First LDD meeting using Blackboard Collaborate. 3 attendees used this to participate online. We will continue this as we are able to secure the equipment.

- We first watched a shortened version of the full Ted Talk by Simon Sinek.
- This was a lively discussion centered on the “why” of libraries. We pointed out that libraries must be in touch with their “why” from the start in order to succeed. Then we brainstormed examples of how being connected with the “why” is important – it can help create buy-in from current and potential customers as well as stave off burnout from library employees.

Guest speaker Michelle Hamiel, Prince George’s County Memorial Library System’s Chief Operating Officer for Public Services.
- Michelle discussed MLA’s Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. They are working on lib guides, diversity trainings (in person and online), and Goodreads recommendations (this would be helpful for future Leaders Who Library Book Club selections).
- Michelle pointed out that MLA Marketing and all library marketing has to be diverse – if people don’t see themselves reflected in marketing for an organization or program, they don’t believe it’s for them.
- We brainstormed ideas to make MLA a more inclusive organization – like adding a “tell us about you” section to division’s welcoming letters and going the extra mile to give new or interested members a phone call. Most members realized we joined after an invitation from a friend, so invite your colleagues to come with you to meetings or to meet you there.

All the LDD Conference programs are on track.

Register for the standalone [Leading with Anxiety](#) program!

Please join the [MentorMD Mentor Directory](#) if you are interested, and let your direct reports/colleagues know about it if they are looking for a mentor.

Please suggest any options for future [Leaders Who Library Book Club](#) selections to Nay Keppler or Rachel Miller.

Next meeting: January 9, 2020 from 1 – 3:30pm at the Laurel Branch of PGCMLS!