



Heating Up!

Illinois Library Association
Annual Report 2013–2014

Dear ILA Members and Friends,

From ILA's 2013 Annual Conference—Ignite!—through the bitterly cold winter of 2014, our first round-the-state Legislative Meet-Ups in February, and into the heart of summer as I write this, ILA has been turning up the heat on issues that are important to libraries around the state.

It was a big year for defending the freedom to read at schools and libraries in Glen Ellyn, Chicago, Orland Park, and elsewhere, as well as kicking off the Soon to Be Famous Illinois author project. Our ongoing legislative efforts in Springfield secured level funding for state grant programs to libraries and defeated filtering legislation for the 18th (or is that umpteenth?) time.

We expanded our iREAD efforts to combat summer reading loss with new statewide partners in Minnesota and Virginia, in addition to our previous partners, the California Library Association and the U.S. Department of Defense. We presented a program on iREAD at the Texas Library Association conference in March, the largest state library association conference in the country, and saw a surge in orders from Texas and some other states.

We also launched a group insurance pool as a benefit for ILA institutional members that offers the opportunity for libraries to exercise greater control over their costs for property, casualty and workers compensation insurance, often resulting in significant savings. It has already grown from twenty-four founding members to thirty-two with five more libraries and their boards considering membership.

As we welcome our new board and officers for 2014-2015, let's all work to make our libraries the hottest thing going!

Sincerely,



Su Erickson, Robert Morris University
ILA President, 2013—2014

Meeting Up: Legislative Advocacy

The coldest winter on record saw ILA hosting legislative “Meet-Ups” in four different parts of the state in February—our save-the-date announcement read, “Don’t get left out in the cold!” Building on a strong history of an annual Presidents’ Day Breakfast held in the northwest suburbs, events were added this year in Oak Brook, Lockport, and Edwardsville. Turnout was excellent, important contacts made and messages delivered, with members working hard to get their trustees, legislators, and legislative staff members together with library directors and staff. Members of the Illinois Senate and House of Representatives were invited, along with members of Illinois’ national congressional delegations.

Advocacy remains one of the key functions of ILA, and we are very pleased to report that we achieved our major objectives in the recently completed 2014 Illinois General Assembly Spring Session, both in terms of policy and funding. All three ILA legislative initiatives were approved by the legislature, with two signed by Governor Quinn and the third falling victim to the governor’s veto. And despite another very difficult budget year, ILA secured funding for Illinois State Library grants at our requested levels.

In defeating the latest attempt to impose public library mandatory Internet filter requirements, we were able to realize the benefits of educating legislators on the value of local control. The combined efforts of the Public Policy Committee, the ILA Executive Board, and our ability to mobilize and act quickly resulted in success on budget issues, protection of intellectual freedom, and member-requested improvements to the laws governing library operations.

Bill by Bill

The Illinois General Assembly approved House Bill 6095, which includes library grant appropriations at the Illinois Secretary of State’s requested amount. This will provide level funding to our grant programs in fiscal 2015. We owe thanks to our many legislative supporters for preventing cuts to library grants, as many other agencies and statewide programs did not do as well. House Bill 3793 was also approved, which included appropriations for some specific local library capital projects.

The three ILA 2014 legislative initiatives that were approved included Senate Bill 1941, which implements the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act and puts Illinois in line with the national legislation. Senate Bill 3071 clarifies and adds procurement authority to the Local Library Act and the Public Library District Act. House Bill 3796

addressed provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, including ILA’s proposal regarding posting of information on the Internet—while vetoed by Governor Quinn, the bill as passed could be enacted by the Illinois General Assembly if they override his veto in the Fall Veto Session. If a move to override is not pursued or fails, we expect the issue to be revived in a future session. The Illinois General Assembly also passed several other bills supported by ILA, including Senate Bill 3222, creating the Illinois Joining Forces Foundation and Senate Bill 3288, the Secretary of State’s initiative allowing greater publication by electronic means.

The 2014 session saw the eighteenth attempt to require public libraries to impose mandatory filters on all public library computers. As with previous proposals, ILA objected to the mandate included in Senate Bill 3784 as an infringement on local control and an unconstitutional limit on First Amendment rights. Library opposition resulted in the bill being held in a Senate subcommittee. Despite our continued success in limiting filtering on a statewide basis, the legislature will likely continue to raise intellectual freedom issues, and ILA is a respected voice in this important area of legislative activity.

The Outlook

Illinois has an “activist” legislature, with a constant barrage of bills being proposed. Some are initiatives of single members and have little chance of attracting broad support, but there’s always a chance that a wrong-headed or ill-conceived notion will be appealing at first glance. That’s why we continue to monitor all such bills and provide education and context when possible. One such recent example was passage of a cyber-bullying bill with provisions that were over-broad despite ILA’s opposition. By registering our objections and the reasons for them, we laid the groundwork for future revisions.

The Illinois General Assembly approved a \$35.7 billion state operating budget for FY 2015, but did not extend the current temporary income tax increase, set to roll back from 5 percent to 3.75 percent on January 1, 2015. This may change after the November 2014 general election, but if the lower tax rates take effect, the approved budget will not be fully funded. Stay tuned—this could definitely turn up the heat!

Illinois library supporters also gathered in Washington, DC, for National Library Legislative Day in early May. As in past years, we made the rounds of the Illinois congressional delegation, reminding them of the importance of their support for the Institute for Museum and Library Services, which directly supports several grant programs of the Illinois State Library, among other national programs.

Catching Up: Conferences, Awards, and Continuing Education

The 2013 ILA Annual Conference at Navy Pier drew more than 1,800 attendees and featured 141 exhibit booths, both sizable increases over the 2012 conference in Peoria. Among the many awards recognizing excellence that were presented at the conference, students from Lane Tech High School's 451 Degrees Club received the Intellectual Freedom Award. Their protests aimed at the removal of the book *Persepolis* from the Chicago Public Schools resulted in a flurry of press coverage and reinstatement of the book. Events for trustees, youth services librarians, and academic librarians rounded out the year's calendar.

Specialized programs and workshops for trustees, youth services librarians, and library support staff were held throughout the year and around the state. Our annual orientation for ILA leadership, including committee members and forum managers, was held for the first time in Bloomington at Heartland Community College. Despite the increasing role of online and social media in all of our lives, we find these face-to-face events are both valued and a welcome change.

Of particular note, IACRL, an ILA forum and a chapter of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), held its biennial conference on March 21, 2014. The conference theme, *Telling Our Story: Impact and Assessment*, drew academic librarians from around the state and featured a keynote address by Moe Hosseini-Ara, the director of culture for the City of Markham in Ontario, Canada.

Reaching Forward, ILA's professional development conference for library staff, marked its 25th anniversary with a May 9 conference that featured forty-four programs for library support staff and others—big congratulations to the Reaching Forward Forum for building this brand and event for the past quarter of a century!

Reading Up: Soon to Be Famous™ and Summer Reading

In an exciting joint project with Illinois' library systems, ILA launched the first year of the Soon to Be Famous Illinois author project. Organized by ILA members who were inspired by a talk given at the 2013 ALA Annual Conference on the power of libraries to assert their importance in the e-publishing world, the project surpassed expectations. Nearly a hundred self-published authors entered the contest that was judged by a committee of Illinois librarians, resulting in the selection of three finalists: Mary Hutchings Reed, Rick Polad, and Joanne Zienty, with Zienty winning for her literary novel, *The Things We Save*.

ILA's successful summer reading program, iREAD, expanded with new statewide partnerships in Virginia and Minnesota in addition to the California Library Association using the program for the second year in a row. The U.S. Department of Defense libraries on military bases worldwide continue to use the program, as do libraries in almost all fifty states. 2014's theme, *Paws to Read*, was one of the most popular ever and featured Rocket, the irresistible white dog who learns to read and write, created by author and featured iREAD illustrator Tad Hills.

Our flagship publication, the *ILA Reporter*, continues to draw readers with articles on innovations in library architecture, censorship battles lost and won, community-building through Little Free Libraries and more. Thirty-four issues of the *ILA E-Newsletter* arrived in member mailboxes through the year, keeping them current not only on association activities and events, but on library news throughout the state and around the country.

Serving Our Public 3.0: Standards for Public Libraries was published in early 2014, thanks to a dedicated ILA Standing Committee led by ILA Past-President Pam Van Kirk. Hundreds of copies of this updated edition flew out the door to libraries statewide in time for grant applications due to the Illinois State Library.

Adding Up: Fundraising and Financials

Four new Illinois Library Luminaries—A. Denise Farrugia, Sally Decker Smith, Valerie Wilford, and Pat Norris—were added last year. This effort that combines recognition for outstanding contributions to Illinois libraries with a fundraising campaign has raised \$54,009 for the association since it began in 2009.

The Fund for Illinois Libraries continues to make it possible for institutional members of ILA to apply for and receive funds through ILA's 501(c)(3) status. Another important milestone for ILA's institutional membership category was the establishment of the Libraries of Illinois Risk Agency (LIRA), a group insurance plan resulting in significant savings in property/casualty and worker's compensation premiums. Group purchasing had been identified as a priority in the Future of Illinois Library Cooperation project in 2012, and the ILA Executive Board carefully explored options, developed policies, and eventually launched this exciting project. To date, thirty-two ILA institutional member libraries have joined LIRA, saving an average of 19 percent on their annual premiums with additional savings likely to result from the pooled loss fund at the end of the year.

August 2013–July 2014



9,956

Number of Bills Introduced in the 98th Illinois General Assembly (226 of them were "library bills," monitored by the Illinois Library Association)



73,471

Number of iREAD T-shirts Sold



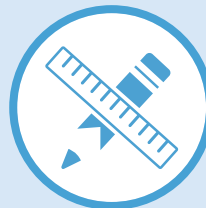
820

Number of Students Currently Enrolled in MLS Programs in Illinois



103

Number of Books Entered in the Soon to Be Famous Illinois Author Project



182,799

Number of Square Feet in New Library Buildings in Illinois (Based on libraries featured in the February 2014 *ILA Reporter*)



332

Number of Attendees at 2014 Illinois Legislative Meet-Ups



14.6 million

Number of Words Read by iREAD participants at DoD Military Libraries

ILA Fiscal Report Year Ended June 30, 2014

Revenue

General Operations	\$ 45,266
Membership	\$ 317,889
Conference	\$ 418,253
Publications	\$ 2,310,460
Public Policy	\$ 4,025
Awards	\$ 12,472
Endowment	\$ 6,775
Workshops/Projects	\$ 49,456
Reaching Forward	\$ 106,433
Total Revenue	\$ 3,271,029

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

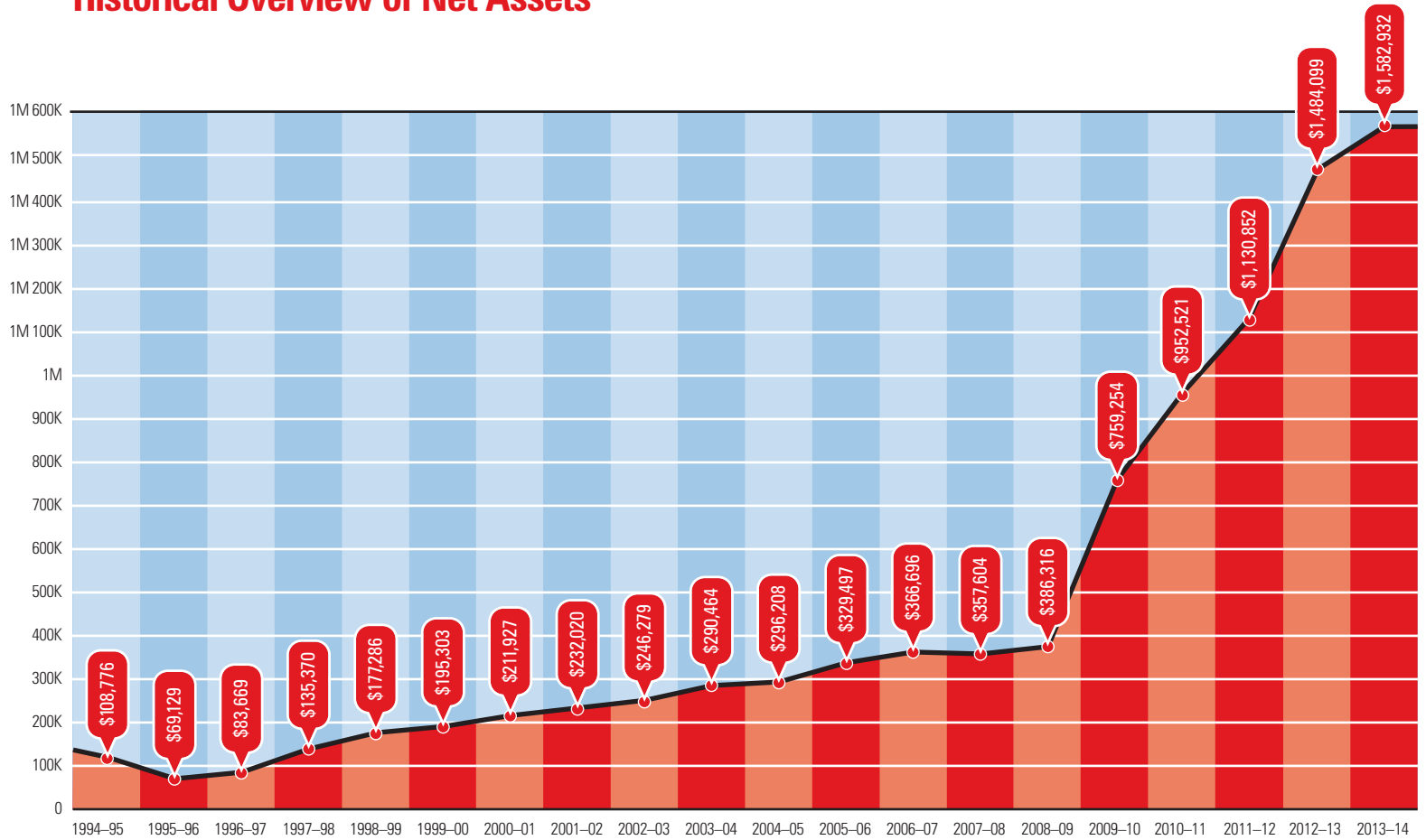
General Operations	\$ 639,386
Membership/Directory/Reporter	\$ 92,183
Conference	\$ 418,146
Board/Committee	\$ 15,260
Publications	\$ 1,827,508
Public Policy	\$ 69,077
Awards	\$ 8,442
Workshops/Projects	\$ 63,436
Forums	\$ 2,008
Reaching Forward	\$ 129,386
Total Expenses	\$ 3,264,832

Net Income before Gain (Loss) on Long-term Investments	\$ 6,197
Loss on Long-term Investments	\$ 92,636
Net Income	\$ 98,833
Net Assets at end of FY 2013	\$ 1,484,099
Net Assets at end of FY 2014	\$ 1,582,932

Net Assets Comprise:

Unrestricted Net Assets	\$ 1,471,242
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	\$ 14,334
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atkinson Memorial Award (\$3,156) • deLafayette Reid Fund for Continuing Education (\$4,283) • Robert R. McClarren Award Fund for Legislative Development (\$585) • Sylvia Murphy Williams Fund (\$5,257) • Legal Defense Fund (\$620) • Preiser Award (\$433) 	
Permanently Restricted Net Assets	\$ 97,356
Total Net Assets at end of FY 2014	\$ 1,582,932

Historical Overview of Net Assets



Cumulative Surplus

The growth in ILA’s net assets has been a conscious strategy over the past eighteen years, with the goal of producing an annual budget surplus. FY 2013–14 marked a milestone with net assets reaching 50 percent of the annual budget, and maintaining that reserve remains a priority.

The strategies that have contributed to realizing these goals include a focus on earned income projects, such as summer reading and a new group insurance program, and also on operating with a small staff and holding overhead and other costs down.

Professional associations have typically faced declines in their traditional sources of revenue—membership, conference, and publications—over this same period, and the need for innovation and entrepreneurial efforts is as strong as ever.

2013–2014	\$ 98,833
2012–2013	\$ 353,247
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	\$1,513,803

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 four 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
Nominating Committee
Public Policy Committee

2013–2014 Executive Board

President

Su Erickson, Robert Morris University

Vice President/President-Elect

Jeannie Dilger, La Grange Public Library

Immediate Past President

Pam Van Kirk

Treasurer

Leora Siegel, Chicago Botanic Garden

Directors

Keshia Garnett, Chicago Public Library
Kate Hall, New Lenox Public Library District
Jeanne Hamilton, Charleston Carnegie Public Library
Rick McCarthy, Gail Borden Public Library District
Scott E. Pointon, White Oak Library District
Carol E. Reid, Heartland Community College Library
Becky Robinson, Illinois School Library Media Association
Amanda E. Standerfer, The Lumpkin Family Foundation
Christina Stoll, Arlington Heights Memorial Library
Ellen Sutton, College of DuPage Library
Susan L. Westgate, Carol Stream Public Library

ALA Councilor

Denise Zielinski, Joliet Public Library

Ex Officio

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

2013–2014 ILA Staff

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



A handwritten signature in black 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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