



For the Love of Libraries

Illinois Library Association
Annual Report 2002-2003

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. Its primary goals are:

- **Advocating for the Public Interest**
- **Promoting Professional Excellence**
- **Preparing for the Future**

For the Love of Libraries



Dear ILA members and friends,

This year's letter is part eulogy, part tribute, part lament, and part thanks—all addressed to Sylvia Murphy Williams, who led the Illinois Library Association throughout much of this past year, and who was tragically taken from all of our lives in March 2003. She was an inspiration to those of us who knew her and to many who never had the chance to meet her in person.

For ILA members, she was a president to admire, a colleague to exchange information with, a librarian who'd risen through the ranks, and one who would always lend a helping hand. Whether the occasion was delivering a keynote address at the Reaching Forward conference, testifying before the state legislature, or chairing a board or committee meeting, Sylvia was gracious, well-informed, generous with her time, and clear in her convictions.

From her days as a page at the DePaul Law University Library to her position as director of the Dundee Township Public Library District, Sylvia climbed a ladder of increasing responsibility. For her, the journey was as important as the destination. In a 1998 issue of the *ILA Reporter*, she said, "I did not become successful when I became a library director. I was successful every time I reached one of my goals, every time I did my best."

As ILA president, Sylvia did more than her best for libraries and library patrons in Illinois. She spoke passionately and publicly about the need to support libraries, to protect the public's right to information, and the importance of recruiting the best and brightest to our profession. At the same time, she managed to be a much beloved wife and mother, daughter and sister, and friend to many.

As one of her colleagues said, "Sylvia's love of libraries was just a part of her very being." We believe that "love of libraries" is part of the very being of the Illinois Library Association, and dedicate this year's annual report to the memory of Sylvia Murphy Williams, and the love of libraries.

Sylvia, we thank you, and we miss you.

Advocating for the Public Interest

Much of the work of the association takes place in the legislative arena, a combination of advocacy for legislation that will improve library services and a watchdog role in opposing bills that threaten the free flow of information. Key activities in 2002-2003:

- tracked 5,911 separate bills filed in the Illinois General Assembly, more than 800 resolutions and 1,000 amendments filed, all which were reviewed and analyzed for possible effects on the library community;
- worked on 142 separate bills that were determined to have a direct impact on our constituents, and not one bill opposed by ILA passed this session. A majority of the bills we supported this session did pass;
- defeated filtering legislation for the sixth and seventh time. This year, two bills were proposed. Our successful lobbying effort included information for key legislators, drafting testimony, scheduling the best witnesses to speak to the legislature (Mary Dempsey, Arthur Young, Sylvia Murphy Williams, and Kathryn Harris), negotiating and amending one of the bills, and requesting that ILA membership contact their elected officials;
- introduced CapWiz software to improve Illinois library advocacy efforts. A cooperative effort of the Chicago Association of Law Libraries (CALL), Council of Academic Libraries (CAL), Health Science Librarians of Illinois, Illinois Chapter of the Special Libraries Association, Illinois Library Computer Systems Organization (ILCSO), the Illinois Library Systems Directors Organization (ILSDO), the Illinois School Library Media Association (ISLMA), and the Illinois State Library (ISL), CapWiz enables the user to access his or her legislators, pending legislation, and even assists in writing letters and contacting those legislators involved. It is easily used and accessed through the ILA Web page.
- worked cooperatively with a variety of associations and governmental entities for continued funding of the Illinois Century Network (ICN);
- published Privacy & Confidentiality in Libraries, passed a resolution in opposition to the USA PATRIOT Act, expressed opposition to closure of ERIC Clearinghouse, and supported the Equal Rights Amendment;
- co-sponsored 2003 Illinois Library Advocacy Day with 346 library supporters attending. The event was sponsored by the Illinois Library Association, Illinois School Library Media Association (ISLMA), Illinois State Library, and Illinois Library Systems Directors Organization (ILSDO); and
- sponsored the largest state delegation (49 delegates out of 450 total attendance, or 11 percent from Illinois) attending the 2003 National Library Legislative Day in Washington, D.C.

New State Capitol



Promoting Professional Excellence



*2002 JLA Annual Conference
held at Navy Pier in Chicago*



2002 JLA Annual Conference

Recognizing excellence and creating programs and publications that help Illinois libraries become the best they can be are part of the Illinois Library Association's commitment to supporting library services for the 21st century. The association's activities span the state both geographically and electronically, addressing all types of libraries and library personnel.

Continuing education is a large part of what members want and need from a professional association, and ILA delivered in 2002-2003. Programs were held throughout the year and throughout the state, aimed at all types of libraries and library staff and volunteers. The signature event was the 2002 ILA Annual Conference held at Navy Pier in Chicago, September 24-27. More than 2,400 attended the 2002 ILA Annual Conference, including visitors from former Soviet republics, exhibitors, authors, and speakers ranging from Sarah Ann Long to Sara Paretsky.



Publications, both print and electronic, filled the continuing education gap in between meetings, programs, and conferences. The bimonthly *ILA Reporter*, the association's newsletter, kept members up to date on issues and ideas. The combination of features and news included items such as:

- "Politics of Internet Filters," August 2002;
- *Serving Our Public: Standards for Illinois Libraries, Revised Edition* as an insert in the October 2002 issue;
- "Islamic Resources for Libraries," December 2002;
- "Fresh Faces," a series on newcomers to the profession, was launched in February 2003;
- "Responding to the USA PATRIOT Act," April 2003; and
- "Eastern Illinois University: Invests in the Past and Future of Its Library," the sixth in a series of articles highlighting new library buildings or additions, June 2003.

The ILA Web site continues to be the source for quick dissemination of news. This includes press releases, the *ILA Reporter*, legislative updates, and news and information on topics such as the USA PATRIOT Act and Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). Our traffic continues to rise and the site is used heavily with about 600 users per day and more than three gigabytes of files transferred per month. Jobline alone gets more than 6,000 views per month. New this year are the online forums first used for committee communication, and will soon be used for member communication on a variety of topics.



Preparing for the Future

In order to address our priorities, ILA must use its resources wisely and maintain a flexible structure that promotes interests and broad participation by members and units.

The year's most significant achievement in this area was the installation of new computers and software, ensuring that staff will be able to address member needs and maintain membership services. Five workstations were installed, along with renovations to the office area that greatly improved efficiency and overall operations.

Despite a board-approved \$12,800 deficit in the 2002-2003 the budget, the association ended the year with a modest surplus of \$14,258, due to close monitoring of budget and corrective steps to reduce expenses wherever possible.

The association's new membership campaign and accompanying brochure was launched in February 2003. The campaign is aimed at the newest generation of information professionals-current library science students-and our goal is to make ILA a more visible and relevant entity for those entering the profession.

ILA Fiscal Report

Year Ended June 30, 2003

Income

General Operations	\$ 30,895
Membership	\$ 281,134
Directory/Reporter	\$ 26,236
Conference	\$ 336,363
Publications	\$ 16,197
IREAD	\$ 196,380
Public Policy	\$ 8,190
Awards	\$ 595
Workshops/Projects	\$ 15,720
Reaching Forward	\$ 85,633
Restricted Contributions	\$ 4,449
Total Income	\$ 1,001,792

Expenses

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

General Operations	\$ 325,132
Membership/Directory/Reporter	\$ 76,063
Conference	\$ 236,028
Board/Committee	\$ 7,577
Publications	\$ 8,826
IREAD	\$ 170,568
Public Policy	\$ 57,537
Awards	\$ 1,785
Workshops/Projects	\$ 17,944
Professional Development	\$ 1,069
Forums	\$ 478
Reaching Forward	\$ 84,526
Total Expenses	\$ 987,533

Assets

Income/Expenses	\$ 14,259
Net Assets at end of FY2002	\$ 232,020
Net Assets at end of FY2003	\$ 246,279
Net Assets are Comprised of:	
Unrestricted Assets	\$215,675
Temporarily Restricted Assets	\$ 23,332
• Atkinson Memorial Award	(\$ 3,632)
• Student Librarian Scholarship	(\$ 10,979)
• deLafayette Reid Fund for Continuing Education	(\$ 4,283)
• Robert R. McClarren Award Fund for Legislative Development	(\$ 506)
• Sylvia Murphy Williams Fund	(\$ 3,932)
Permanently Restricted Assets	\$ 7,272
Total Net Assets at End of Year	\$ 246,279

Historical Overview of Net Assets



Cumulative Surplus

After six years of expanding services, reduced staffing, and aggressive cost controls, the association has ended the last six fiscal years with surpluses totalling \$177,150.

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	\$ 177,150

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 3,000 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 and two part-time employees. It is governed by a fifteen-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.

Standing Committees

- Awards Committee
- Conference Program Committee
- Cultural and Racial Diversity Committee
- Finance Committee
- Fundraising Committee
- Intellectual Freedom Committee
- ILA Reporter Advisory Committee
- IREAD Committee
- Marketing Committee
- Membership Committee
- Nominating Committee
- Public Policy Committee

Forums

- Government Documents Forum
- Illinois Association of College & Research Libraries Forum
- Librarians for Social Responsibility Forum
- Library Trustees Forum
- Public Library Forum
- Reference Services Forum
- Resources and Technical Services Forum
- Youth Services Forum

Task Forces

ILA Best/Effective Practice Task Force

2002/2003 Executive Board

President

Sylvia Murphy Williams

Dundee Township Public Library District

Vice-President/President-Elect

Nancy Gillfillan

Fondulac Public Library District

Immediate Past President

Arthur P. Young

Northern Illinois University

Treasurer

Robert W. McKay

River Bend Library System

Directors

Bradley F. Baker

Northeastern Illinois University

Marsha Balster

Arlington Heights Memorial Library

Yvonne Beechler Bergendorf

Wood Dale Public Library

Christopher Bowen

Downers Grove Public Library

Larry D'Urso

Mount Prospect Public Library

Kristine J. Hammerstrand

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Kathryn M. Harris

Illinois State Historical Library

Linda J. Mathias

Marion Carnegie Library

Laurel Minott

Northwestern University

Nancy H. Scott

Eureka Public Library District

Amanda Standerfer

Helen Matthes Library, Effingham

ALA Councilor

Karen Danczak Lyons

Chicago Public Library

Ex Officio

Robert P. Doyle

Illinois Library Association

Jean Wilkins

Illinois State Library

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

Illinois Library Association