



LIBRARIES THAT  WORK

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It's not easy being a librarian these days. There's the general state of the economy and the idea that everything is on Google. But maybe it's never been easy, and that's why we do it. In this past year as president of the Illinois Library Association (ILA), I've been able to see the work that goes into making libraries matter to politicians in Springfield and to everyone else who benefits from the amazing network of people and places that make up Illinois' libraries.

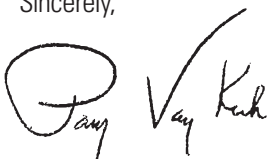
In all my years as both a school and public librarian, and eventually as a library director, I never truly realized what went on behind the scenes at ILA. I knew they hosted conferences and produced publications, hosted workshops and gave awards, helped me meet some of my colleagues around the state. I was always a member and happy to be part of things. What I didn't realize was that the work they do — to help make sure that the right laws pass, and the wrong ones don't — is what makes it possible for me to do my job. It's that simple.

- ILA fights for library funding and has consistently protected library grant programs and even achieved increased funding in these tough budget times.
- ILA has repeatedly defeated efforts to impose mandatory Internet filtering laws that would prevent patrons at my library from accessing the information they need.
- ILA has helped defeat efforts to reduce local revenues to libraries and schools.
- And ILA worked to make sure that libraries, schools, colleges, and universities were exempt from the new firearm concealed carry legislation.

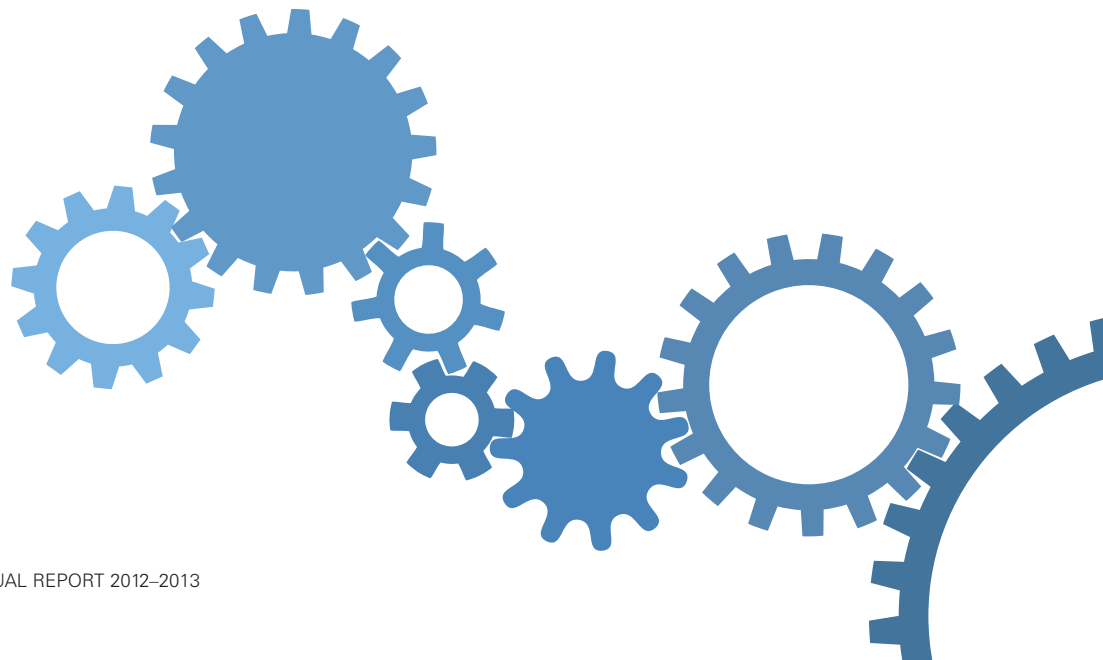
ILA is a practical and proactive organization, just like libraries themselves. Things are always changing, and we adapt or become irrelevant. ILA has moved much of its communication from print to online and found new ways to augment revenue through earned-income projects like iREAD and now through some new affinity programs that could produce both savings for libraries and benefits for the association down the line.

Just as many library patrons have had to figure out how to adapt to the new economy if they want to work, libraries and ILA have had to do the same thing. I couldn't be prouder of the way I've spent the past year, working with all of you to make sure libraries still work for all the people who use them and value them. I know you'll keep up the good work in the years to come!

Sincerely,



Pamela Van Kirk
ILA President, 2012–2013



Putting Your Dues to Work: \$3.3 Million in Library Funding Restored Statewide

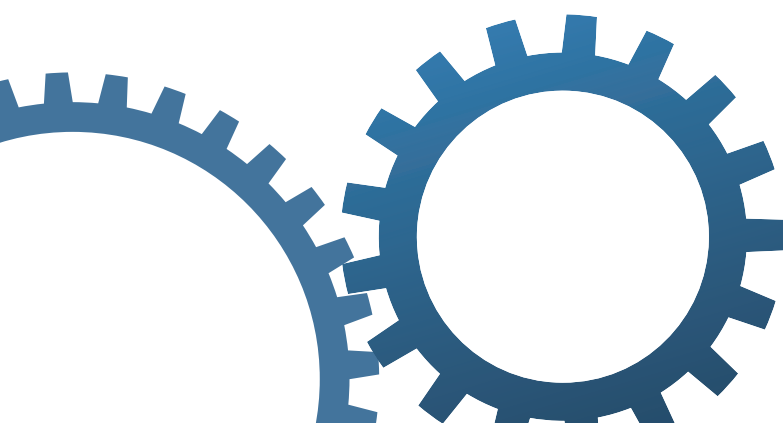
In many ways, 2013 was a banner year for ILA's legislative efforts, led by the Public Policy and Advocacy Committees. These two committees are among our most active and dedicated, meeting monthly, and reviewing the entire lineup of bills at the state level that could impact libraries, as well as organizing events and campaigns to communicate with elected officials at all levels. The bulk of our work as a statewide association is at the state level. And even though most public library funding is local, the climate that all libraries in Illinois face — including school, special, and academic — has a direct correlation to the state's legal and political environment.

For the past several years, even though we have not been able to report success in directly increasing library funding, we have had a very strong legislative scorecard in securing votes for the bills we supported and against those we opposed. We have patiently cultivated and built relationships between legislators and the library supporter in their own districts, winning hearts and minds. So this year, when a bill that eventually became law — House Bill (HB) 214 — drew an amendment that came seemingly out of the blue to restore full funding for the 2014 public library per capita and equalization per capita grants, we were ready.

ILA mobilized support, and quickly saw the bill move through the Senate and on to the governor for his signature. The increase of more than \$3.3 million will be available in the coming year. While libraries have done comparatively well during the recent difficult budget years, we still suffered cuts to major grant programs. Thanks to the efforts of our members, we are among the first to have grant program budget cuts restored. In addition to full funding for the 2014 public library per capita and equalization per capita grants, the state budget also preserved level funding for library system and school grants.

In more good news, every substantive bill actively opposed by ILA was once again defeated in the recently concluded session.

- A major victory was the defeat of House Bill (HB) 89, which would have changed the tax cap statute to reduce available revenues in areas with declining property tax assessments. This is the third year this legislation was proposed, and the third year it was defeated.
- In yet another indication of the strength and credibility of ILA's legislative relations, several bills that could have impacted intellectual freedom were withdrawn after we expressed concerns.
- Concealed carry may have come to Illinois, but the new statute includes exemptions for buildings, other property, and parking areas that belong to public libraries, schools, colleges, and universities. ILA's Executive Board sought to define a position that registered opposition in principle but recognized that a federal court had mandated a change to Illinois law that could only be mitigated, not avoided.
- An initiative to encourage public access to taxpayer-funded research at Illinois public colleges and universities, supported by ILA, passed as Senate Bill (SB) 1900. The bill establishes college and university task forces charged with assessing the best approach to accomplish the goal of full access at each individual institution. This legislation was a direct result of the collaboration of library experts and a thoughtful legislative sponsor.
- On a topic sure to be continued into the coming year, the Illinois General Assembly considered, but once again did not pass, significant state pension reform legislation. The House and Senate approved differing versions of state pension reform, and have so far failed to reconcile these different approaches. ILA continues to oppose efforts that would reduce earned employee pension benefits, but supports reform initiatives that reduce cost while providing genuine choice to employees. Stay tuned!





Working Smarter: The Red Rubber Ball at Work

Why would you join a professional association unless you wanted to be the best you could be? Many of our continuing education efforts feature our own members sharing their expertise, while others showcase best practices and knowledge drawn from around the country.

If you were at the Peoria Civic Center on October 9, 2012, you may have been surprised to see a big box of red rubber balls up on stage as ILA President Pam Van Kirk was wheeled in on a book cart, tossing little bags of Red Hots® candies to the audience. It was all part of the ILA Annual Conference, inspired by keynote speaker Kevin Carroll's most recent book, *The Red Rubber Ball at Work*. Carroll was a former translator for the U.S. Air Force, as well as a trainer with the Philadelphia 76ers and brand specialist at Nike. He now runs his own company, Katalyst, that works for change through play around the world.

- Authors, exhibitors, awards, and events filled three days for the 1,124 conference attendees. Sixteen award winners were honored at the annual luncheon, and thirty-nine sponsors provided support. The exhibits floor had 124 booths representing a wide array of services to libraries, from publishers and catalog vendors to legal counsel and library architects.
- It's a conference tradition to invite one of the year's iREAD illustrators to attend; for 2013's Have Book Will Travel theme, Anna Dewdney, author of the popular *Llama, Llama* books, was the hot ticket at the Youth Services Author Breakfast.
- It's impossible to cram a full year of professional development opportunities into the few short days of the Annual Conference. Workshops for trustees and support staff are held twice each year, in two locations in the northern and southern parts of the state, and many other tips, strategies, and ideas are shared throughout the state at meetings, programs, and online.

All Work and No Play

One thing we try not to be is dull. The expansion of iREAD, ILA's summer reading program, continued into markets beyond Illinois with its adoption by the California Library Association (CLA), in addition to our now four-year-old relationship with the U.S. Department of Defense and military libraries worldwide. Sales of the Resource Guide and incentives that support each year's theme provide significant revenue to the association, but also require a support system to manage this business. From procurement to order processing and fulfillment, customer service and billing, inventory and quality control, we combine outsourcing and staffing to meet these needs. Our goal is to continue expansion into new markets to both secure this revenue source and extend the benefits of summer reading to more libraries and other locations.

In large part thanks to the success of iREAD, the association reached a major financial milestone this year. A goal proposed by the ILA Executive Board in 2004 to create an operating reserve equal to 50 percent of the annual budget — which at the time seemed an impossible task — has been met. See the financial report on pages 6–7 for details, and enormous thanks to all of you who worked to make this a reality.

Working the Room

ILA's Advocacy Committee sponsored two events to bring library supporters and legislators together around the table. The first was the President's Day Library Legislative Breakfast held in Buffalo Grove on February 20, 2012, with more than 150 attendees. This successful event is spreading to new communities in 2014, with additional gatherings planned for Lockport, Oak Brook, and Edwardsville, as well as an online communication strategy to reach statewide.

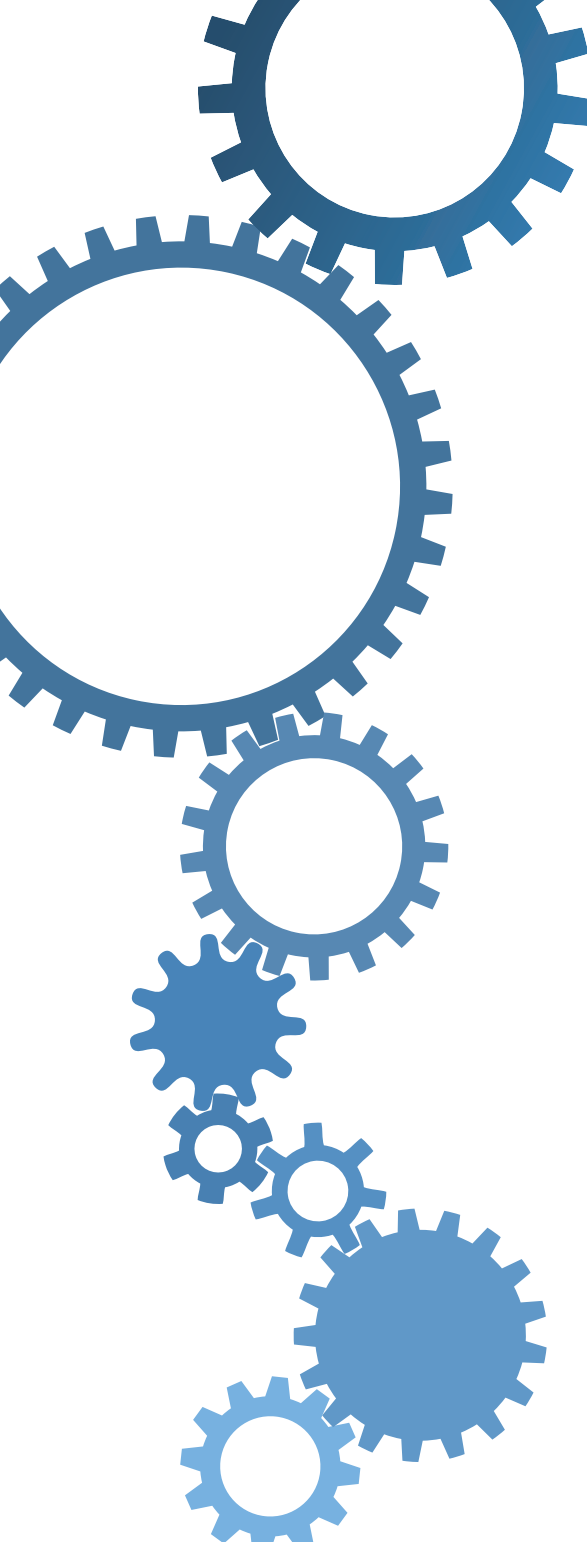
And in Washington, DC, as part of National Library Legislative Day activities, ILA's delegation sponsored a dinner on May 7 featuring an address by Carolyn Anthony, director of the Skokie Public Library, past president of the Illinois Library Association, and president-elect of the Public Library Association. Delegates from California, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, the American Library Association President and Executive Director, and others attended the dinner.

The following day as hundreds of librarians "hit the hill" to deliver the library message, ILA Executive Director Bob Doyle met with Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky, who has been particularly receptive to ILA's efforts to secure baseline funding for the U.S. Department of Defense summer reading program at military libraries. In addition to Schakowsky, ILA met with Rep. Tammy Duckworth earlier in the year at the ILA offices, and continues to seek support from Senators Durbin and Kirk and other members of the Illinois congressional delegation.

Working 'round the Clock

Along with the rest of the world, we're trying to move more of our communications and offerings to be available 24/7. Not just on our website, but you'll find us on Facebook and Twitter, asking for your opinion, reposting content, promoting events and programs. We distribute the *ILA E-Newsletter* several times each month to a list of more than 8,000 people, and the *ILA Reporter* continues to seek authors and ideas to stimulate your imagination. All back issues are available on the website, and we find readers beyond Illinois are interested and engaged by the magazine's content.

In 2012, we also began exploring new partnerships through affinity programs for members. Both ventures are still in the early stages, and the ILA Executive Board developed and approved a policy to govern such ventures that requires mission alignment and stops short of product endorsement.



ILA Fiscal Report Year Ended June 30, 2013

Revenue

General Operations	\$ 33,846
Membership	\$ 322,536
Conference	\$ 288,805
Publications	\$ 2,162,581
Public Policy	\$ 4,000
Awards	\$ 6,763
Endowment	\$ 7,506
Workshops/Projects	\$ 24,525
Reaching Forward	\$ 99,130
Total Revenue	\$ 2,949,692

Expenses (before allocation of staff salaries, taxes, and benefits to functional areas)

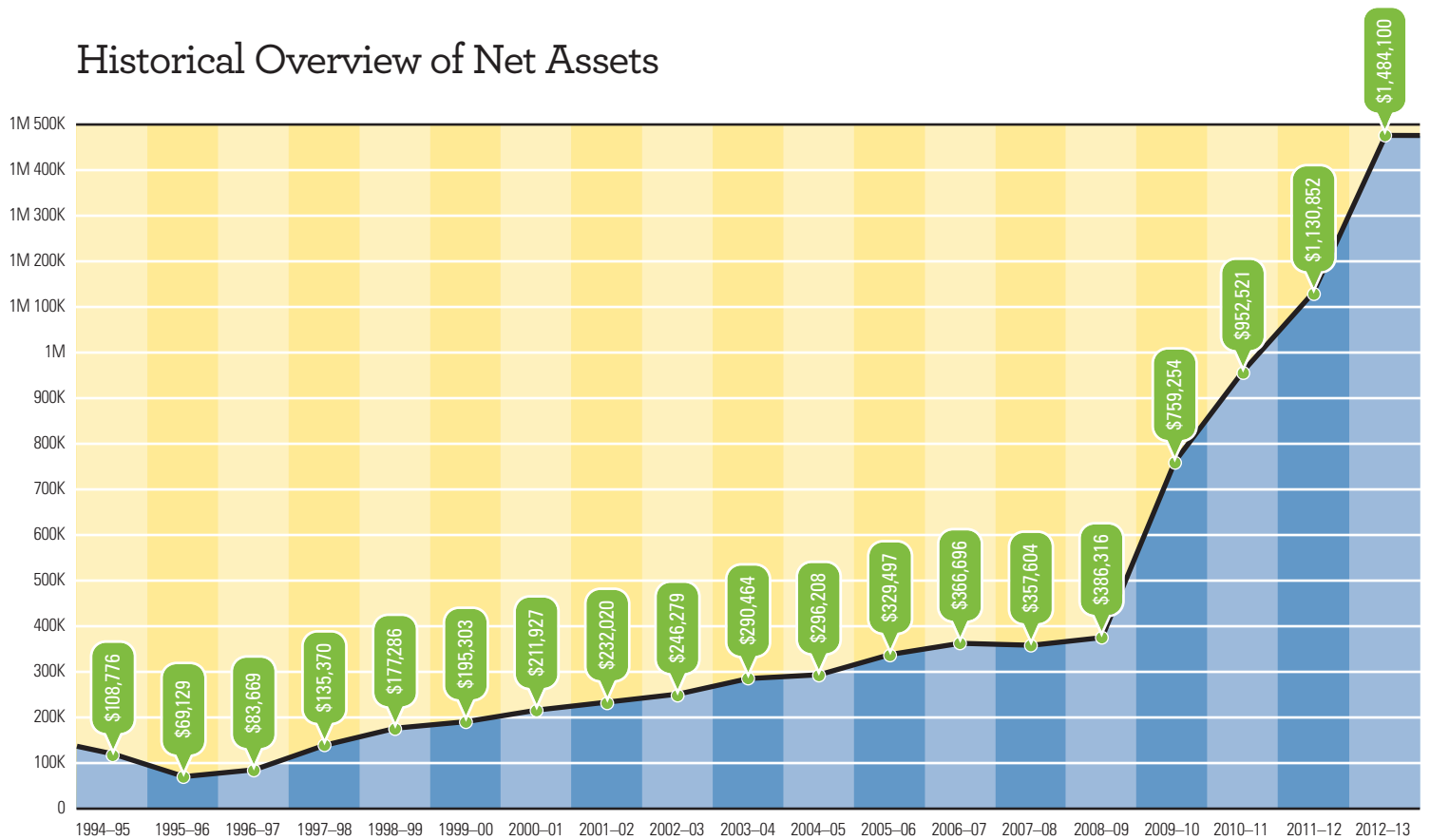
General Operations	\$ 563,474
Membership/Directory/Reporter	\$ 89,791
Conference	\$ 216,733
Board/Committee	\$ 17,047
Publications	\$ 1,547,115
Public Policy	\$ 68,372
Awards	\$ 6,766
Workshops/Projects	\$ 30,932
Forums	\$ 874
Reaching Forward	\$ 101,964
Total Expenses	\$ 2,643,068

Net Income before Gain on Long-Term Investments	\$ 306,624
Gain on Long-term Investments	\$ 46,624
Net Income	\$ 353,248
Net Assets at end of FY 2012	\$ 1,130,852
Net Assets at end of FY 2013	\$ 1,484,100

Net Assets Comprise:

Unrestricted Net Assets	\$ 1,379,357
Temporarily Restricted Assets	\$ 14,162
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atkinson Memorial Award (\$3,220) • deLafayette Reid Fund for Continuing Education (\$4,283) • Robert R. McClarren Award Fund for Legislative Development (\$748) • Sylvia Murphy Williams Fund (\$1,292) • Legal Defense Fund (\$570) • Preiser Award (\$596) • Illinois Library Day (\$3,453) 	
Permanently Restricted Assets	\$ 90,581
Total Net Assets at end of FY 2013	\$ 1,484,100

Historical Overview of Net Assets



Cumulative Surplus

After seventeen years of expanding services, reduced staffing, and aggressive cost controls, the association has ended the last seventeen fiscal years with surpluses totaling \$1,414,971.

2012-2013	\$ 353,248
2011-2012	\$ 178,331
2010-2011	\$ 193,267
2009-2010	\$ 372,938
2008-2009	\$ 28,712
2007-2008	\$ -9,092
2006-2007	\$ 37,199
2005-2006	\$ 33,289
2004-2005	\$ 5,744
2003-2004	\$ 44,185
2002-2003	\$ 14,259
2001-2002	\$ 20,093
2000-2001	\$ 16,624
1999-2000	\$ 18,017
1998-1999	\$ 41,916
1997-1998	\$ 51,701
1996-1997	\$ 14,540
Total	\$1,414,971





Mission Statement

The Illinois Library Association is the voice for Illinois libraries and the millions who depend on them. It provides leadership for the development, promotion, and improvement of library services in Illinois and for the library community in order to enhance learning and ensure access to information for all. This access is essential for an open democratic society, an informed electorate, and the advancement of knowledge for all people. Its primary goals are:

Advocating for the Public Interest

- develop and promote strong public policy related to libraries, literacy, and lifelong learning;
- defend intellectual freedom and access to information; and
- increase public awareness of the value of libraries to society.

Promoting Excellence and Innovation

- provide outstanding programs of continuing education and leadership development;
- support the recruitment, retention, and professional development of a culturally and racially diverse workforce for libraries;
- produce high-quality publications and communications; and
- celebrate the achievement of excellence and innovation on behalf of the membership.

Managing the Present to Prepare for the Future

In order to achieve these goals, ILA will use its resources wisely and maintain a flexible structure that promotes the diverse interests and broad participation of members.

Vision Statement

The Illinois Library Association is indispensable in leading efforts in library advocacy and collaboration, and serving as a springboard to innovation and excellence in library services.



Organizational Information

Membership

The Illinois Library Association represents all types of libraries — public, school, academic, and special libraries serving government, commerce, the armed services, hospitals, prisons, and other institutions. Its almost 3,200 members are primarily librarians and library staff, but also trustees, publishers, and other supporters.

Administration and Governance

The Illinois Library Association has three full-time staff members. It is governed by a sixteen-member executive board, made up of elected officers. The association employs the services of Kolkmeier Consulting for legislative advocacy. ILA is a 501(c) (3) charitable and educational organization.

Forums

Government Documents Forum
Illinois Association of College & Research Libraries Forum
Leadership Forum
Librarians for Social Responsibility Forum
Library Trustee Forum
Public Library Forum
Reaching Forward: Forum for Library Support Staff
Reference Services Forum
Resources & Technical Services Forum
Young Adult Services Forum
Youth Services Forum

Standing Committees

Advocacy Committee
Awards Committee
Best Practices Committee
Conference Program Committee
Cultural and Racial Diversity Committee
Finance Committee
Fundraising Committee
ILA Reporter Advisory Committee
Intellectual Freedom Committee
iREAD® Committee
Marketing Committee
Membership Committee
Nominating Committee
Public Policy Committee

2012–2013 Executive Board

President

Pam Van Kirk

Vice President/President-Elect

Su Erickson, Robert Morris University

Immediate Past President

Lynn Elam, Algonquin Area Public Library District

Treasurer

Leslie Warren, American Bar Association

Directors

Laura Barnes, Illinois Sustainable Technology Center
Cynthia L. Fuerst, Vernon Area Public Library District
Kate Hall, New Lenox Public Library District
Jeanne Hamilton, Charleston Carnegie Public Library
Amanda McKay, Helen Matthes Library
Scott E. Pointon, White Oak Library District
Carol E. Reid, Heartland Community College Library
Becky Robinson, Galesburg High School
Leora Siegel, Chicago Botanic Garden
Ellen Sutton, College of DuPage Library
Susan L. Westgate, Bartlett Public Library District

ALA Councilor

Denise Zielinski, Joliet Public Library

Ex Officio

Anne B. Craig, Illinois State Library
Robert P. Doyle, Illinois Library Association

2012–2013 ILA Staff

Robert P. Doyle, Executive Director
Cynthia M. Robinson, Conference and Continuing Education Manager
Anne Bustamante, Member Services Manager
Jon Daniels, Controller



A handwritten signature in white ink that reads 'Robert P. Doyle'. The signature is written in a cursive style with large, flowing loops.

Robert P. Doyle
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