

MLA Executive Board Meeting Reports and Updates for August 2018

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EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

August 17, 2018

10:00am to 12:00pm

Agenda

SHREWSBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY, 609 Main Street, Shrewsbury, 01545

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions (5 min)
3. Voting/Quorum Discussion (5 min)
 - a. Committee/Section List
4. Minutes for June 8, 2018 Executive Board Meeting (5 min)
5. Treasurer's Report
 - a. FY18 & FY19 budget reports (10 min)
 - b. FY20 Budget prep & timeline (5 min)
6. Conference Update (10 min)
7. Para – Financial report (10 min)
8. Strategic Plan Discussion (15 min)
9. Committee Reports
 - a. MBLC Report (5 min)
 - b. IFSRC – co chair appointment & program update (10 min)
 - c. Other
10. Old Business
 - a. Institutional Membership update (5 min)
 - b. Executive Committee MLA membership status (5 min)
 - c. CQ Engage update – Legislative Committee (5 min)
11. New Business
 - a. GoToMeeting discussion (5 min)
12. Adjourn
13. Future Meeting Dates - October 12th, December 14th, February 8th, April 12th



Public Relations Committee

July 31, 2018

The Public Relations Committee has been quiet since conference and during the summer.

Co-chairs have been discussing putting out the next edition of the association newsletter. A group is doing marketing webinars has been identified as a possible group to invite to 2019 conference on behalf of the PR Committee. This needs to be brought to the full PR Committee.

The PR Committee will meet in the fall, with follow up with members met at conference, along with an invitation for new members. Planning for the PR Awards is the big project for the fall.

Respectfully submitted,

Bernadette Rivard & Jocelyn Tavares, Co-Chairs

Reference User Services Section Report
August 17, 2018

- Paula Korstvedt has had to step down from her post as Secretary. Sara Kelso, Head of Reference at the Peabody Library will be taking over for her and beginning a two-year term as of this month.
- We have sent out a request to our membership for program ideas for RUSS to potentially sponsor at next year's MLA Annual Conference in Framingham. We've had some interest in response from members looking to get more involved.
- Our next meeting will take place on Thursday, August 23rd at Massachusetts Library System offices in Marlborough.
- We have decided not to continue with plans for a stand-alone program, instead we will continue our new model of inviting guests speakers to our quarterly meetings and restricting committee business to 15-20 minutes at the start. This has proved effective and we expect attendance to increase as a result.

MLA Jordan Miller Report

July 2018

Tammy DePasquale, Kimberly Usselman, and Bethany Klem, all of NERTCL, will serve on the Jordan Miller Committee with me this year.

We will be posting the application for the 2018 grant round next week, with the goal of determining the winner before NELA meets in October.

This year preference will be given to New England libraries outside of Massachusetts. The Jordan Miller grant is a \$500 grant, awarded annually, to support storytelling.

We will announce this year's winner at the NERTCL luncheon at NELA in October.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam McCuen
Chair, Jordan Miller Committee

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Conference Recap:

Conference was held May 21-23 at the Sheraton Framingham Hotel and Conference Center. There were 547 attendees, 67 exhibitors and 12 sponsors, including one in kind. The theme of the 2018 MLA Conference was “Libraries: Our Common Wealth,” a play on commonwealth that highlights the value libraries bring to all MA residents. We held Access to Justice Breakout sessions, hosted Debby Irving, author of *Waking Up White*, and heard comments from MA Chief Justice Ralph Gants at the opening session. Another speaker of note was Steven Woolfolk, Programming Director of the Kansas City Library, who shared his experience with being arrested and prosecuted for protecting a patron’s right to ask questions at a controversial lecture. Conference closed with Timothy Snyder, Yale professor, and author of *On Tyranny*, and questions were moderated by Maria McCauley, Director of Libraries in Cambridge, MA and member of the ALA Executive Board. Other extremely popular sessions were about library programming; specifically *Adulthood 101*, and *Healthy Aging @the Library*. There was also the ever-popular Basket Raffle, as well as Trivia Night, and an Introvert Station that was sponsored by the YSS section.

Feedback from conference attendees was mostly positive, especially regarding the venue location.

Planning for next year:

For 2018, Conference will be back at the Sheraton Framingham Hotel and Conference Center, from May 20-22.

Submitted by,
Michelle Filleul, Conference Co-chair



Membership Committee August 2018 Report

The Massachusetts Library Association has 502 members! But we also have 393 members who have lapsed. A spreadsheet of the contact info for these members has been posted to Google Drive and shared with the exec. Board.

With the changes to the MLA membership levels and pricing, the pricing committee and conference committee have taken this opportunity to change the wording for the institutional memberships. This change should provide clarification to all and not cause the association to lose money on conference registrations. The description of institutional benefits now says, "Two MLA conference 1-Day Passes." for gold and " Three MLA conference 1-Day Passes." for platinum.

As of this writing, I'm trying to find out how the joint NELA membership works with the institutional membership, as far as renewals and reminder emails for those renewals. It sounds like it's a manual process and Jen said she would look into the notification further.

We held a fun trivia night on Tuesday, July 31st in Attleboro. There were 8 attendees.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Laurie Lessner, Chair
Matt Amory
Melissa Campbell
Kathy Lussier
Patrick Marshall

MLA Legislative Committee Report

MLA Executive Board Mtg – 8/17/18

The MLA Legislative Committee began the FY19 committee meeting with new co-chairs, Charlotte Canelli and Jennifer Harris, Plymouth Public Library (OCLN). We are very glad that Susan McAllister, (MLN) long serving as co-chair with Charlotte, will remain on the committee. Kathy Lowe, also long serving as MSLA, has stepped off the committee however Greg Pronevitz is in a new role as MLSA rep. Regular attendees to the meetings include Nanci Hill, Krista McLeod, Nevins Memorial Library, MaryRose Quinn, (MBLC), Nancy Rea, Jayme Viveiros, Lakeville Public Library (SAILS), Steve Spohn (MLS), Tressa Santillo (MLS), Sharon Shaloo, (MCB), Will Adamczyk, Milton (OCLN), new member, Paul Engle, Brockton Public Library (OCLN), Jackie Rafferty, Cohasset, (OCLN). We are making a concerted effort to reach out to all the regions and encourage membership of at least one director per network as well as a network administrator if possible.

We have been working closely with MBLC to receive updates about the Budget process and are waiting to hear if any overrides by legislators as the Governor signed off with all but two lines funded as MBLC asked with a 3 % increase. As usual, the MCB gets zeroed out and then gets \$200k as level funding.

The committee is planning a survey that will be sent to all uncontested legislators asking about their views on supporting library funding. Additionally, we are working on reaching candidates after the primaries so that we will remind them of their commitment to supporting libraries. This is a project that is time sensitive and demanding. It was done several years ago. Since the Library Caucus is now showing a great deal of enthusiasm, the committee is hoping to build off of that energy. Anyone joining the committee will get firsthand knowledge of the State Budget process.

The Library Legislative Day annual event is slated for early March, 2019. We have organized our to do list down to a science now, so we are ready to go as the months move along. Co-chair Tressa Santillo and Jayme Viveiros have it well in hand. We will continue work on the First Attendees as well as involve the Library Caucus.

MSLA has advocacy plans with regard to the Study of the Special Commission on School Library Services in Massachusetts for this fiscal year. Here's a link to the study: <https://mblc.state.ma.us/programs-and-support/youth-services/school-libraries-study.php>
[MSLA will be on the agenda at Library Legislative Day.](#)

A few topics we are addressing include thank you letters to Library Caucus for Budget Support. Also, ENGAGE remains an ongoing effort to get library supporters of all kinds to reach out to their legislators. New Neutrality is a huge concern, we are watching as it develops in the House at the Federal level.

Next Meetings: 10am-12noon on Fridays

September 28 at MLN

October 26 MLS- Marlborough

November 30 MLN

January 25, 2019 MLS-Marlborough

February 22 – MLN

March 5 hopefully Leg. Day

April 26 – MLS- Marlborough

June 28 - MLN

National Library Legislative Day will be in June next year in conjunction with the ALA Conference in DC.

Respectfully submitted

Jennifer Harris, co-chair

MLA Archives Report August 10, 2018 By: Aimie Westphal, MLA Archivist (2018-)

This is a brief summary of the content from Sondra Vandermark's report from 3/28/17 (attached), combined with the information I have gathered in trying to respond to a reference question that resulted in my corresponding with the BPL.

Context • Initially, the records of the MLA were received by the Simmons College Archives in numerous accessions over a period of years. Only on deposit there, MLA maintained ownership. • 1987 - MLA President Susan Flannery decided not to save anything we already own and send to archives every five years one set of minutes and reports of committees. o Sunny sent things every 3-5 years • 1996 - Simmons College Archives reached capacity o They were going to move MLA Archives off-site requiring storage/retrieval/courier fees o Board concerned that the retrieval and courier fees would negatively impact access • 1997 - transferred to the Boston Public Library off site storage o "transfer of complete ownership of the Massachusetts Library Association Collection" to the BPL "contingent on free and open access to the collection by researchers and other qualified patrons." o primary goal of the transfer was to make the MLA Archives more available for research

Status • "Historic" records at BPL in off-site storage (1891? - FY2009); 25 boxes (31 linear feet) o Finding aid reflects files from 1980-FY2009 o Reference and research staff are completely unaware of MLA Archive existence o Inaccessible since at least early 2017 • They are inventorying their off-site materials and doing construction • Unsure of construction will result in re-location of MLA Archive • I am to check back in with BPL contact in December o Nothing can be added to the archive until construction project complete o Sunny was able to do inventory before she left and updates finding aid (took 12 days) • Was able to delete damaged/moldy and duplicate records • Could not take anything out of storage – photography allowed • Meeting with her September and getting a copy of the finding aid • "Current" records at Minutemen Library Network offices (FY2010-present); not sure linear footage o Why is the material there? • Can we ever re-gain ownership of records at BPL? Any interest to do so?

Tentative Goals *most are contingent on approval by the Board president, records transferred to me from Sunny at our September meeting, and our ability to work with the BPL • Write position description [Strategic Plan – G1;A3] o Since this is volunteer position, each archivist has varying interests and training who accounting for disparate groupings of administrative records of varying dates.

- Write collection development policy o Create action plan/recommendations to care for different types of materials
 - The photographs are in poor condition, have been sent at least two times to the Northeast Document Conservation Center for study. Most recently done in 2009 when Sunny got estimate for conservation. MLA could not afford the charges. o Collecting annual reports, minutes, newsletters, committee activities, and section activities • Reference letter from Archivist Robert Cunningham in a 1994 to President Ellen Rainville defined the role of Archivist, the

responsibilities of Simmons College as depository for the MLA Archives, and suggested goals and specific projects for the MLA Archivist handling the Archives

- Further organize records at BPL if get access [Strategic Plan – G3;A1] o According to Sunny, there is still duplication of some archival materials as the staff brought her the boxes out of order. If I could view the boxes in sequence, duplicate materials could be more easily identified and removed. o In addition, like materials could be interfiled instead of occasionally having related items in several different boxes. For example, all materials about President Ellen Rainville (1993-1996) could be interfiled instead of being in boxes 33, 35 and 41.
- Make materials accessible on website and set up digital archive [Strategic Plan – G1;A5] o Material needs to be digitized and born digital materials need to be organized. ▪ Apply to Digital Commonwealth (run by BPL) to digitize materials? • Limits: each institution to ~5,000 individual items from no more than 5 distinct collections or ~50 bound volumes (or ~15,000 bound pgs/year) of production • MBLC is a member, MLA is not presently (volunteer institution? \$50/year) o MLA should develop a web-based archive that has full-time user access. o Could start with materials at Minutemen since it is accessible o Develop a plan identifying materials to be available in the web-based archives o Administrative and Executive Boards minutes are already online but messy ▪ Organized by Presidential term in an archive? o Omeka software is free – hosted online, no coding necessary, and supports OAI so metadata is harvestable by search engines ▪ <https://oedb.org/ilibrarian/5-free-and-open-source-tools-for-creating-digital-exhibitions/>
- Assist in getting Board Manual restored to website, if help is needed [Strategic Plan – G2;A5] o Sunny worked with Executive Manager Elizabeth Hacala incorporating input from various Board members to make the Manual materials available on the web site. The Manual was posted on the web site in 2012. Unfortunately, since 2012 the Manual content has disappeared from the MLA web site. Ellen Rainville is carrying out research to piece together the Manual with the intent that it will be posted online.

MLA Archives Report - March 28, 2017 Sondra Vandermark, MLA Archivist

The MLA Archives is the official documentation of the history of MLA. The MLA Archivist is responsible for maintaining and cataloging the contents and organization of the archives.

Historical Context of the MLA Archives

Although the function of the MLA Archives and the responsibilities of the Archivist have been consistent broadly throughout the history of the MLA, there have been changes in archival philosophy and practices. Initially, the records of the Massachusetts Library Association (MLA) were received by the Simmons College Archives in numerous accessions over a period of years.

During the second half of the 20th Century MLA leadership took a stronger role in clarifying the contents and storage criteria used when MLA materials are archived.

In 1980, after an examination of the entire collection and discussions among Kathleen Marquis (MLA Archivist), Elizabeth Balcom (MLA collection processor), and Megan Sniffin-Marinoff (Simmons College Archivist), it was decided to leave the arrangement of the records essentially as it was. It was clear to the two archivists and the collection processor from looking at the records and the folders in which the records were stored that the collection included groups of files, most probably kept as “groups” by the organization members in charge of them. Further, a thorough reading of the collection brought to light the fact that the organization had several volunteer archivists over the years. The presence of archivists with varying interests and training who volunteered over the years may also account for the large number of disparate groupings of administrative records of varying dates.

Throughout the 1980's Archivists raised questions about lost and misplaced materials. Among the Archivists who stated concerns over these problems were MLA Archivist Kathy Marquis who said “that 20-30 lantern slides were lost,” and Megan Sniffin-Marinoff Archivist for Simmons College, where MLA's archives were on deposit, discussed the state of the MLA archives and reviewed general principles of collecting, arranging, and storing of archives. In the Blizzard of '78, much of the newer MLA archival materials suffered water damage in a Board Member's cellar where it was being stored. Footnote: # 1.

MLA President Susan Flannery in 1987 articulated specific practices to reduce the quantity and severity of these problems. Among her recommendations were to not save anything we already own and send to archives every five years one set of minutes and reports of committees. Footnote: # 2.

In 1992 Megan Sniffin-Marinoff, Archivist for Simmons College, told the MLA Executive Board that MLA should establish the position of Archivist as a permanent Association function. She also noted that several ongoing problems including that the lack of adequate Archives storage space needed prompt attention. Footnote: # 3.

Building on Megan Sniffin-Marinoff's recommendations, Archivist Robert Cunningham in a 1994 letter to President Ellen Rainville defined the role of Archivist, the responsibilities of Simmons College as depository for the MLA Archives, and suggested goals and specific projects for the MLA Archivist handling the Archives. Relevant to today are ongoing activities including collecting in an organized way annual reports, minutes, newsletters, committee activities, and section activities. Footnote: # 4.

By late 1996, Simmons College Archives had reached its capacity requiring that MLA Archives be moved off-site. There would be an annual cost for storing the archives, and a retrieval fee per box and a courier fee for delivering the box. MLA officers were concerned that the retrieval and courier fees would have a negative impact on researchers. As communications continued between MLA President Bonnie Isman and Simmons College Archivist Claire Goodman, Simmons clarified its offer, stating that non-Simmons community members would have to pay the off-site retrieval fees. This was unacceptable to the MLA Executive Board. In June 1997 MLA Archives were transferred from Simmons College to the Boston Public Library. Preparatory MLA officers discussions with the Boston Public Library resulted in a “transfer of complete ownership of the Massachusetts Library Association Collection” to the BPL “contingent on free and open access to the collection by researchers and other qualified patrons.” The primary goal of the transfer was to make the MLA Archives more available for research. Footnote: # 5.

In 2003 Archivist Robert Cunningham sent an email to MLA President Barbara Flaherty clarifying the appointment of and the responsibilities of the MLA Archivist. Relevant to today are specified responsibilities of attending Board meetings, collecting and sending materials to the BPL for the MLA archives, and serving as liaison to the Boston Public Library collection of the MLA archives. Footnote: # 6.

Recent Developments

In 2004 I was appointed MLA Archivist. During the development of the 2010-2015 MLA Strategic Plan planners identified the need for MLA to have a strong infrastructure to strengthen its effectiveness and to accomplish its goals. One objective in GOAL 5 of the Plan was to “establish a plan for archiving MLA records.” Footnote: # 7.

As happens with a volunteer organization, other priorities took precedence over the establishment of a plan for archiving MLA records. Nevertheless, I did complete an assessment of the existing archives. In 2011, the MLA Executive Board decided that rather than continue to provide a print copy of the Executive Board Policy & Procedure Manual to Executive Board Members, the material should be available on the MLA web site. I worked with Executive Manager Elizabeth Hacala incorporating input from various Board members to make the Manual materials available on the web site. The Manual was posted on the web site in 2012. Unfortunately, since 2012 the Manual content has disappeared from the MLA web site. Ellen Rainville is carrying out research to piece together the Manual with the intent that it will be posted online.

The Status of the MLA Archives

MLA Archives are stored at the Boston Public Library off-site storage. During the past several months and ongoing for an unspecified time off-site BPL materials are NOT available for access. The BPL is planning to do an inventory of its off-site materials and then some construction. It is unclear if the BPL construction will result in re-locating its archives. In the near term there is no access to the MLA Archives, which will be made available only after the construction is complete.

As stated previously MLA Archives belong to the BPL since 1997. The BPL has complete ownership of the MLA Archives. Because materials are stored off-site, in the best of circumstances a researcher must request materials and wait several days (or longer) for materials to be sent to the BPL where they can be studied by the researcher. The process is not ideal, but it is functional.

As archivist I was able to delete materials that were damaged, moldy, or duplicates. However, I could not remove any items from the BPL, although it was possible to take photos of documents on site. It is useful to know that, although no documents may be removed from the BPL holdings of MLA records, I could have taken a photo of every document if I wanted to. I used information from some of the photographed materials to improve the Finding Aid.

MLA should develop a web-based archive that has full-time user access. Materials at the BPL are archived through FY2009. Archive materials from FY2010 and later are stored at the Minuteman Library Network. These materials cannot be sent to the BPL until the planned inventory and construction is completed. The new archivist could begin developing web-based archives from FY2010 or some other date determined by the Administrative and/or Executive Boards. The new archivist should develop a plan identifying materials to be available in the web-based archives. For example, minutes from the Administrative and Executive Boards already are online. These could be organized by Presidential term in an archive.

The duties that I perform as archivist include:

1. Attend Board meetings as a non-voting member.
2. Collect materials for the archives.
3. Serve as liaison to the Boston Public Library collection of the MLA archives.
4. Send materials to the BPL for the MLA archives (every 3-5 years, according to MLA policy).
5. Answer questions about information contained in the MLA archives. Because the Finding Aid is not available online it is difficult for researchers to know what is available or even if anything is available. Because of the lack of a Finding Aid or even basic information about the MLA Archives, in my term as archivist I received and answered only seven questions.
6. When I received Archives materials from Robert Cunningham there was a lengthy document titled Preliminary Inventory: Massachusetts Library Association Records, 1891 - 1980. This document was prepared about 1985 when MLA archives were first sent to Simmons College. There was an additional document titled Updated and Edited Finding Aid for MLA Records, MS 103 December 1995 by Claire Goodwin. At the time Claire Goodwin was the College Archivist. She sorted through the files that apparently were water-damaged in the 1978 storm and prepared a container/box list with folder numbers based on the Preliminary Inventory : Massachusetts Library Association Records, 1891 - 1980. As archivist I reviewed all the original container/boxes identified in the 1995 Finding Aid. I removed damaged materials and updated the 1995 Finding Aid to reflect those removals.
7. Updated Finding Aid for MLA Archival materials collected and housed at the BPL since 1980 (through FY2009).

Robert Cunningham (MLA Archivist 1993-2003) was a great collector of archival material. Being Archivist is time consuming. Because of his day job responsibilities he did not have time during his tenure as Archivist to organize materials or update the Finding Aid.

I spent 12 full days at the BPL working on MLA archives. I reviewed every box and removed materials from manual binders, placing contents in folders. Boxes are arranged by President and/or committees when possible. A list of folder titles was made for each box. Boxes were brought from BPL off-site storage in a random order; as a result box numbers and content are not always in order by date.

There is duplication of some archival materials. If the materials ever are located at a BPL location where the archivist can view the boxes in sequence, duplicate materials can be more easily identified and removed. In addition, like materials could be interfiled instead of occasionally having related items in

several different boxes. For example, all materials about President Ellen Rainville (1993-1996) could be interfiled instead of being in boxes 33, 35 and 41. This new process would be beneficial to researchers.

Respectfully, Sondra Vandermark, MLA Archivist 2004-FY2016

MLA Archives Report - March 28, 2017 - Sondra Vandermark, MLA Archivist

Footnotes

1: From Box 24 -- information about the archives

MLA Archivist Kathy Marquis 1980 circa — 150 Photographs at NEDCC (20-30 lantern slides lost)

1984, November 14 gave 1.75 linear feet of records to Megan Sniffen-Marinoff (Simmons College Archivist)

Megan Sniffen-Marinoff (Simmons College Archivist) April 1, 1987 Letter from Susan Flannery, President about archives (1 set minutes, reports of committees—send to archives every five years)

Recommend that the files be open with the exception of sensitive correspondence and personnel files—November 1979 appointed MLA Archivist—note from report by Kathy Marquis.

19 July 1983 Letter to Megan Sniffen-Marinoff Simmons Archivist from Kathy Marquis MLA Archivist—In her letter she stated that Robert Maier, MLA President indicated that unless a “repository agreement can be reached by September 1 the records may have to be split between several public library storage areas.” This would be disastrous for the integrity and physical security of the records. MLA Correspondence (non-budget) and notes on inventory work — 1981-1985 by Kathy Marquis, MLA Archivist

MLA Archives — Kathy Marquis File 1979-1987

2: April 1, 1987 Letter from President Susan Flannery about archives

Do not save anything we have already kept Publications Executive Board Minutes Agendas Annual Meeting Minutes

We do want Correspondence Resolutions Reports Committee Minutes Lists of Committee Members Anything unique to your function in MLA

Pass on anything less than 5 years to your successor including the notebook you were given when you first joined the Executive Board

3: June 2, 1992 MLA Executive Board Minutes — President Bonnie O’Brien Agenda

VI. Archivist’s Report (Megan Sniffen-Marinoff)

Megan Sniffen-Marinoff, Archivist for Simmons College where MLA’s archives are on deposit, discussed the state of the MLA archives and reviewed general principles of collecting, arranging and storing of archives. There is a Guide to the MLA Archives, 1891-1980, which serves as a finding aid. In the Blizzard

of '78, much of the newer MLA archival materials suffered water damage in a Board Member's cellar where it was being stored.

In 1980, a library school student was hired by MLA to help restore some of the damaged material and to organize the collection; other people also worked on the archives, which were left largely in order by date from 1980 on.

MLA should appoint an archivist. The last five years worth of records can be stored with Barry Blaisdell. Types of material appropriate to collect for MLA archives include: presidential records and reports, committee reports and minutes, executive board minutes, annual reports, all publications, conference brochures, bylaws, end-of-year financial statements, videotapes and photographs of conferences or special events.

The Simmons Archivist reported that she is now creating MARC records online in OCLC for the Simmons archives and special collections, making the material more accessible to researchers. MLA's archives should be kept for legal reasons (in case of an audit), as well as for administrative, historical and research purposes. A MARC record will be entered on OCLC for MLA's archives. Within the coming year, MLA will draw up a deposit agreement with Simmons, stating that MLA owns the MLA archives and that these archives are on deposit at Simmons, clarifying the user or access policy. MLA may also write a grant proposal to do preservation of MLA archival material damaged in 1978, and will select an archivist and create a committee to organize the archives.

Simmons has very little space left for storing its burgeoning archival collections. Within two years Simmons will probably start charging a storage fee.

4: 7 April 1994 Letter to President Ellen Rainville from Robert Cunningham, MLA Archivist ... 2. Responsibility for the Archives. a. The MLA archivist will: --Act as the liaison to the collection. --Collect and deposit archival records periodically. --Be the decision-maker as to what goes into the archives.

b. The Simmons College Archives will: --Keep the records on deposit. --House the records in good condition. --Show the records to researchers. ... 4. What Needs to Be Done Now.

a. Beginning in 1993 and start collecting in an organized way. Everything in the MLA Executive Board Manual would be appropriate for the archives. In addition we would want to keep annual reports, minutes, newsletters, treasurer's reports, committee activities, and section activities. Every five years the archivist would gather the boxes and transfer them to the Simmons College Archives. b. There are a few boxes that need to be weeded at the archives. c. Any older material received by the archivist would be interfiled into the existing arrangement. d. ...Use acid free boxes and folders... e. Inventory the Bay State Librarian to make sure there is a complete run. Documentation is incomplete here (NELINET). I really don't know what is in the archives. f. Prepare an article for the Bay State Librarian about the MLA Archives.

5. What Needs to Be Done in the Future.

The archives can just sit and be OK for now. Nothing needs to be done immediately. There is no danger.

Future projects could be:

a. Search out materials that we know are missing from the archives. Contact past presidents, secretaries, and section heads for their papers. b. Investigate mold removal or photocopying in some early materials. c. Totally reorganize the archives spending years on the project ending up with a model of archival perfection.

5: 1996-1997 MLA Archives were transferred from Simmons College to the Boston Public Library during the presidency of Bonnie Isman.

See attached MLA Archives Moved to the BPL, correspondence leading up to and including Letter of Transmittal

6: 20 October 2003 E-mail to President Barbara Flaherty from Robert Cunningham, MLA Archivist

The only information on the MLA archivist appears in the MLA Policy and Procedures Manual section VII B. Appointment of Chairs, Liaisons, and Representatives:

“VII. B 4. Non-Voting Members: A non-voting Archivist and a Reporter for the Bay State Libraries shall be appointed by the President to attend all meetings.”

Further on in the Policy Manual appears:

“VII. D. 10 Archival Retention: The Executive Secretary will direct two copies of all publications to the MLA archive for preservation.” This has never really been implemented.

The duties that I (Robert Cunningham) have performed as archivist are as follows.

1. Attend Board meetings. 2. Collect materials for the archives. 3. Encourage former officers to contribute their papers to the archives. 4. Serve as liaison to the Boston Public Library collection of the MLA archives. 5. Send materials to the BPL for the MLA archives. 6. Answer questions about information contained in the MLA archives.

7: 2010-2015 MLA Strategic Plan: Goal 5: MLA HAS A STRONG INFRASTRUCTURE TO STRENGTHEN ITS EFFECTIVENESS AND TO ACCOMPLISH ITS GOALS

Objective 6: By January 2011, establish a plan for archiving MLA records Action 1: Assess existing archives Action 2: Explore resources and methodologies Action 3: Define needs Action 4: Create plan for meeting needs

Lead: Archivist, Executive Manager

MLA Archivist Sondra Vandermark assessed MLA's existing archives and carried out research to identify online archival

July 2018 MA/MLA ALA CHAPTER COUNCILOR REPORT TO THE MLA

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Charlotte Canelli, July 31, 2018

1. ALA is requesting Annual Reports from members on a biennial basis. I will submit the reports as required but none is due this August. ALA believes the information does not change often enough to require annual reports.
2. I traveled to both the MidWinter and the Annual conferences in 2018 - Denver in February and New Orleans in June. I submitted expense reports and was reimbursed for my expenses. The total reimbursement was less than the \$5000 budgeted - approximately \$4300 for the year.
3. I attended the Chapter Leaders' Forums in February and in June. I also attended all Chapter Leader discussions and forums and all Council meetings, Council Forums and in addition to Council events, President Programs and Opening and Closing Sessions.
4. There has been a very **important Council update** in the past month:

At the New Orleans Council the Intellectual Freedom Committee submitted [an interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights](#). It was approved by a vote of Council, mine in favor. While we were sent many iterations of this interpretation, some felt after the fact that there was not enough emphasis on the actual verbiage. For this reason, many members and librarians across the country have asked the Council to rescind that language in the interpretation, particularly about "hate speech" and "hate groups."

There was a petition to do so and Council is being asked to vote after discussion this month. New language will be submitted and Council will be asked to approve another interpretation at MidWinter. It's important to note that the Interpretation is a guide for librarians and trustees and they may make their own policies. It is also important to note that the "hate speech" and "hate groups" language was added due to the reference to challenges and articles in response to them. Please read the above link if you have questions.

5. Additionally, there has been much discussion about the ALSC decision to amend the name of the Laura Ingalls Wilder award to the Children's Legacy Literature Award. Jim Neal's [response](#) to comments about this change is meaningful and explanatory.
6. I attended the debut of the film The Public with discussion sessions with Emilio Estevez. I heartily recommend this film! It was wonderful seeing it in a room of hundreds of librarians. I think you will enjoy it.
7. I will make plans to travel to midwinter in Seattle in January.

Massachusetts Library Association's Intellectual Freedom & Social Responsibility Committee

Civil Liberties Champion Award

Eligibility:

The MLA Civil Liberties Champion may be a public official, business person, author, or other person or institution who has contributed to society through their efforts to protect individual liberty, safeguard constitutional freedoms, or promote social responsibility. This award is a means for the Library Community to recognize a person who is outside of the Library profession. Therefore, no active librarian is eligible for this award.

Criteria:

The MLA civil Liberties Champion should be someone who

- has served to further the cause of intellectual freedom or social responsibility in our society

and/or

- has publicly highlighted the importance of Intellectual freedom or social responsibility

and/or

- has furthered the causes of equity of access to information, intellectual resources and economic opportunity for all people

Selection:

This Award may be given from time to time and is not an annual award. The Intellectual Freedom & Social Responsibility Committee will nominate and vote on the award, forwarding its nominee to the MLA Executive Board for final approval. Recommendations may come from any MLA member, and any such recommendation must be made in writing via a letter to the IFSRC, stating the reasons for recommending the nominee. Approval of a nomination for forwarding to the MLA Executive Board is made by a majority vote of the Committee.

Award:

The award will be a certificate, and may be given at the MLA Conference, Library Legislative Day, or any other appropriate venue.

Massachusetts Library Association's Civil Liberties Champion Award Recipient

The MLA-IFSRC has selected **Roopika Risam**, professor of English and library fellow at Salem State University, to receive MLA's Civil Liberties Champion Award in recognition of her work in promoting equity and justice in the digital cultural record.

Risam's work came to the attention of the MLA-IFSRC due to her work in creating *Torn Apart*, a website showing shelters and immigration detention centers around the country. She worked with seven colleagues to create the interactive website that visualizes the vast apparatus of immigration enforcement in the US, and broadly maps the shelters where children can be housed. The page's focus is a map of the continental United States covered with peach- and lavender-colored dots showing the location of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) facilities, as well as private juvenile detention facilities. The name of the website is intended to evoke the separation of families and the way in which this separation rips the social fabric of our country.

The group behind *Torn Apart* is a part of a growing vanguard known as the **digital humanities**, an interdisciplinary cohort of researchers who combine 21st-century technical skills and classical research practices to do a new kind of cultural interpretation—and sometimes activism. DH projects include historical and cultural research, archival preservation, crowdsourced mapping, social justice activism, or some combination of those things.

In an interview for an article in *Wired*, Risam said, "Our team is the perfect example of what Digital Humanities can be: a body of work that really cuts across units at universities, libraries, departments, and roles like faculty administration and staff to think about the ways digital tools can help us better understand culture."

Roopika Risam serves as Assistant Professor of English, Coordinator of the Secondary Education English Undergraduate Program, Coordinator of the Digital Studies Graduate Certificate Program, and Chair of the Program Area for Content Educators. Her book, *New Digital Worlds: Postcolonial Digital Humanities in Theory, Praxis, and Pedagogy*, is due out November 15, 2018. Her other major project examines postcolonial and global themes in W.E.B. Du Bois's writing. Additionally, she is the co-founder of Postcolonial Digital Humanities, a movement and emerging academic subfield within digital humanities that foregrounds global explorations of race, class, gender, sexuality, and disability within cultures of technology. She is a frequent speaker on issues of race, difference, and the digital; globalization and technology; pedagogy and technology; and social media and public scholarship. Visit her webpage at <http://roopikarisam.com>.

NELA Representative Report

MLA Executive Board

Submitted August 16 for Meeting of August 17, 2018

NELA Activities

The most recent NELA Executive Board Meeting was held at the Canterbury Shaker Village in NH on July 20th.

NELA Annual Conference will be held as a joint conference with the Rhode Island Library Association October 21 – 23, 2018 in Warwick RI. The theme is “Welcome” and early registration is now open. The Emerson Greenaway Award will be given on Sunday October 21st at the evening banquet, and I am awaiting final confirmation that our candidate, Keith Michael Fiels will be awarded this honor. I am checking into the arrangements for State Presidents, and will be contacting Will to see about making arrangements for attending.

NELLS II, a retreat for senior library leaders (with over 15 years of experience) concluded today. There was a large group from Massachusetts, and seemed well-received. NELLS 2019, the original program for emerging leaders, will be held August 12 – 16, 2019 at Rolling Ridge in North Andover. I have attached a “Letter of Commitment” that NELA is requesting from all of the states for supporting this program. I would like to discuss this tomorrow if there is time on the Agenda.

State News

Vermont: At the VLA Board Retreat on June 13th, the primary topic of conversation was continuing the work of updating the VLA’s Strategic Plan. In addition, the progress of work initiated at the Vermont Library Summit was discussed. There was also talk of reinstating a government outreach council at the VLA, which would advocate on behalf of libraries to representatives in state government.

Maine: Recently there have been reports around Maine of individuals being harassed and having their immigration statuses questioned by people who lack the authority of Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The Maine Library Association felt it was important to reiterate our commitment to the profession’s values of privacy, intellectual freedom, equity, diversity, and inclusion, and to join the American Library Association in condemning policies that separate families pursuing asylum in our country. In addition, the MLA feels it is important to remember that library records and user information are private and cannot be obtained by law enforcement without a subpoena or warrant. The following statement has been distributed by MLA: “All patrons, regardless of their origins or status, can expect to be treated with respect and dignity and for their legal rights to be protected at any library. We encourage anyone interested in learning more about, and understanding more broadly, the many important national issues our country is facing to utilize this free online content subscription resource called Opposing Viewpoints in Context, accessible through the Maine State Library’s MARVEL tool.

19 July 2018

Dear New England State Library Association President,

The New England Library Association is pleased to announce the New England Library Leadership Symposium (NELLS) 2019 is in the early planning stages. The NELLS program has continued to grow stronger since its inception in 2003. We have provided leadership training to 213 emerging library leaders and mentors from all over New England. Designed to foster and develop leadership skills for library staff who have less than 15 years' experience in libraries, NELLS has become one of the premier leadership training programs in the nation.

In 2019 we hope to attract even more diverse candidates from all six New England states, and work cooperatively with the State Associations and affiliated organizations to select another excellent class of NELLS participants. NELA's primary contact is through the State Associations and the State Representatives to the NELA Board.

The intent of this letter is to explain the NELLS process, and clarify the timeline for NELLS 2019 applications, acceptances and payments.

- NELLS is held every other year (in odd numbered years.) It is supported by all six New England states and the goal is to help develop leaders who will assume active roles in state, regional, and national library organizations. In 2003, each state committed \$2,000 as a base payment to fund NELLS. Some states pay in "installments" to stabilize their Association budgets (\$1,000/year, therefore paying \$2,000 before each NELLS program); others pay the full \$2,000 in "the NELLS year." In some states, agencies other than the State Association (such as the State Library) provide the funding. ***For 2019 NELA is requesting that each state make a contribution of \$2,000.***
- The base funding from the states pays the overhead costs for NELLS and participant tuition provides the remainder of the funding. NELLS is a one-week residency program historically based at the non-profit Rolling Ridge Conference and Retreat Center in North Andover MA. In the past, some state agencies have contributed more than the standard contribution (for instance, when using NELLS in lieu of their own state leadership program), and that is much appreciated. This money goes toward the base funding, and helps offset the cost of the participants' tuition.
- Once the States commit to their planned contribution, NELA then sets the tuition costs for participants. In general, this cost is approximately equivalent to the room and board cost for the participant. Some State Associations have chosen to support some or all of their participants with full or partial scholarships to be used towards tuition. Scholarship opportunities are determined and managed entirely by the individual State Associations.
- This year NELLS applications will be accepted as early as December 1st, 2018. Applications will close on February 28, 2019 and then move to the NELLS Application Review Committee.
- Acceptances and waitlist notifications will be sent out by May 15, 2019. Participant tuition payments will be due by July 15. This allows applicants to pay from either present or the following fiscal year.
- One Mentor (more experienced librarian) from each State is also a part of the NELLS cohort. Mentors do not pay fees or tuition as they are expected to provide assistance with the program, and ongoing mentoring to the NELLS participants. The Mentors' room and board is part of the

NELLS overhead. Each State Association should submit at least two names of Mentor Candidates to the NELLS Co-Chairs by February 28, 2019. The NELLS Application Review Committee will select from this list, attempting to balance by library type, demographics, and specialties in library practice. Mentor candidates should be able to reside at Rolling Ridge for the week and participate fully in NELLS.

- NELLS is highly competitive, and admission is based on the quality of the applicants. Many factors contribute to the selection of the cohort for each NELLS program: the experience, skills, and leadership potential of the participants, the capacity of the Rolling Ridge facility, and the Facilitator's guidance in establishing an ideal number for comfortable participation by all.

While the intention is to select an equitable number of participants (and one Mentor) from each supporting state, achieving this balance depends on the particular applicants in any given year. Additional financial contributions from any State, while accepted gratefully, do not "buy" additional slots.

There have been many questions about the funding and selection of the NELLS participants, and we hope this letter has answered those questions. If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me, or one of our NELLS Co-chairs.

In order to plan appropriately for NELLS 2019, we are asking the State Associations to fill out the attached NELLS State Association Commitment Form. This will give us a good idea of our planning needs and our budget expectations. We respectfully request that you return the NELLS State Association Commitment Form by September 14, 2018.

In 2016 we piloted NELLS II, a retreat for senior library leaders (those with more than 15 years' experience), and this year we will hold the second of these retreats. NELLS II is a less competitive, self-supporting 3-day program. NELA has pledged to offer NELLS II in even-numbered years. Since the experience focuses on personal growth rather than potential professional activities, NELLS II does not involve financial contributions from the states.

Thank you for your support of NELA and the New England Library Leadership Symposium.

Deb Dutcher,

President

New England Library Association

NELLS State Association Commitment Form

State _____

State Representative to NELA for 2019 _____

Financial Commitment

Our state will commit \$2,000 to support the New England Library Leadership Symposium Yes

We cannot commit \$2,000, but can contribute an alternate amount (amount) \$ _____

Our state would like to make an additional contribution to NELLS (amount) \$ _____

Please tell us when/how you would like to be invoiced for the full payment or for multiple partial payments: (the full amount of the commitment must be paid by July 31, 2019)

Other Information

1. We will submit the names of at least 2 Mentor Candidates by February 28, 2019 to the NELLS Committee. Yes
2. We do/do not provide Scholarships that NELLS Participants may apply for. If you do, please give us the contact name for your Scholarship Chair.

Signature of the President of the State Library Association

Printed Name

Date

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO NELA BY SEPTEMBER 14, 2018

MBLC Director's Report to MLA Executive Board August 2018

State Budget Update:

The FY2019 budget, while a few weeks late, is now final. Four of our lines have been funded at the Legislative Agenda request amount; the State Aid to Public Libraries line was also funded at the requested amount, but includes an additional \$250,000 in earmarks. The Technology and Resource Sharing line was funded below the Legislative Agenda ask, however it received a substantial \$718,598 increase. The Center for the Book line was level funded again, but fortunately the Governor did not veto the Center's funding.

MBLC	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2019	FY 2019	FY 2019	FY 2019	FY 2019	FY 2019	FY 2019	FY 2019	FY 2019
Item Number & Item Name	Final Budget (after overrides)	Legislative Agenda Request	Legislative Agenda Request Increase amount	House Budget	Senate Budget	Conference Committee Budget	increase/decrease 2018-2019	Legislature Budget	Governor's Vetoes	Governor's Budget (after vetoes)	Final Budget (after overrides)
7000-9101 Board of Library Commissioners	\$1,077,431	\$1,275,000	\$197,569	\$1,275,000	\$1,275,000	\$1,275,000	increase of \$197,569	\$1,275,000		\$1,275,000	\$1,275,000
7000-9401 State Aid to Regional Libraries	\$9,982,317	\$10,281,786	\$299,469	\$10,282,140	\$10,281,786	\$10,282,140	increase of \$299,823**	\$10,282,140		\$10,282,140	\$10,282,140
7000-9402 Talking Book Library	\$491,715	\$454,966	\$13,251	\$454,966	\$454,966	\$454,966	increase of \$13,251	\$454,966		\$454,966	\$454,966
7000-9406 Talking Book & Machine Lending	\$2,512,772	\$2,588,155	\$75,383	\$2,588,155	\$2,588,155	\$2,588,155	increase of \$75,383	\$2,588,155		\$2,588,155	\$2,588,155
7000-9501 State Aid to Public Libraries	\$9,090,000	\$9,362,700	\$272,700	\$9,490,000	\$9,362,700	\$9,612,700	increase of \$272,700***	\$9,612,700	\$250,000	\$9,362,700	\$9,612,700
7000-9506 Library Technology & Resource Sharing	\$2,097,330	\$3,259,000	\$1,161,670	\$2,215,928	\$2,815,928	\$2,815,928	increase of \$718,598	\$2,815,928		\$2,815,928	\$2,815,928
7000-9508 MA Center for the Book, Inc	\$200,000	\$206,000	\$6,000	\$200,000	\$ -	\$200,000	level funded	\$200,000		\$200,000	\$200,000
TOTAL	\$25,451,565	\$27,427,607	\$2,026,042	\$26,506,189	\$26,778,535	\$27,228,889		\$27,228,889		\$26,978,889	\$27,228,889
										less earmarks	-\$250,000
											\$26,978,889

Final FY'18 budget includes a \$50,000 earmark on 7000-9402 for a Worcester Public Library Bookmobile ; Final FY 2018 budget funds LFC at 40.7 cents per capita.
FY 2019 Governor's House 2 funded LFC at 40.7 cents per capita
** House Budget funds LFC at 42.4 cents per capita
!! House approved 3 earmarks on 7000-9501 State Aid to Public Libraries totaling \$200,000 for Salem and Stoneham Public Libraries and the Hispanic American Library, Inc. organization.
Senate budget funds LFC at 40.7 cents per capita.
**Final FY 2019 Budget funds LFC at 42.4 cents per capita.
***Final FY 2019 Budget provides \$250,000 in earmarks on line 7000-9501 in addition to \$9,362,700 for State Aid to Public Libraries for a total of \$9,612,700.

New Commissioner Orientation: We welcomed Commissioner Deb Abraham at the MBLC on July 25th for an orientation session. We have created a Commissioner Orientation LibGuide (<http://guides.mblc.state.ma.us/c.php?g=854014>) primarily based on the contents of previous orientation manuals.

Representatives of the **Special Commission on School Library Services in Massachusetts** (including Greg Pronevitz) and I met with the new Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education, Jeff Riley, and a few of his colleagues on Wednesday, August 1st to discuss areas in which we can work together—including exploring joint funding of statewide databases, e-books/e-text books, and/or other e-content.

Public Library Ecosystem Study: Lauren Stara has provided notes from the Tewksbury and Plymouth community meetings that were not covered previously or discussed as fully:

- The loss of the regions was brought up in every meeting. A new comment is that the loss of regional service centers caused the strengthening of the networks in some ways
- If extra state support is given to struggling libraries, why wouldn't other towns cut funding to their libraries, anticipating that the state will close the gap?
- We need to take community wealth into account (similar but not exactly the same as EQV)
- There is a strong perception that MLS is not doing what was promised when they were formed. How will they participate in implementation?
- The reinstating of net lender funding came up again; and there is a desire to include circulation of digital collections in the calculation of this
- It's essential to retain local identity & individuality while equalizing services – there is no one size fits all solution (this came up again and again – no cookie cutter solutions will work)
- The recommendations for Seasonal networks seemed to miss the mark. Libraries are jam packed in the winter because many other services shut down and locals use the library heavily. CLAMS was described as a Resource network with a Seasonal overlay
- The concept of “magnet” could apply not just to libraries as a whole but to individual programs or specialized services – “Centers of Excellence” in a particular area that serve as magnets and/or prototypes for others across the state
- The idea of merging networks to standardize ILS technology and network-based services across the state came up; but there was discussion of how to retain personal/regional services if that should happen. What would the MBLC's role be in this? Would it make a statewide library card more feasible?

Trustee Handbook: We are working to finalize the layout of the MBLC Trustee Handbook. The goal is to have an official version posted on the MBLC website, with a PDF version available for printing. We are also planning to print some bound, paper copies. At the same time, several small edits will be made to the Pocket Guide.

LAD Staff Outreach Highlights:

- Shelley Quezada is participating in the DESE Internal Family Engagement Stakeholder Coalition. This will be ongoing for the next four months with two more meetings scheduled
- Paul Kissman and Shelley continue with their involvement in the Access to Justice Commission
- Shelley delivered a training session at the Carroll Center for the Blind to demonstrate how visually impaired students who will be entering college in the fall can access online databases. This training was “team taught” along with two staff at Carroll since the students were using JAWS software to access the computer and there were issues around how to navigate the screen
- Maura Deedy has had a table talk session accepted by NELA for their upcoming Annual conference. Her talk is titled “Building Strong Relationships with Boards of Trustees.”

Staff News:

Preservation Specialist Search--the first round of phone interviews took place on August 1st. We plan to schedule in-person interviews the second or third week of August.

Library Building Specialist Search--the first round of interviews has been completed and second interviews will be held on August 14th and 15th.

The reception to honor Gregor Trinkaus-Randall on his retirement as the MBLC's Preservation Specialist hosted at the Massachusetts Archives was a big success. The MBLC management team catered the event. Commissioner Shesko presented remarks on behalf of the Commissioners and MBLC staff. Other speakers included Michael Comeau, Director of the State Archives, former MBLC Directors Rob Maier and Dianne Carty, and Andy Dowd from the Massachusetts Town Clerks Association. After brief remarks of my own, former Directors Maier, Carty and I presented Gregor with a certificate from the Massachusetts House of Representatives signed by Speaker DeLeo, Representative Hogan, and Senator Eldridge. Approximately 40 people attended, including current and former MBLC staff members, MLS staff, and members of the library, archival, records and preservation communities.

Member Update July 2018



Best wishes, Greg!

MLS Executive Director Greg Pronevitz retired on July 5, 2018. Members and staff sent him off with a farewell celebration graciously hosted by our friends at the Harvard Public Library. Greg received citations from the MA House of Representatives, the MA State Senate, and the MA Board of Library Commissioners acknowledging his outstanding commitment to Massachusetts libraries. Congratulations and thank you, Greg!

MLS Executive Director Search

After a thorough process, which included several rounds of interviews and feedback from our staff and our members, the Executive Board was not able to successfully fill the role.

While the board is disappointed with the outcome, we are committed to finding the best candidate for this position.

The Executive Board will be meeting in August in Northampton to discuss next steps in this process. In the meantime, we are very fortunate to have Sarah Sogigian acting as Interim Director of MLS.

Sarah's contact info: 508-357-2121 x311 | sarah@masslibsystem.org

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact a member of the board. Board member contacts are available on [our website](#).

MLS Annual Meeting

MLS will host its 8th Annual Meeting on November 5, 2018 at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA. Details and registration information are forthcoming.

State Minimum Wage Increase

On June 28, 2018, Governor Baker signed a new bill that will increase the minimum wage to \$15.00, in annual increments over the next five years. The first increase will go into effect on January 1, 2019. MLS is currently evaluating the impact that this increase will have on MLS operations.

Thank you for your support!

Governor Baker approved the FY19 state budget last week. MLS is pleased to see a modest 2.6% increase to our funding. Many thanks go to our member advocates for helping bring this about.