

ALA Councilor
Report to WLA Executive Board
September 2014

Annual Conference 2014 Issues:

- The Air Force is the only branch of military service that is cutting libraries and library services on almost all of their bases. A resolution in support of stable funding for Air Force Libraries was passed. Unfortunately, the base library at F.E. Warren Air Force Base has lost most of its funding and may soon lose its professional librarian.
- A resolution on granting the District of Columbia Government Budget Autonomy to allow city services, including libraries, to remain open during a federal government shutdown was passed.
- In the course of updating the handbook for intellectual freedom, wording regarding labeling and rating systems was changed. A debate waged on the floor of council regarding the industry ratings that come with most DVD's and Blu Ray videos. Here are a few links to give you more information about the controversy:
<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/interpretations/labelingrating>
<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/interpretations/qa-labeling>
- The Executive Board has established three priorities for ALA -advocacy, information policy and professional development.
- Network neutrality has been a major focus over the last six months for the Committee on Legislation.
- Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) Task Force has been chaired by Maggie Farrell for the last two years. This committee is working with the GPO and others to move to digital access.

United for Libraries is working on a Literary Landmark Project. They hope to have landmarks identified in all states, i.e. the Remount Ranch where Mary O'Hara wrote My Friend Flicka.

The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) is the leading international body representing the interests of library and information services and their users. It is the global voice of the library and information profession. The 2016 IFLA conference will be in Columbus OH. A major recent project is the Lyon Declaration that asks the United Nation to include in their post-2015 development goals wording that states access to information is critical for developing nations. You can see the complete declaration here <http://www.ifla.org/node/9045> and see where IFLA is in this process here <http://www.ifla.org/node/9045>

I have been appointed to the Chapter Relations Committee and will be the committee's liaison to the ALA Legislative Assembly. Of primary concern is the disconnect that there is between Chapters and ALA. A good example was the Career Development Coordinators project, where ALA was providing training for states- only 11 people applied. I hope to do work at the 2015 conference to seek input from all MPLA ALA Chapters.

Respectfully submitted,
Carey D. Hartman
ALA Councilor for the Wyoming Chapter