel discussion.

Also in this issue, you can find inspiration in MLA President Denise Davis’ message on what we in Maryland libraries can do during difficult times and how we can face challenges in our communities (page 5), encouraging us all to stick with our core values and confront these challenges head on.

Annette Haldeman, MLA Crab Editor
Department of Legislative Services Library
In the last couple of years, I have noticed that many conversations inside and outside library circles include ever deeper expressions of concern about the challenges facing our communities, our nation, and our planet, often punctuated by these questions: “What can I do?” “What should I do?” “How can someone like me make a real positive difference in my community or the nation in such an extraordinarily difficult time?”

It is gratifying to see that these anguished conversations are starting to evolve into strategies, goals, objectives, new collaborations, networks, and partnerships, as well as promising implementation plans and inspiring actions and projects. As Maryland Library Association (MLA) members, it is especially gratifying to see these steps forward in our own state and in our own field.

Library staff, librarians and library associates – and institutions like MLA, the American Library Association (ALA), and public, academic, school, and special libraries around the state— are leading new efforts that are making a real difference. Libraries are expanding outreach deeper into the whole community. In the process, libraries are expanding the power to access knowledge and information, overcoming barriers, de-mystifying and accessing key community connections, and finding personal and cultural respect and empathy, all at a time when so many feel increasingly powerless and fearful. Librarians in Maryland and around the nation are shining a light on growing threats to user privacy posed by data collection and analytics. They are speaking and negotiating...
with vendors about concerns and developing new policies and procedures, as well as creating trainings and tutorials for the public. The Maryland library community is doing more than expressing frustration about declining civility; many of our state’s libraries are joining together to facilitate civility both internally and externally. By doing so, they are building our libraries’, communities’ and nation’s abilities to solve problems, not simply voicing disagreement.

Libraries are also expanding networks and partnerships to refine or develop vital services for “under the traditional radar” community members. Leaders from several Maryland libraries are working with the Maryland Access to Justice Commission to create a new type of network among public libraries, law libraries, legal clinics and the legal services community. In the prototype, librarians will provide basic legal reference services for lower-income people struggling with civil legal issues as well as referrals to legal services or pro bono attorneys who users may meet in the library, in the attorney’s office or via video chat apps. At the 2018 ALA Midwinter Conference, I learned about several inspiring projects around the country including Project Welcome, (https://publish.illinois.edu/projectwelcome/) where librarians are forming partnerships with refugee resettlement agencies to develop library services and collections for refugees and asylum seekers as they strive to assimilate in our communities.

We do not have to look far to find the foundation for this inspiring work. These efforts are rooted in the core values of librarianship: access to information, confidentiality/privacy, democracy; equity, diversity; inclusion; intellectual freedom; and social responsibility. But how do we get from values to action? That is where MLA, the Delaware Library Association (DLA) and ALA should help us, and they are really stepping up at the 2018 MLA/DLA Conference. MLA’s mission is to advance the transformational impact of Maryland’s library staff and libraries. MLA’s number one goal is to provide professional development and training initiatives that empower its members to successfully address pivotal challenges and opportunities. The 2018 MLA/DLA Pre-Conference and Conference include an extraordinary array of proactive training and powerful speakers. There are programs on topics such as powerful library advocacy and leadership techniques; developing “human libraries;” fostering youth civic engagement; serving the homeless, engaging service members, veterans and military families; becoming active in the international library community; serving patrons with dementia; fostering diversity by building empathy and social capacity through literature; eradicating achievement gaps with embedded librarians; creating LGBTQ+ You(th Access); enhancing literacy and library skills for refugee families; “fake news” spotting; serving disabled users; creating a culture of opportunity; and much more. Among the presenters will be the President of ALA, Jim Neal, who will speak on “Library Leadership in a Time of Transformation and Turmoil: Virtuality, Virtuosity, and Virtuousness.” National and international award winning slam poet Gayle Danley will accept the William G. Wilson Maryland Author Award. Marci Merola, Director of the ALA Office of Library Advocacy, and Jamie LaRue, Director of the ALA Office of Intellectual Freedom will lead the Advocacy Bootcamp preconference, Jamie will stay on a panel with Erica Jesonis and me, exploring the extraordinary challenges to user privacy in our era. Michael Dowling from the ALA Chapter Relations Office will tell us how to become “internationalized” by getting involved with the international library community (http://www.mdlib.org/files/docs/conference/MLAProgram.pdf). Thanks to our outstanding MLA/DLA Conference committee, our great divisions, panels, interest groups, members, and ALA, the lineup of programs and speakers could not be more on point to address questions before us today.

So back to those questions… “what can I do?” and “what can we do?” We can start sharpening our focus on the challenges of our users and communities, learning from each other, applying the extraordinary skills of library staff, librarians and libraries as a whole, and working strategically with our colleagues and associations in Maryland, Delaware, around the nation and even worldwide. By embodying and engendering the core values that distinguish our profession in our work, we can undermine hopelessness, open the doors to opportunity to more and more community members, bridge divides, foster compassion, empathy, confidence and courage, and—even in this challenging time— become the leaders we have been waiting for. ■
Duckpin Bowling Fun with ACRL MD

Sara Arnold-Garza, Towson University, ACRL MD President

ACRL MD (Association of College and Research Libraries, Maryland) members gathered for an evening of duckpin bowling in February. This traditional Maryland sport has also become something of a tradition with MLA’s division for academic librarians, too! This is the third year in a row that ACRL MD’s winter social has brought together members, friends, and family of all ages at Stoneleigh Lanes in Towson, MD. In addition to friendly competition and socializing, the group raised about $30 in donations to kick start a silent auction basket for scholarship fundraising at this year’s MLA/DLA Joint Conference.
ACRL MD at Stoneleigh Lanes in Towson, MD.
Maryland Author Award Winner, Gayle Danley, to be recognized in Cambridge

Elizabeth Hulett, Western Maryland Regional Library

Join the Maryland library community in celebrating Gayle Danley, this year’s William G. Wilson Maryland Author Award recipient. Ms. Danley will be honored at the Author Award Luncheon on Thursday, May 3 at 11:45 am. A former National and International Poetry Slam Champion, Ms. Danley was featured on CBS’ 60 Minutes highlighting her ground-breaking work with middle school students in Maryland. After the luncheon, from 3:00 to 4:00 PM, Ms. Danley will conduct a mini-workshop and conversation about slam poetry. She will give an introduction on how to compose a slam poem and will talk about how poetry can be used to change children’s lives. Both events are sure to inspire and educate. Registration is needed for the luncheon; the 3:00 PM session will have limited seating, so be sure to arrive early.
Robert Krzanowski, Carroll Community College

The Technical Services Division will be offering a presentation on the future of cataloging standards at the MLA/DLA Annual Conference on Friday, May 4, at 12 p.m. Robert Krzanowski, Technical Services Librarian at Carroll Community College and president of the MLA’s Technical Services Division, will discuss why cataloging standards such as AACR2r and MARC are becoming outdated in an era when effective bibliographic linkages and web-based metadata are taking precedent over traditional bibliographic description. The presentation will include a brief history of bibliographic description, a discussion of the weaknesses of longstanding bibliographic descriptive schema, important theoretical frameworks such as Functional Requirements of Bibliographic Records (FRBR) and Functional Requirements for Authority Data (FRAD), and overviews of emerging standards such as Resource Description and Access (RDA) and the Bibliographic Framework Initiative (BIBFRAME) and what effects they may have on information retrieval. Sample records will be provided to help attendees understand precisely how data is being manipulated in these emerging schemas. Some prior knowledge of cataloging practices would be helpful, but not essential. TSD hopes to see you at the conference!

The phrase “technical services,” as used in libraries, is most often associated with acquisitions, cataloging, purchase orders, MARC records, authority control, Cutter tables and many other topics that some colleagues might find dry and boring. However, “technical services” actually encompasses a broad range of exciting library activities and responsibilities.

The American Library Association includes collection development and management, preservation and archives, continuing resources and “digital curation”— defined as “managing electronic resources throughout their useful life cycle”— in its description of technical services responsibilities. Despite this, most technical services meetings and organizations still focus mainly on traditional cataloging practices.

The Technical Services Division is hoping to offer a remedy by addressing these often overlooked roles and responsibilities within the broad technical services umbrella. Are you a collection manager frustrated by a lack of contact with colleagues? Do you have a passion for curation but nobody to share it with? Consider joining TSD. We would love your input and fresh ideas plus the opportunity to expand division membership beyond its current scope. The division hopes to expand its programming and discussion options to more effectively serve colleagues in all areas of technical services librarianship. If you are interested in joining the division or have ideas about future programming, please contact division President Robert Krzanowski at rkrzanowski@carrollcc.edu. TSD is a group of passionate, dedicated library professionals who would welcome the opportunity to discuss the technical services field with as many Maryland technical services staff as possible. If this sounds like you, give TSD a shot!
You Gotta Fight for Your Right to Read Banned Books!

△ From left to right:
Maddy Burton, Kathy MacMillan, Nay Keppler, Erin Gambrill, Gail Faust, Beth Daum, Janene Overby
IN CELEBRATION OF BANNED BOOKS WEEK 2017, which took place the week of September 24th, the MLA Intellectual Freedom Panel (IFP) and MLATeen Interest Group (TIG) co-hosted the fall program "You Gotta Fight for Your Right to Read Banned Books!"

Thirty people attended this panel discussion. The panel featured Erin Gambrill from Carroll County Public Library; Westminster High School English teacher Beth Daum; Westminster High School media specialist Gail Faust; young adult author Kathy MacMillan; Carroll County high school student Maddy Burton; and Janene Overby, a parent of two Carroll County high school students. Attendees and panelists discussed why books in school and public library collections are often challenged, how to talk to those concerned about materials, how to encourage teens to defend their right to read, and why it's important for teens to have access to diverse ideas and viewpoints.

Panelists spoke on their experiences discussing challenged and banned books with the public, as well as personal accounts of why access to these books is important to them. Following this discussion, attendees were invited to ask the panelists questions, many of which pertained to addressing challenges in the school system as a teacher or media specialist.

After the Q&A session, attendees broke out into small groups and developed responses to hypothetical challenges to frequently challenged books. Some of the books had been challenged for content. For example, This One Summer, by Mariko Tamaki with illustrations by Jillian Tamaki, was challenged for content because of its LGBT characters, drug use, and profanity. Other books were challenged because of the book’s author, such as Little Bill’s My Big Lie by Bill Cosby. This exercise helped participants learn the correct responses to address book challenges, whether in the school or public library setting.

IFP and TIG were honored to have the late Steve LaBash, longtime Intellectual Freedom Panel member and prior Intellectual Freedom Officer, facilitate the discussion. This program would not have been possible without his contributions. While he passed away in February, his passion for access to information for all lives on in all who knew him.

Banned Books Week materials for 2018 became available from the American Library Association on Wednesday, April 4th. On April 9, the State of America’s Libraries Report was released, which includes the list of the most challenged books in 2017. Three of 2016’s Top 10 Most Challenged Books were challenged due to LGBT characters and content. Find out why LGBTQ+ representation in youth literature is important and how you can support the rights of young library users to access print, non-print, and digital materials for all at the MLA/DLA Conference presentation, LGBTQ+ and You(th) Access, sponsored by IFP, on Friday, May 4th at 10:45!

Advocacy resources @ http://www.ala.org/advocacy/bbooks/bannedbooksweek/ideasandresources/freedownloads
The Members of the Intellectual Freedom Panel (IFP) regret to announce that Steve LaBash, long-time Maryland Library Association member and "guiding light" of the MLA Intellectual Freedom Panel, passed away in February 2018 of amyloidosis.

Steve died at home under hospice care, with his wife by his side, and he had a chance to see his Arizona family and some of the other people who loved him before the end.

Steve was one of the guiding lights of the IFP. He served as Intellectual Freedom Officer from 1996-1997 and again from 2002-2004. Steve was a particularly great facilitator at programs such as "Filtering — Facts or Fiction?" (a program on internet filtering at libraries) and "You Gotta Fight for Your Right to Read Banned Books" (a panel discussion on the right of teens to read what they want).

IFP member Gaylord Robb put it beautifully when he said, "Steve was a man of compassion, ethics, a searcher for truth and a strong defender of intellectual freedom. He was also a long time and valuable member of the IF Panel. And he maintained a sense of humor amidst the chaos of our world, and was fun to be around. One of the really good guys!"

Members of the IFP will be making donations to the Freedom to Read Foundation in Steve's memory. Additional contributions are welcome at https://ftrf.site-ym.com/donations/donate.asp?id=6201

IFP Members on a Harbor Cruise in Annapolis (from left to right) Monica McAbee, Mou Chakraborty, Cathi Dunn MacRae, Gaylord Robb, and Steve LaBash.
Maps, For Goodness’ Sake: Running a Mapathon at Your Library

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) powers a host of familiar Internet applications, from Google Maps to Craigslist to AirBnB. In 2006, a group of software engineers founded the OpenStreetMap Foundation. Inspired by the success of Wikipedia, OpenStreetMap has evolved into a user-friendly platform for crowd-sourced creation of interactive maps of the world. “Mapathons” are coordinated efforts, similar to “hackathons,” which bring together individuals of all skill levels to create interactive maps of poor and under-mapped regions of the world. Areas historically under-mapped have embraced GIS technology much as nations that never saw landline phones are embracing wireless networks. Colleges, universities, public libraries and schools have hosted mapathons using publicly available tools such as OpenStreetMap.

Eden Parks and Carl Olson of Towson University held a mapathon for students, faculty and staff at Towson University’s Albert S. Cook Library in November of 2017 as part of GIS Week activities. The librarians provided technical assistance over most of the day. Students, faculty and staff came and went as their schedule permitted and they contributed mapping information. The librarians gained valuable experience in library outreach, geoscience information, interactive learning and “citizen science” initiatives and will share what they learned at the Conference in Cambridge.

Getting Better Data Faster: Updates from data.census.gov

data.census.gov is, in part, an initiative to overcome the complexities of the venerable American Factfinder. Casual users have said that American Factfinder is very difficult to use when they only want a single piece of data. The challenge is to provide a smoother experience for occasional users, while maintaining the standards long enjoyed by American Factfinder’s “heavy and hardcore” users. However, it is only part of the Census Bureau’s ambitious effort to integrate data collection and dissemination through maps and tables. The 2010 Census was the most expensive in history, at over 13 billion dollars. This site is being designed as part of an overall system to reduce those staggering costs and provide data in a more timely fashion.

Last year, Ms. Nesreen Khashan, Data Dissemination Specialist for the U.S. Census Bureau, demonstrated how the Census Bureau is overhauling its data dissemination platform into one seamless experience to make finding Census data a more “Google-like” experience for non-expert users, while building in more personalized features. She will return to the 2018 Conference for further updates of data.census.gov. The presentation will introduce us to what the designers have accomplished, and how librarians can still contribute to its growth by adding feedback, just months before the data dissemination platform becomes fully integrated with the Census Bureau’s primary website.

Carl Olson, Albert S. Cook Library, Towson University

THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION INTEREST GROUP (GIIG) will offer two exciting programs at the Joint MLA/DLA Annual Conference in May.

GIIG Launches Two Programs at the 2018 Annual Conference
Adult Reading Programs Are a Hit at the Ruth Enlow Library

Bonnie Winters, Ruth Enlow Library

Staff has made a pleasant discovery at local libraries in Garrett County — that summer, winter, and other special reading programs for adults are popular with patrons. Library staff knew that there were plenty of readers, but had not tried to run a formal reading program where customers could sign up and keep a reading log. So, in the summer of 2017, the library tried a pilot Adult Summer Reading program at the main library in Oakland. As an incentive to attract interest, the library purchased tote bags sporting the library’s logo and gave one to each person who signed up, along with a reading log for recording books read from July through the end of August. Each participant was required to read at least two books, enter them into the log, and include a brief review of at least two books in order to be entered into a drawing for a $25 gift certificate to a local bookstore. A flurry of 166 people signed up, with 66 turning in reading logs at the conclusion of the program.

When the adults turned in the logs, they were asked to complete a Summer Reading Club survey so that there would be feedback about their experiences. Comments about what they liked included:

- “Writing a critique of the books I read,”
- “Sharing what good books I’ve read,”
- “Considering what I would tell others about a particular book,”
- “Getting to choose whatever I wanted to read,” and...
- “Keeping track of the number of books I read – it adds up!”

Several people noted the value of writing the reviews. “I liked how knowing I had to write a review of two books made me pay more attention to details in each book and think about things I could write,” said one participant.

Circulation staff at Oakland saw the enthusiasm of library patrons for the adult reading club. “Many were extremely excited to be able to participate in their own reading club after bringing their children to our programs for years,” noted Suzanne Bonser, circulation supervisor. “And several commented on how much they enjoyed the challenge of writing reviews of the books to share with others.”

The library’s success with the adult Summer Reading Program prompted a “Winter Reads” initiative system-wide. The program concluded in early April, with raffle drawings and informal book reviews at every branch. This time, incentives were...
not given at the beginning of the program on January 2, but rather, were handed out to participants who turned in a completed reading log that reflected at least five books read and two brief reviews. Participants with completed reading logs were given a ceramic bistro mug imprinted with the library’s logo and they were also entered into a drawing for a $25 gift certificate from a local business. As of this writing, there was a total of 162 patrons enrolled in the program system-wide.

By including an informal book review at each branch in April, the library hoped to encourage patrons to attend and share something about one of the books they read during the program. Along with the Winter Reads, the library also started a system-wide 2018 Reading Challenge on January 2, which runs until December 31 of this year. Participants are to read a book in each of 25 categories during the year to be entered into a drawing for a prize at the conclusion of the program. This challenge is proving to be more popular than expected, with a total of 87 participants so far. Reading Challenge categories include a book recommended by a librarian, a book about Paris, a banned book, a Pulitzer Prize winner, a book with an ugly cover, and more. “Our great staff have really outdone themselves putting together these programs,” said Director Thomas Vose, “We’re gratified to see such a great response from the public. Garrett County really is a community of readers!”

Support for these programs is provided by the Western Maryland Regional Library, the regional resource center for the public libraries of Allegany, Garrett, and Washington Counties.
This year’s ALA Midwinter was a whirlwind conference amid whirlwind weather in Denver – from snow to 60 degree sunshine! Although attendance was slightly down from attendance at other ALA Midwinters in recent years, there was a great flurry of activity and productive discussion throughout the conference.

**effectiveness review**

The big news is that President Jim Neal is launching an 18-month effectiveness review of ALA’s governance and organizational structures, examining the way it conducts business in order to identify ways to streamline the association for the 21st century. He will continue to lead this effort after his presidency ends in July. A large portion of Council II was devoted to a discussion on organizational effectiveness in small groups. These discussions among councilors and general members resulted in 300 comments submitted to a new Executive Board task group. The comments will later be shared with council. I plan to conduct a listening tour at the MLA conference, where I will encourage ALA members to share their thoughts on ALA there and throughout the upcoming months.

**elections**

ALA elections opened March 12th and ran until April 4th. In addition to voting for ALA presidential candidates Wanda K. Brown or Peter Hepburn, candidates for council and divisional officers, ALA members also had the opportunity to vote on the educational requirements of the incoming Executive Director. This past November, council voted to change the requirement of the library degree to “preferred” after a failed search for the director. On December 1, a petition from membership with 561 signatures (more than the necessary 10% of membership) moved this issue to the spring ballot for the full ALA membership to vote.

**financials**

The final issue on the spring ballot was a membership dues increase. There are currently 11 member types with varying levels of dues; Council voted to present an increase of $1-5 in these dues levels for FY2019 (starting Sept 2018) and then, in the following years, move to incremental annual increases not to exceed the Consumer Price Index (CPI). For more information, see [http://www.ala.org/news/member-news/2018/02/american-library-association-gears-2018-ala-election](http://www.ala.org/news/member-news/2018/02/american-library-association-gears-2018-ala-election).

**Update on the ALA Budget FY 2017’s budget ended in a deficit of 2.14 million. Some of this deficit ($1.9 million) was anticipated, as odd years have only one conference and even years have two conferences. That said, revenues have decreased over the last three years, and even as ALA tries to cut expenses, revenues are not keeping up. At this point, most of the Association’s revenues come from publishing (34%), conferences/meetings (24%), membership dues (16%) and grants (13%). Dues were down by 4% in 2017, partially influenced by higher rates of retiree memberships and fewer organizational members.

Publishing did not meet its budget by $1.4 million. ALA conferences (mid-winter & annual) exceeded their budgets by $22,000. Both conferences are currently being reconfigured. On a positive note, ALA Divisions are holding steady, and ALA Round Tables are bringing in net revenue. The ALA Office has continued to cut expenses, but that alone can’t address the budget shortfalls. This is one reason that ALA is considering restructuring. The Executive Board is also considering its real estate holdings and other assets to consider how to move forward in the future. There was much discussion about the budget, considering both a reduction in expenditures and investing for growth. Ultimately, Council passed a $67,792,739 budget ceiling for FY 2018 and will consider additional budget issues at the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans.
Council Actions

Council voted to award an ALA Honorary Membership to Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden; the award will be conferred at annual conference.

We also voted to create a new scholarship for mid-level leaders for ALA travel in honor of ALA Council Secretariat Lois Ann Gregory Wood’s 50th anniversary at ALA.

During Council I, councilors passed three changes to the ALA Policy manual regarding:

- B.2.1.10.1 Politics in American Libraries – stating that “all people” and “all points of view” should be represented in materials and information and library space use.
- B.2.1.27 Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: added text to the Policy Manual stating: Equity, diversity and inclusion are central to the promotion and practice of intellectual freedom. The Library Bill of Rights’ guarantee that “a person’s right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, and views” encompasses the broadest possible spectrum of diversity. Libraries should include a full range of viewpoints and experiences in its collections and proactively seek to include resources and programming representing the greatest possible diversity of genres, ideas, and expressions; insure equity of access to the library’s collections and services; and welcome diverse content in their exhibit spaces and diverse ideas, individuals, and groups in their meeting rooms.
- Recommended that a glossary of terms be included, maintained and updated on the Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services (ODLOS) website rather than providing definitions of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in the policy manual itself.

In Council II on Sunday, Council approved a proposal to merge the Federal and Armed Forces Roundtable (FAFRT) with the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA) into the new division of ASGCLA (Association of Specialized, Government and Cooperative Library Agencies) beginning in Sept 2018. Council also passed a recommendation from the Committee on Organization (COO) to dissolve the Joint Committee on Archives, Libraries and Museums (CALM) and establish it as a Membership Initiative Group.

Council also adopted a new statement proposed a new statement on Net Neutrality (see http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/netneutrality) and a new interpretation to the Library Bill of Rights involving Visual and Performing Arts (see http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/interpretations/arts), both proposed by Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC).

In Council III, councilors discussed two additional resolutions and referred to ALA groups to review, evaluate, and report back to council:

- A resolution on Socially Responsible Investments for the ALA Endowment Fund was referred to the Budget Analysis and Review Committee (BARC) and the Endowment Trustees to review stock portfolio and report on fiscal impact.
- A resolution on Addressing Roadblocks to Diversity in the Leadership Pipeline was referred to the Committee on Diversity (COD) to review and make recommendations in terms of implementation plan and to BARC to assess fiscal implications.
Announcements and ALA news

National Library Workers Day (NLWD) and Equal Pay Day

Once every few years the dates for National Library Workers Day (NLWD) and Equal Pay Day coincide with one another. This year both will be held on April 10, 2018 and we are encouraging individuals, groups, and libraries to celebrate both days together.

Libraries Transform

At this point, 8,000 libraries have joined Libraries Transform campaign. ALA’s Public Relations Office has also created press kits, templates, and toolkits for state chapters and local libraries to customize the campaign – they’ll be rolling those out this spring.

Freedom To Read Foundation (FTRF)

There have been two recent legal victories –
1. the state of Arizona reversed the closure of the Tucson Unified School District’s Mexican American Studies program (name case) and
2. a successful resolution to the Animal Legal Defense Fund v. Wasden which challenged Idaho’s “ag-gag” law, that curtailed the efforts of environmental and animal rights groups to expose illegal pollution and animal cruelty in agricultural industries.

FTRF has joined with the National Press Photographers’ Association and 25 other organizations to file an amicus brief that urges the Supreme Court to establish a legal standard that will allow reporters and citizens to pursue First Amendment civil rights claims against police and government bodies when they are arrested while exercising their First Amendment rights to speak, observe, and report at public events, demonstrations, and crime scenes.

Intellectual Freedom/Advocacy

Office of Intellectual Freedom has tracked 162 challenges to 242 materials from June 1–December 20, 2017. This reflects an increase from 2016. The Office of Advocacy (OLA) and the Office of Intellectual freedom have conducted 11 Library Advocacy Bootcamps at 11 chapter conferences with 300 attendees. More are planned in 2018 in conjunction with state conferences and/or state library legislative days.

A 10th edition of the Intellectual Freedom Manual is in the works to include new guidelines and interpretations since the 9th edition in 2015.

ALA Washington Office

In the first day after Trump’s FY2019 budget eliminating funding for the Institute for Museum & Library Services (IMLS) and Innovative Approaches to Literacy (IAL), more than 5,000 emails were sent to Congress in support of library funding and 100,000 people were reached via social media within the first 12 hours. The Washington Office has launched a new campaign, #fundlibraries, and encourages all library staff to sign up and advocate for library funding. See also http://ala.org/fundlibraries.
By Linda Hermans-Killiam

High above Earth is a very active part of our upper atmosphere called the ionosphere. The ionosphere gets its name from ions—tiny charged particles that blow around in this layer of the atmosphere.

How did all those ions get there? They were made by energy from the Sun!

Everything in the universe that takes up space is made up of matter, and matter is made of tiny particles called atoms. At the ionosphere, atoms from the Earth’s atmosphere meet up with energy from the Sun. This energy, called radiation, strips away parts of the atom. What’s left is a positively or negatively charged atom, called an ion.

The ionosphere is filled with ions. These particles move about in a giant wind. However, conditions in the ionosphere change all the time. Earth’s seasons and weather can cause changes in the ionosphere, as well as radiation and particles from the Sun—called space weather.

These changes in the ionosphere can cause problems for humans. For example, they can interfere with radio signals between Earth and satellites. This could make it difficult to use many of the tools we take for granted here on Earth, such as GPS. Radio signals also allow us to communicate with astronauts on board the International Space Station, which orbits Earth within the ionosphere. Learning more about this region of our atmosphere may help us improve forecasts about when these radio signals could be distorted and help keep humans safe.

In 2018, NASA has plans to launch two missions that will work together to study the ionosphere. NASA’s GOLD (Global-scale Observations of the Limb and Disk) mission launched in January 2018. GOLD will orbit 22,000 miles above Earth. From way up there, it will be able to create a map of the ionosphere over the Americas every half hour. It will measure the temperature and makeup of gases in the ionosphere. GOLD will also study bubbles of charged gas that are known to cause communication problems.

A second NASA mission, called ICON, short for Ionospheric Connection Explorer, will launch later in 2018. It will be placed in an orbit just 350 miles above Earth—through the ionosphere. This means it will have a close-up view of the upper atmosphere to pair with GOLD’s wider view. ICON will study the forces that shape this part of the upper atmosphere.

Both missions will study how the ionosphere is affected by Earth and space weather. Together, they will give us better observations of this part of our atmosphere than we have ever had before.

To learn more about the ionosphere, check out NASA Space Place: https://spaceplace.nasa.gov/ionosphere.

This article is provided by NASA Space Place.

With articles, activities, crafts, games, and lesson plans, NASA Space Place encourages everyone to get excited about science and technology!

Visit https://spaceplace.nasa.gov to explore space and Earth science.
the Crab is published quarterly to inform MLA members about events, news and activities of interest to the Maryland library community. Subscriptions are $15 per year (4 issues). For subscription or advertising information, change of address, or extra issues, call the MLA office at 410-947-5090.

the Crab is published online at the MLA web site: http://www.mdlib.org/content.asp?contentid=151.

Questions about MLA membership should be directed to the MLA office at mla@mdlib.org. Please address all other Crabby correspondence to: crabedit@mdlib.org.

Deadlines for submissions
Fall Issue: September 5;
Winter Issue: December 5
Spring Issue: March 5;
Summer Issue: June 5

Crab Editors
Annette Haldeman, Editor
Maryland Department of Legislative Services; 410-946-5400.
Erin Dingle, Copy Editor
Frederick County Public Library; 301-600-7201.
Regina Rose, Copy Editor
Stevenson University, Owings Mills Campus; 443-352-4233.
Amy L. Miller, Copy Editor
Carroll County Public Library; 410-386-4490.

Art Director and production staff
Bucky Edgett; Lucky Productions, Westminster MD 21158; 410-346-6925; luckypro.biz

Copyright © 2018 Maryland Library Association
1401 Hollins Street; Baltimore MD 21223
Voice: 410-947-5090; Fax: 410-947-5089
mla@mdlib.org

Keep up with MLA/ALA events…Share job openings…Offer weeded items from your collection to others…Ask a question!

To subscribe to the list:
Send a message to sympa@lists.umaryland.edu from the address you want to subscribe to the list. In the subject line of your message, type in: subscribe marylib Firstname Lastname (indicate your own first and last name). Leave the message body blank. When your request is accepted, the message you receive confirms your subscription to the list.

To post a message to the list:
Address your message to marylib@lists.umaryland.edu.
(When you reply to a message sent through the listserv, your message will go to everyone! Therefore, it might be a good idea to include your email address in the body of any messages you post to the list. In some systems, the reader won’t be able to see the address in the sender line. For private replies, send a separate message addressed to the original sender.)

To unsubscribe from the list:
From the address with which you subscribed to the list, send a message to sympa@lists.umaryland.edu. In the subject line of your email, type in: unsubscribe marylib. Leave the message body blank.