

## **L.E.A.D. Interest Group Report 2017-18**

This was a great year for the L.E.A.D. Interest Group! We had online meetings, to 1) consider questions, development and strategy for our group and 2), to schedule and plan programming events for WLA!

### **Activities for 2017-18**

- Throughout the Fiscal Year, L.E.A.D. members were all very active on our Interest Group ListServ. We communicated back and forth on a consistent basis.
- As of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2018, we have 13 active members
- Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> Online Interest Group Meeting:

On Feb 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018, L.E.A.D. Members had an official online conference meeting for all members. We discussed a number of things. The main focus of our Interest Group is developing and supporting Leadership, especially through programming at the annual Wyoming Library Association Conference. We discussed bringing in a larger scale speaker for WLA, focused on leadership, diversity, and timely issues that especially faced modern librarians in the western region. After a lot of discussion on our ListServ before our meeting in February, we came to the conclusion that having someone who was informed, influential, female, who could speak on diversity and inclusive issues in the wake of the #MeToo movement, was important. Librarians wish to understand our communities, help them, be a part of them, but also feel supported ourselves in our abilities to be great librarians. With these ideas in mind we contacted Dr. Emily Monago, Chief Diversity Officer at the University of Wyoming.

At our meeting on Feb 27<sup>th</sup>, we also discussed the importance of Marketing, Listserv activity, Membership, and possible future Social Media opportunities. Members further discussed the importance of involvement and support of leadership development and mentorship. Members shared with each other the importance of excellent customer service skills, research skills, and abilities for new librarians as they come into the field. A second conference call was organized with L.E.A.D. Members and Dr. Emily Monago at UW.

- On April 3, L.E.A.D. Member Brian Green had a conference call with Dr. Emily Monago, organized by L.E.A.D. leader Anna Street. This led to some great conversations, and her agreeing to come to WLA, waiving her host fee! L.E.A.D. members communicated with Emily throughout the process, and worked on program proposals, WLA details, etc.
- L.E.A.D. presented and submitted program proposals by due-dates.
- At WLA 2018, there are two programs officially facilitated/sponsored by L.E.A.D. – “Customer Service in the Library? Really?” led by Anna Street and Richard Landreth, and Librarians as Rural Community Multicultural Change Agents,” which will be led by Dr. Emily Monago of UW.
- We will be having an in-person meeting at WLA, specific time TBD

### **Upcoming Activities for 2018-19**

For the upcoming year, L.E.A.D. will have Online Meetings and an in-person meeting at WLA 2019. We will maintain and stay active on our ListServ. We will discuss membership, our name (new acronym?), marketing ideas beyond programming, and how to expand and actively participate in mentorship opportunities. Another program(s) will also be explored and planned by Interest Group Members.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anna Street,

L.E.A.D. Interest Group Leader