



WLA BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, February 4, 2025 • 9:00 am - 11:00 am • WLA online meeting room

Read in Advance of Meeting: November 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

Facilitator: Rickey Barnett

Minutes: Shamim Rupani

TOPIC	LEAD	TIME
Call to order	Rickey Barnett	9:00 am
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Call for Additions/Changes to AgendaOnline meeting reminders		
Approve minutes from November 2024 meeting (vote)	Rickey	9:05 am
Interim Executive Director Report	Lesley Bourne	9:10 am
State Library Report	Sara Jones	9:25 am
Legislative Report	Kiersten Nelson	9:35 am
Treasurer's Report	Rob Mead	9:45 am
ALA Report	Gavin Downing	9:55 am
Events	Rhea Allen	10:00 am
<ul style="list-style-type: none">2025 WA Library Legislative Day2025 WLA Conference		
New Business		10:10 am
<ul style="list-style-type: none">2025 Presidential Initiatives	Rickey	
Share Outs	Rickey	10:30 am
Meeting adjourns		10:55 am

2025 WLA Board, voting members:

Rickey Barnett, President 2025
Eryn Duffee, Vice President/President-Elect 2025
Sarah Logan, Past President 2025
Lydia Bello, Director/Academic Libraries Rep 2025-2026
Carol Ellison, Director/Public Libraries Rep 2024-2025
Elizabeth Roberts, Director/School Libraries Rep 2024-2025
Shawn Schollmeyer, Director/Special Libraries Rep 2025-2026
Rob Mead, Treasurer 2025-2026
Gavin Downing, ALA Councilor 2025-2027

2025 WLA Board, non-voting:

Lesley Bourne, WLA Interim Executive Director
Ellen Perleberg, Student Rep 2025

Advisory Leaders:

Kate Laughlin, WLA Strategic Advisor
Carolyn Logue, WLA Lobbyist

2025 WLA Board Meetings: February 4, May 9, August 9, November 6



WLA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, November 6, 2024 • 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm • WLA online meeting room

Read in Advance of Meeting: August 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Judy Pitchford, Sarah Logan, Rickey Barnett, Shawn Schollmeyer, Sara Jones, Muriel Wheatley, Crystal Rowe, Carol Ellison, Jannah Minnix, Elizabeth Brown, Hannah Streetman, Elizabeth Roberts, Steven Bailey, Carolyn Logue

Facilitator: Sarah Logan & Lesley Bourne

Notetaker: Shamim Rupani

Sarah called meeting to order at 3:05

- Call for Additions/Changes to Agenda
- Online meeting reminders

Approve minutes from August 2024 meeting (vote)

- Muriel Wheatley motions; Carol Ellison, seconds
- Ayes: Elizabeth Brown, Carol Ellison, Rickey Barnett, Sarah Logan, Muriel Wheatley, Judy Pitchford, Elizabeth Roberts

Interim Executive Director Report-- Lesley Bourne

- Dashboard Report
 - Membership totals- up a little from October 2023
 - Looking forward to the numbers increasing because of the membership proposal being passed and the 2025 conference
- Election Results & New Leadership
 - New membership rates proposal has passed!
 - Excited to work with the new board members and division/section leadership for 2025 and beyond!
 - New committee interest form closing this Friday -- spread the word!
- Board Retreat
 - October 27 at the Burien Public Library; 2024 and 2025 board members came together for half a day
 - Brainstormed ways to increase funding, membership
- Pawsident Fundraiser
 - Nominations are open!
 - WLA now has a PayPal donation link; Will be helpful for conference

State Library Report-- Sara Jones/Crystal Lentz Rowe

- Welcome back, Sara!
- Will need support during this upcoming legislative session
- Concerned about the presidential appointee; no problem under the prior Trump admin

Legislative Report-- Carolyn Logue

- Will be working with Reykdal again on the school side
- Will need to keep an eye on the senate seats for the D/R split

- House- Dem. has picked up a couple seats, close to the $\frac{2}{3}$ super majority
- We need to get a sense of where Ferguson stands on library issues
- WA budget could be in a bit of trouble, mostly because of all the spending that went on without thinking of the long-term effects
- Capital gains, long-term care, climate act- not going away
- Public library
 - Should be easier to get the money for the digital book purchasing study
 - Will need to make some strong arguments and possibly use some of the climate dollars in order to make this study happen
- School
 - Met with WEA, what's going to happen?
 - More money in special education and materials/supplies cost
 - Sen. Wellman- Staffing allocations for TL
 - Position at OSPI, some grant ideas
- Should have no problem about discussions regarding library staff (protecting schedules, etc.)
 - Need some good examples with WA state examples
- Focus on why having a school librarian in place is more efficient
- Wireless device tax, broadband, digital equity
 - Can we still afford the connections?
- Need to watching what happens with taxing districts
- Sam Harris- Started a brainstorming doc with things we would like to see
- Need to figure out what our ask will be on the library improvement funds

ALA Report-- Steven Bailey

- Quiet quarter
- ALA released a statement this morning on the results on the election: Vowing to continue defending IF from any threats
- ALA Exec. Board has an open self-nomination period for candidates
- ALA Exec. Director search? Still in process
- Alan Inouye- led the office of gov; retiring next year
- ALA Webinar on loan forgiveness- big success this year
 - Expect to see this pop up again
- United Against Book Bans
 - Book resumes on website is a great resource
- Sarah- Thank you to Steven for the past 6 years and all of your hard work!

Events-- Hannah Streetman

- 2024 Presidential Summit
 - 10 days away, Saturday Nov. 16
 - 299 registrants! Free access to WA library employees
 - Added a further reduced rate for WLA student members- \$20 to \$10
 - Fewer states have offered the statewide access
 - Able to offer honoraria to speakers
- 2025 WLA Conference
 - Theme: Building Bridges & Connecting Communities
 - Program RFP is currently open! Please share this form and proposals are due Dec. 4
- Sarah- Thank you to the team for putting on these events!

PNLA Report-- Shawn Schollmeyer

- Conference season is starting for the PNLA- Second weekend in August, 7-9
 - 2025 conference will be virtual
 - Debbir Kramer- Exec. Director to handle conference coordination
 - Theme: Reach Farther, Connecting Libraries Beyond the Screen
 - Proposals will open in December
 - First planning committee meeting will be held this month
 - Lesley- 2026 conference? 2026 PNLA Conference will be in Oregon. Still planning to do a joint conference; waiting for MOU to come through
- New organizational President is Star White

Treasurer's Report-- Muriel Wheatley

- WLA 2025 budget
 - Board retreat was amazing and happy to meet everyone in person!
 - Initial review for the 2025 draft budget is done

New Business

- 2025 Budget
 - Fiscally conservative in our budget; often not as in the red as our budget suggests
 - 2024- budgeted a \$58,000 deficit; actual right now is a little over \$8,000
 - Moving toward reducing the deficit and moving us in a neutral direction
 - Pretty standard; a lot of the numbers have not changed
 - PS contract still the same
 - Changed:
 - Conference- Increased revenue based on location, etc.
 - Increased expenditures: rental is higher, F&B minimum, etc.
 - ScLD: budget request this year
 - Send people (Mahlon Landis- 2025 ScLD Chair and AASL Councilor) to two conferences, ALA and AASL
 - Hotel, registration, travel
 - Don't anticipate spending this whole number; working with estimates
 - 2 sections CATS and LIFE deactivated for the next couple of years, so they are not receiving their allotment at this time
 - Motion to approve the WLA 2025 budget: Elizabeth Brown
 - Second: Judy Pitchford
 - Aye: Judy Pitchford, Carol Ellison, Muriel Wheatley, Rickey Barnett, Steven Bailey, Elizabeth Brown, Sarah Logan, Elizabeth Roberts
- Lobbying contract for Carolyn is coming up for renewal- just changing her rate
 - Increase for her contract, \$500 a month increase from \$2,500 to \$3,000; will increase from \$30,000 to \$36,000 annually
 - Since 2017, has kept a flat cost of \$2500; Prior to 2017, only got \$1,100
 - First increase in the past 7 years
 - Elizabeth R.- no problem with increase
 - Evaluation of our lobbyist? Have we ever done something like this?
 - Lesley- Does not recall ever doing this. We've been with Carolyn for quite a long time and has not seen a review like this
 - Sarah- Brianna has been reaching out to other ED's about this eval process. Can continue this conversation but after the legislative session
 - Lizzie: Good question to be asking, evaluate someone who is contracted; Are they doing the objectives outlined in the contract?
 - Task force? Think about it as a board? Conversation after leg session; could do the groundwork for this discussion during the leg session
 - Steven- [re: increase] Sounds like money well-spent!
 - Needs to go to a vote:
 - Motion to approve the contract: Elizabeth Brown
 - Second: Steven Bailey
 - Aye: Elizabeth Brown. Muriel Whealey, Judy Pitchford, Rickey Barnett. Carol Ellison, Sarah Logan, Steven Bailey, Elizabeth Roberts

Sarah and Elizabeth Roberts

- PTA Assembly- Where the State PTA defines the legislative agenda for the year

- Wrote and submitted a resolution about a strong library program- passed!
- Should have their support now; trying to broaden the support for school libraries from other people who are not school librarians
- Three areas we are focusing on:
 - Big gap in education funding between actual cost to run the programs and the funding school districts get
 - MSOC funding- library books are part of this, but inflation has outpaced this number
 - Transportation- funding not adequate enough to cover
- Gavin took this resolution to WEA
- Media literacy and digital citizenship- good argument for the position at OSPI and doing something for school libraries
- OSPI- 800 people with a Teacher Librarian credential not working at a school library

Shawn- Now the Special Libraries Representative-Elect for the WLA board

- Can talk about what the WLA PNLA position would look like
 - Currently it is a non-voting advisory position to the board
 - Office can take the first pass at this description and bring this to the next board meeting; will appoint a new person for 2025
 - Any recs?
 - Time commitment: Worked with the PNLA conference planning committee
 - Report to the PNLA on what was going on with WLA; quarterly board meetings
 - Put in about 10 hours a month; though it's as much or as little as someone wants to put into this position
 - The PNLA is gathering more state reps, so reports are a bit more robust

“Roses and Thorns”

- “Roses”
 - What are you proud of or want to share from this quarter?
 - Sarah- Thank you to everyone who is on the board; Rewarding experience and appreciates the contributions and perspectives to support members to the best of your abilities
 - Lesley- Johanna, Elizabeth Brown, Judy, Muriel, Steven, Taylor, and Shawn as our PNLA Rep, thank you!
- “Thorns”
 - What are the challenges you're facing that you would like input on?

Meeting adjourns: 4:20pm

WLA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 4, 2025 • 9:00 am - 11:00 am • WLA online meeting room

Read in Advance of Meeting: November 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Gavin Downing, Carol Ellison, Ellen Perleberg, Eryn Duffee, Kate Laughlin, Lydia Bello, Rickey Barnett, Elizabeth Roberts, Erin Atwater, Shawn Schollmeyer, Rob Mead, Sara Jones, Kiersten Nelson

Facilitator: Rickey Barnett

Minutes: Shamim Rupani

Rickey calls the meeting to order at 9:03am

- Call for Additions/Changes to Agenda
- Online meeting reminders
- Approve minutes from November 2024 meeting (vote)
 - Carol Ellison motions
 - Eryn Duffee Seconds
 - Aye's: Eryn, Carol, Lydia, Rickey, Gavin, Rob, Elizabeth, Shawn
- Board Introductions
- Interim Executive Director Report- Lesley Bourne
 - Dashboard report
 - Membership totals have gone down a bit, but we will see a jump when conference registration opens
 - Still waiting to see how the new membership rates have affected our membership totals
 - New 2025 Pawsident
 - Sara Jones' Mylo!
 - Raised about \$1500
 - IMLS Grant- Rickey and Lesley
 - Trauma-informed care in leadership in the library field (Presidential Summit)
 - 2-page proposal has been accepted
 - Keeping an eye on the current state of things
- Staffing Update- Kate Laughlin
 - WLA's new Executive Director
 - We did have 2 strong candidates, but we found our ED! Ainsley Nabaro
 - MOU agreement with Primary Source
 - PS put forward a proposition to finance half of the WLA position, with the added fundraiser responsibilities (position is also going from half time to full time)

- Goal by end of the year is that WLA will be able to afford the full time ED position in 2026 onwards
 - If goal is not met, we will have to start looking at a reduction in services
- State Library Report- Sara Jones
 - Problems with funding
 - Recording fees, refinancing of homes has gone down
 - 3.4 million hole, asking for this to be plugged
 - WA state experiencing difficulties with budget
 - Billions in shortfall
 - SoS is not funded as well as it could be
 - Proposal is 6%, wanting to propose less, around 3%
 - Worried about federal funding sources
 - We need to make sure people understand the values of libraries
 - Encourage everyone to contact local legislator and let them know you are a constituent and libraries are important to you
 - Grassroots efforts
 - Still waiting for a Director to be named
 - We're doing great work and will continue to serve our communities to the best of our abilities
- Legislative Report- Kiersten Nelson
 - Legislative Day tomorrow- nice to have this earlier date
 - Long session year (runs until April) with a full budget
 - Feb. 21- cut off for when we see what bills stay alive and which will fade away
 - Lots of bills will go into hearings, having conversations for which bills will be pushed forward
 - Number of public and school library bills we are looking at - nice to see this variation
 - HB1503- Digital Equity Bill
 - HB1517- wireless device tax
 - Funds will go to enhancing digital equity grants
 - Less than ideal for libraries, who will have to pay this \$2 tax
 - Public Library Bills
 - 1% live lift levy to 3%- huge bill for funding libraries around the state
 - WLA and PL Directors championing
 - Budget proviso
 - Asking for a set amount of money (\$500k) to conduct a study of digital content and pricing models in public libraries that have to pay for this without ability to own the copy
 - Public worker protections
 - School Library
 - Information technology programs
 - School levies no longer have to rely on the super majority in order to pass, 50+1

- Has WLA support
 - State employees' access to peer-reviewed journals
- Treasurer's Report- Rob Mead
 - Large drop in dues
 - Hoping that the new rates will encourage people to join
 - Annual conference will hopefully bring in a good amount of revenue
 - West side conference will likely make more money than the east side conferences
 - Incentive to join to attend the conference as well
 - Reminds people to renew their memberships
 - Investment accounts have been doing well- money is now in a Fidelity account
 - Still taking money out of these accounts- goal is to break even and stop taking from these accounts
- ALA Report- Gavin Downing
 - LibLearnX- small conference, last of the midwinter LibLearnX events (not making money), 1,600 people total
 - Highlight was MLK Sunrise Celebration
 - Sundance Film Festival was happening at the same time- "[The Librarians](#)"
 - Passed a new interpretation of prisoner's right to read
 - Resolution about the executive board composition; Elected new officials
- Events- Rhea Allen
 - 2025 WA Library Legislative Day
 - We have 68 advanced registrants- form now closed but able to show up in person
 - Schedule is online
 - 2025 WLA Conference
 - Registration is opening today at noon! Opening a day early because of Legislative day tomorrow
 - Can see the program conference schedule online
 - Keynotes:
 - CAYAS/ScLD Breakfast: Peggy Janicki, nominated for the 2025 Towner award
 - Closing session: Shamichael Hallman, part of the urban library council and author
 - Third keynote invite for welcome breakfast has been sent to Sasha LaPointe
- 2025 Presidential Initiatives- Rickey
 - Advocacy- continuing educating everyone we know about supporting libraries
 - Supporting library workers- workers in all settings and types
 - Intellectual freedom- connecting with other state orgs to learn from each other
- Share Outs/Comments
 - Kate- great resource for small and rural libraries: <https://www.arsl.org/advocacy-center>
 - Shawn- Would like to see more support for the WLFFTA section; how do we

recruit more folks?

- Grand re-opening of the Tacoma Public Library
- Eryn- Do we have a formalized report for folks to fill out to report censorship to WLA? Yes! You may find the form in the Advocacy Center (Can we add this to the homepage?)
- Ellen- Pro putting the advocacy form on the front page for folks
- Rickey- New Langley Library in Sno-Isle opening in about a month
 - Lake Stevens library construction is happening!
- Rob- His library has worked the last two years to provide book donations to libraries; hope this can happen this year. The court has an opinion on book bans...
- Eryn- son has picked up first library card! 😊

Rickey motions to adjourn meeting at 10:41am

Gavin seconds

Aye's: Lydia, Rob, Eryn, Gavin, Elizabeth, Shawn



Washington Library Association

Statement of Financial Position

As of December 31, 2024

	TOTAL			
	AS OF DEC 31, 2024	AS OF DEC 31, 2023 (PY)	CHANGE	% CHANGE
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Bank Accounts				
1003 Checking - Chase Bank	16,533.87	37,012.69	-20,478.82	-55.33 %
1004 Savings - Chase	5,377.22	15,374.23	-9,997.01	-65.02 %
Petty Cash	60.00	60.00	0.00	0.00 %
Total Bank Accounts	\$21,971.09	\$52,446.92	\$ -30,475.83	-58.11 %
Other Current Assets				
1006 Fidelity	143,869.72		143,869.72	
1101 Bear Mountain Capital Inc.	0.00	184,740.77	-184,740.77	-100.00 %
1510 Prepaid Deposits	12,837.18	8,558.12	4,279.06	50.00 %
Prepaid Expense	6,996.41	12,731.91	-5,735.50	-45.05 %
Total Other Current Assets	\$163,703.31	\$206,030.80	\$ -42,327.49	-20.54 %
Total Current Assets	\$185,674.40	\$258,477.72	\$ -72,803.32	-28.17 %
TOTAL ASSETS	\$185,674.40	\$258,477.72	\$ -72,803.32	-28.17 %
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY				
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable				
2000 Accounts Payable (A/P)	2,564.69	9,144.37	-6,579.68	-71.95 %
Total Accounts Payable	\$2,564.69	\$9,144.37	\$ -6,579.68	-71.95 %
Credit Cards				
1005 Chase Credit Card 3886	1,435.42	560.49	874.93	156.10 %
Total Credit Cards	\$1,435.42	\$560.49	\$874.93	156.10 %
Other Current Liabilities				
2500 Def Rev				
2501 Individual Membership Dues	21,731.79	27,600.07	-5,868.28	-21.26 %
Business & Sales	133.33		133.33	
Deferred Retired	403.33		403.33	
Student Membership	343.32		343.32	
Unemployed Dues	98.35		98.35	
Total 2501 Individual Membership Dues	22,710.12	27,600.07	-4,889.95	-17.72 %
2502 Organizational Dues -Private	683.32	641.66	41.66	6.49 %
2503 Organization Dues - Public	26,895.34	45,923.74	-19,028.40	-41.43 %
Friend, Trustee, Foundation or Non-Profit	383.34		383.34	
Total 2500 Def Rev	50,672.12	74,165.47	-23,493.35	-31.68 %
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$50,672.12	\$74,165.47	\$ -23,493.35	-31.68 %



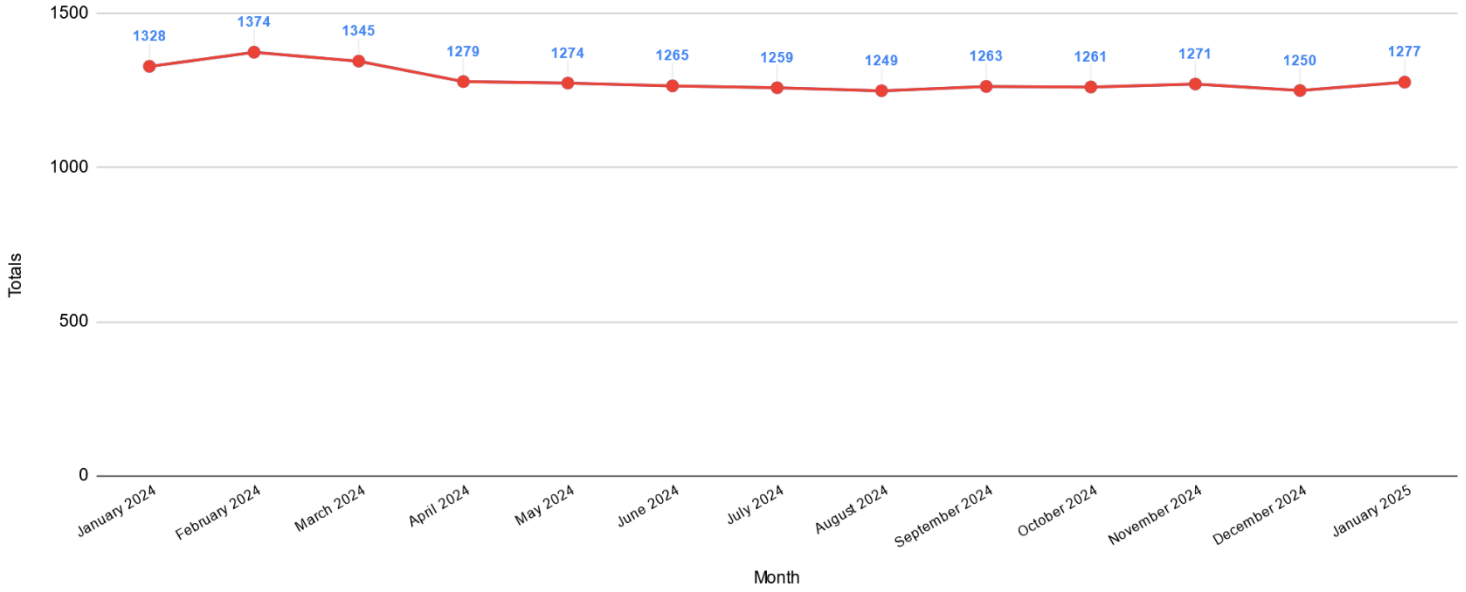
Washington Library Association

Statement of Financial Position

As of December 31, 2024

	TOTAL			
	AS OF DEC 31, 2024	AS OF DEC 31, 2023 (PY)	CHANGE	% CHANGE
Total Current Liabilities	\$54,672.23	\$83,870.33	\$ -29,198.10	-34.81 %
Total Liabilities	\$54,672.23	\$83,870.33	\$ -29,198.10	-34.81 %
Equity				
3100 Unrestricted Funds	163,686.53	163,686.53	0.00	0.00 %
3300 Retained Earnings	10,920.86	21,074.06	-10,153.20	-48.18 %
Net Revenue	-43,605.22	-10,153.20	-33,452.02	-329.47 %
Total Equity	\$131,002.17	\$174,607.39	\$ -43,605.22	-24.97 %
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$185,674.40	\$258,477.72	\$ -72,803.32	-28.17 %

WLA Membership Totals



Membership Changes	Jan 2024	Jan 2025	Change
Individual			
Individual Employees	696	618	-11.21%
Students	152	181	19.08%
Non-Profits/Foundation/Friends	34	38	11.76%
Business	7	5	-28.57%
Retired/Unemployed	60	57	-5.00%
Emeritus	72	74	2.78%
Sub Total	1021	973	-4.70%
Organizations			
Libraries	41	40	-2.44%
Library Affiliates	221	217	-1.81%
Business	15	18	20.00%
Business Affiliates	15	18	20.00%
Non-Profits/Foundation	7	4	-42.86%
Nonprofit & Foundation Affiliates	8	5	-37.50%
Sub Total	307	302	-1.63%



February 2025 WLA Leadership Reports

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Rickey Barnett

WLA Board President

One activity/goal in the last quarter in your area to share:

I have been working with Lesley, Shamim, and the Events Committee to prepare our final IMLS grant submission for the 2025 Presidential Summit. It's exciting to see how things are coalescing around the theme of supporting library workers through a trauma-informed framework.

Work/activities/goals coming up in your area in the next quarter that you are excited about / What you hope to accomplish by next board meeting:

Alongside the 2025 Summit, I am excited about progress on hiring WLA's new Executive Director.

In your position/area, highlight steps you have taken or will take that contribute to EDI or accessibility:

The Summit is being planned through the lens of EDI, in order to offer a program that speaks to the diverse experiences of library workers in all types of libraries. Research confirms that LGBTQ+ and BIPOC staff experience trauma in their work at much higher levels than their white, cis, straight colleagues. Sessions will be aimed at addressing these disparities, and the planning committee aims to offer sessions that speak to all experiences and library types (rural/urban, east/west, etc.)

Lydia Bello

WLA Board Director – Academic Library Division Rep.

Work/activities/goals coming up in your area in the next quarter that you are excited about / What you hope to accomplish by next board meeting:

Hope to plan an member engagement survey (or other approach) to see what academic library workers in the state need from their state chapter.

In your position/area, highlight steps you have taken or will take that contribute to EDI or accessibility:

Hope to support the ALD/ACRL-WA in figuring out accessible and inclusive professional development for members - I don't yet have any concrete goals about what this would look like.

Work/activities/goals coming up in your area in the next quarter that you are excited about / What you hope to accomplish by next board meeting:

This is an ongoing project; in my Board position I hope to work with the Steering Committee and interested members in assessing the needs that the membership has for the Academic Library Division



Carol Ellison

WLA Board Director – Public Library Division Rep.

One activity/goal in the last quarter in your area to share:

Analyzing the member survey helped determine the best times/frequencies of upcoming regular member meetings (will be quarterly).

Work/activities/goals coming up in your area in the next quarter that you are excited about / What you hope to accomplish by next board meeting:

Brainstorming and exploring communication channels, including possible periodic member newsletter and reviving the existing Discord server. We're also working on determining ways members could connect at conference with PLD support.

In your position/area, highlight steps you have taken or will take that contribute to EDI or accessibility:

We will be sharing out messages/communication in WLA weekly as topics arise so as to include non-PLD members with awareness and potential participation, to get a wider viewpoint/reach a wider audience.

Work/activities/goals coming up in your area in the next quarter that you are excited about / What you hope to accomplish by next board meeting:

We will be sharing out messages/communication in WLA weekly as topics arise so as to include non-PLD members with awareness and potential participation, to get a wider viewpoint/reach a wider audience. We are also looking at more ways PLD members (and those who work in public libraries/are interested in public libraries) can get involved/raise awareness of PLD/activities at conference.

Elizabeth Roberts

WLA Board Director – School Library Division Rep.

One activity/goal in the last quarter in your area to share:

We are working on legislation. We have 2 bills in the works one larger bill in the House and a smaller bill in the Senate. If that neither of those go through this year we will be working with Senator Wellman to file an AGO on whether or not the phrase "as the board deems necessary" means a school can have no library at all. We also have our ongoing OLLI group that we are supporting to be more active members.

Work/activities/goals coming up in your area in the next quarter that you are excited about / What you hope to accomplish by next board meeting:

Mostly legislation. We will also be reapplying for the ABC Clio grant through AASL to continue the OLLI work we started next year.



Shawn Schollmeyer

WLA Board Director – Special Library Division Rep.

One activity/goal in the last quarter in your area to share:

Learning about the current issues facing Washington Libraries and the House and Senate Bills affecting libraries and library staff going through the current legislative sessions.

Support for the Special Libraries Division conference session is underway with Tien Triggs to moderate a panel of special libraries professionals showcasing their unique environments to MLIS students and new library professionals. Also reaching out to the Marketing & Communications committee to learn about their needs and activities.

Work/activities/goals coming up in your area in the next quarter that you are excited about / What you hope to accomplish by next board meeting:

Preparing for Library Legislative Day on February 5th.

I will be assisting Tien Triggs and the Special Libraries Division to host a panel of special libraries professionals and an evening social event at the Tacoma conference with the goal of recruiting new membership. Emphasis will be placed on generating interest from library students and recent graduates still exploring their professional opportunities.

Gavin Downing

ALA Councilor

One activity/goal in the last quarter in your area to share:

My attendance at LibLearnX and ALA Council

Work/activities/goals coming up in your area in the next quarter that you are excited about / What you hope to accomplish by next board meeting:

There will be no further council meetings until ALA in June. I will, however, be setting up monthly "office hours" for WLA members to reach out to me.

In your position/area, highlight steps you have taken or will take that contribute to EDI or accessibility:

ALA Council is looking at how to approach these issues at the board level. We're also working on addressing censorship issues at the national level. Locally, I hope to assure that all are able to reach out to me with their concerns.

Anything else you would like to share?

LibLearnX was a powerful experience, and I was so glad I was able to attend.

Ellen Perleberg

Student Representative

One activity/goal in the last quarter in your area to share:

Called with Taylor Hazan about what worked and didn't work during her tenure.



Work/activities/goals coming up in your area in the next quarter that you are excited about / What you hope to accomplish by next board meeting:

I will get in touch with the UW iSchool and with online programs popular among WA library students to introduce myself and develop communication channels for student needs. I also hope to reach out to the divisions and sections.

In your position/area, highlight steps you have taken or will take that contribute to EDI or accessibility:

Meeting with library students from several schools as research about the current role of sanctuary cities and states in career decisions.

ADVISORY REPORTS

Shawn Schollmeyer

Former PNLA Representative

One activity/goal in the last quarter in your area to share:

PNLA is preparing for the August 7–9, 2025 virtual conference with this year's theme, *Reach Further: Connecting Libraries Beyond the Screen*. As PNLA rep I have been working with the Exhibitor/Sponsor committee to reach the best number of sponsors for the upcoming conference.

Author nominations are open for the Young Reader's Choice Awards (YRCA). Voting for the 2025 nominees will begin March 15 and runs through April 15. To see the full list of this year's nominees, please visit [YRCA 2025 Nominees – Pacific Northwest Library Association](#).

DIVISION REPORTS

Greg Bem

Academic Library Division Chair

Work/activities/goals coming up in your area in the next quarter that you are excited about / What you hope to accomplish by next board meeting:

Keep the ship sailing. Quarterly meetings at minimum. Possible round table discussions and ACRL webcasts, if capacity allows. There is membership interest in membership assessment, but this depends on membership involvement.

In your position/area, highlight steps you have taken or will take that contribute to EDI or accessibility:

Nothing specific at this time, hopefully EDI will continue to be integrated into all conversations we have at quarterly meetings, round tables, and webcasts.



How does the Division/Section/Committee recruit new members and engage non-active members? (Officers may skip this question.)

We don't and need your help.

Anything else you would like to share?

This is a lull for the division; hoping it picks back up again.

Mahlon Landis

School Library Division Chair

One activity/goal in the last quarter in your area to share:

We have been hard at work trying to increase an active membership within the ScLD. A major way we are doing so is through our Olympic Library Leadership Program (OLLI). We have delivered two virtual professional development sessions in the last quarter. We also have two OLLI participants who decided to run for leadership positions within the ScLD... and succeeded! ScLD leadership is thrilled OLLI is meeting its goals and we look forward to offering it again.

Work/activities/goals coming up in your area in the next quarter that you are excited about / What you hope to accomplish by next board meeting:

We are working with our lobbyist on a couple bills for the legislative session. One is not ready, but the other is about to be introduced as SB 5551. We plan to continue advocating for school libraries and working with our lobbyist throughout the next quarter.

We are applying for the ABC-CLIO grant again, which we received last year. The grant helped fund our first cohort of the OLLI. If we receive the grant again, we will be able to continue the program, develop our membership, and foster new leadership from across the state. In the next quarter, we will continue to offer virtual sessions for our current OLLI cohort and will deliver one session and one un-conference session about the program at the WLA Conference. We also plan to write and submit an AASL session proposal for OLLI in the next quarter.

We also will have a WLA table at the NCCE conference in February.

In your position/area, highlight steps you have taken or will take that contribute to EDI or accessibility:

Through our OLLI program, we are not just trying to increase the ScLD's membership numbers; we are including diverse voices and leaders from across the state. We plan to discuss other strategies, either through outreach/marketing/etc., as to how we can better prioritize equity, diversity, inclusion and accessibility within our organization.

How does the Division/Section/Committee recruit new members and engage non-active members? (Officers may skip this question.)

We post on social media, contribute to WLA Wednesday, work with our current cohort of OLLI participants, and attend conferences such as NCCE to engage with members and non-active members.



Tien Triggs
Special Library Division Chair

One activity/goal in the last quarter in your area to share:

We had our first leadership team meeting and have a full slate of officers again this year. Very excited about that! We planned our goals and activities for the year, especially ones focused on bringing in new members and getting them more involved. Our Discord server has grown from 4 members in mid-2024 to 17 members now, and we have set up a "Student Lounge" channel for iSchool students who are in Washington or who live here but attend MLIS programs out-of-state.

Work/activities/goals coming up in your area in the next quarter that you are excited about / What you hope to accomplish by next board meeting:

We are hoping to have a session at WLA for special libraries and to also have a meetup for members during the conference. If the Discord server is an indication of our potential for growth, then our efforts at outreach over the past year have started paying dividends, and we are planning more events to keep up that momentum.

In your position/area, highlight steps you have taken or will take that contribute to EDI or accessibility:

I signed up to be a mentor through WLA's program this year, and I am currently mentoring a young woman of color who had hoped to match up with a BIPOC librarian. Representation matters, and I have sought opportunities to bring in new members from diverse backgrounds. I think that being an active member of the WLA and holding leadership positions in the Special Library Division and in the Advocacy Committee have helped me to expand my network of diverse LIS students, library staff, and librarians. I am so lucky to have the support of my fellow leaders and members of the Special Library Division and the Advocacy Committee in this work!

How does the Division/Section/Committee recruit new members and engage non-active members? (Officers may skip this question.)

We are hosting a social event at the WLA Conference, scheduling a "Bring a Friend!" meeting later this year, and planning (tentatively) an in-person meetup in central Washington for members outside the Puget Sound.

Anything else you would like to share?

I have such a great group of members on both leadership teams this year, as well as former leaders who are still helping out. I could not do any of this work without their support and commitment. They're amazing!



SECTION REPORTS

Eleanor Howell-Shryock
CAYAS Section Chair

One activity/goal in the last quarter in your area to share:

We hosted multiple well-attended virtual idea-sharing sessions with 15-28 attendees. Topics included storytimes, teen services, and summer planning.

Work/activities/goals coming up in your area in the next quarter that you are excited about / What you hope to accomplish by next board meeting:

We have monthly idea-shares scheduled for the months leading up to WLA's annual conference where we will host a preconference session. In the spring, we're hoping to work with the UW iSchool's career office to host mock-interviews for graduating students.

In your position/area, highlight steps you have taken or will take that contribute to EDI or accessibility:

Our idea-shares often lead to discussions of equitable practices and inclusion. Our interview prep will allow students without prior library job interview experience access to professionals and mentorship opportunities.

How does the Division/Section/Committee recruit new members and engage non-active members? (Officers may skip this question.)

We recruit from contacts with existing members. We have not explored non-active members.

Linda Keys & Heather Newcomer
CLAWS Section Co-Chairs

One activity/goal in the last quarter in your area to share:

Elections for President.

Work/activities/goals coming up in your area in the next quarter that you are excited about / What you hope to accomplish by next board meeting:

Surveying the membership about their needs to determine the path forward for CLAWS.

In your position/area, highlight steps you have taken or will take that contribute to EDI or accessibility:

Listening to our members to validate their needs and voices.

How does the Division/Section/Committee recruit new members and engage non-active members? (Officers may skip this question.)

We are working on it.



Keyth Sokol
IFS Section Chair

Work/activities/goals coming up in your area in the next quarter that you are excited about / What you hope to accomplish by next board meeting:

I have drafted an email to all IFS members to send in February regarding actual participation in the section.

How does the Division/Section/Committee recruit new members and engage non-active members? (Officers may skip this question.)

As stated, I plan to email all members in February, reminding them of the importance of our section and it's work, especially in the present political climate.

Craig Seasholes
WLFFTA Section Chair

Work/activities/goals coming up in your area in the next quarter that you are excited about / What you hope to accomplish by next board meeting:

Proposed conference meet up will be a virtual meeting. Plans with WA State Library Staff for a meeting to establish content and distribution to WLFFTA members.

How does the Division/Section/Committee recruit new members and engage non-active members? (Officers may skip this question.)

E-list, but also working with state library and NCW regional library system to build non WLA member contacts for Friends Groups

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Tien Triggs
Advocacy Committee Co-Chair

One activity/goal in the last quarter in your area to share:

We also had our first meeting and welcomed new members, and that's also very exciting! Austin Fogelsong and I talked about making advocacy meaningful to members, then shared goals that we would like to work toward as a group this year.

Work/activities/goals coming up in your area in the next quarter that you are excited about / What you hope to accomplish by next board meeting:

The committee will be working on getting our advocacy successes and as-it's happening stories into the WLA Wednesday newsletter once a month. In the midst of challenging times for our libraries, we do have great advocacy wins to share too!

In your position/area, highlight steps you have taken or will take that contribute to EDI or accessibility:

I signed up to be a mentor through WLA's program this year, and I am currently mentoring a young woman of color who had hoped to match up with a BIPOC librarian.



Representation matters, and I have sought opportunities to bring in new members from diverse backgrounds. I think that being an active member of the WLA and holding leadership positions in the Special Library Division and in the Advocacy Committee have helped me to expand my network of diverse LIS students, library staff, and librarians. I am so lucky to have the support of my fellow leaders and members of the Special Library Division and the Advocacy Committee in this work!

How does the Division/Section/Committee recruit new members and engage non-active members? (Officers may skip this question.)

We spent time at the end of last year talking about ways to structure the committee to be welcoming and less intimidating to new members. Our January meeting had three new members, and Austin and I are excited to start working on these new ideas to engage members in advocacy.

Anything else you would like to share?

I have such a great group of members on both leadership teams this year, as well as former leaders who are still helping out. I could not do any of this work without their support and commitment. They're amazing!

Mikayla Kittilstved

Alki Journal Editorial Committee Chair

One activity/goal in the last quarter in your area to share:

The Alki Committee is excited to welcome our new Editor in Chief, Traci Timmons, and looks forward to publishing our first issue under her leadership: 'Rooted,' which asks authors to explore their library's communities, visions, practices, and future growth.

Mary-Catherine McElroy

Awards Committee Co-Chair

One activity/goal in the last quarter in your area to share:

Towner Award members have been furiously reading non-fiction picture books with a 2024 copyright as we prepare for our February 1st nomination meeting at the Katherine J. Johnson Elementary School.

Work/activities/goals coming up in your area in the next quarter that you are excited about / What you hope to accomplish by next board meeting:

In the next quarter, we will: choose our 2026 Towner Award nominees; reach out to publishers to get copies of the books as giveaways at the 2025 WLA Convention in Tacoma; and begin to work on our 2026 choice boards for each of the books.

In your position/area, highlight steps you have taken or will take that contribute to EDI or accessibility:

Equity, diversity, and inclusion are always at the forefront of our Towner-Award nominee selection process.



How does the Division/Section/Committee recruit new members and engage non-active members? (Officers may skip this question.)

We recruit new members through our webpage and by advertising committee positions at the WLA convention. We have added four new members this year!

Paula Wittmann

Awards Committee Co-Chair

One activity/goal in the last quarter in your area to share:

Members have been busy nominating titles for consideration for next year's list.

Work/activities/goals coming up in your area in the next quarter that you are excited about / What you hope to accomplish by next board meeting:

We will be busily reading and then meeting in March to choose next years titles for the WCCPBA list.

In your position/area, highlight steps you have taken or will take that contribute to EDI or accessibility:

Right now the main job is to find great possible titles for next years list that reflect those priorities.

How does the Division/Section/Committee recruit new members and engage non-active members? (Officers may skip this question.)

We put out a call through WLA Wednesday and also through the people on the committee when new members are needed.

Crystal Hicks

Grants & Partnerships Committee Co-Chair

One activity/goal in the last quarter in your area to share:

We had our first meeting last night.

Work/activities/goals coming up in your area in the next quarter that you are excited about / What you hope to accomplish by next board meeting:

We are planning to draft criteria for acceptable partnerships, as well as finalizing the name/tiers/program description for a sponsorship program.

In your position/area, highlight steps you have taken or will take that contribute to EDI or accessibility:

This priority will be top of mind as we draft these documents and consider the partnership rubric.

How does the Division/Section/Committee recruit new members and engage non-active members? (Officers may skip this question.)

We will be working on this in future meetings.



Sam Harris

Legislative Committee Co-Chair

One activity/goal in the last quarter in your area to share:

A new co-chair and new committee members were added and regular meeting times were arranged with WLA lobbyist Carolyn Logue (a significant scheduling feat).

Work/activities/goals coming up in your area in the next quarter that you are excited about / What you hope to accomplish by next board meeting:

The 2025 legislative session opened on January 12th. The committee met for the first time on 1/10 for an overview on the session from Carolyn Logue. This quarter will be their most active quarter for the committee, which is just beginning to identify legislation that needs to be monitored, acted upon, and/or reviewed. By the end of this quarter we'll be able to report on the status of much of the legislation. One significant issue is the current budget deficit that may impact some of the legislation WLA is working on including the current ScLD bill (not yet filed) that may have budget impact.

In your position/area, highlight steps you have taken or will take that contribute to EDI or accessibility:

The Digital Equity bill is a significant priority for the legislative committee. It has not yet been filed.

How does the Division/Section/Committee recruit new members and engage non-active members? (Officers may skip this question.)

The committee recruits members via WLA networking and calls for new members using WLA communication tools. Networking and communication between other committees and divisions (like the ScLD) has been successful in adding new members to the legislative committee.

Hanna White

Marketing & Communications Co-Chair

One activity/goal in the last quarter in your area to share:

We held our first meeting and made a plan for how to create & post social media content going forward with the goal of committee members making one piece of content per week for the office to post to start

Work/activities/goals coming up in your area in the next quarter that you are excited about / What you hope to accomplish by next board meeting:

We are working on ways to share what's going on at libraries in Washington state with WLA members and others who follow us on social media. This may include occasionally cross-posting projects of interest to the broader membership as well as re-instating "Library Takeover" days and/or Library Snapshot Day. We will also be reviewing and likely signing off on the updated social media policy created by the previous committee at our next meeting.



In your position/area, highlight steps you have taken or will take that contribute to EDI or accessibility:

We continue to make sure that all content shared via social media is made as accessible as possible including appropriate sizing, use of detailed alt text, use of Camel Case hashtags, etc.

How does the Division/Section/Committee recruit new members and engage non-active members? (Officers may skip this question.)

Marketing & Communications has been included in recent lists going out to WLA membership via email of committees seeking additional members. We will also be attempting to recruit new members for ourselves and other committees that are short on membership via our management of WLA's social media channels.

Kat Wyly

Professional Development Committee Co-Chair

One activity/goal in the last quarter in your area to share:

The 2024-2025 mentoring program is underway with the largest number of mentoring pairs yet! Committee members spent a lot of time creating intentional pairings based on applicants' library goals and shared identities. The six month mentoring program is around half way through, although each pair might be on a slightly different schedule and/or choose to extend their relationship.

Work/activities/goals coming up in your area in the next quarter that you are excited about / What you hope to accomplish by next board meeting:

Based on feedback from mentoring participants last year, we are piloting a space for mentors and mentees to connect with each other. There was a desire, especially from mentors, to connect over mentoring strategies from others who are in the same role. This space will happen during a portion of the PD Committee's standing meeting over Zoom and committee members will offer support and facilitation. From our calendar invite, there is already quite a bit of interest! Members of the PD Committee have also been accepted to present a session on peer coaching and mentorship at the WLA Conference in April.

In your position/area, highlight steps you have taken or will take that contribute to EDI or accessibility:

We hope to gather more information on this from mentors and mentees who come to our drop in mentoring space next month. We are curious to hear where more support might be needed in the mentoring program as well as what efforts have felt successful.