



Illinois Library Association

ILA Forum and Committee Reports

This form is to be completed by committee chairs/forum managers in collaboration with board liaisons. The ILA Executive Board will have meetings on the following dates in 2018-19: September 20, 2018; November 29, 2018; January 31, 2019; April 11, 2019; and June 13, 2019. Reports should be submitted two weeks before each board meeting to the board liaison and the ILA office, 33 W. Grand Ave., Ste. 401, Chicago, IL 60654-6799; fax: 312-644-1899; email: dfoote@ila.org.

Forum or Committee: Best Practices

Report completed by: Shannon Distel

Date: 5/31/2019

Activities underway or completed since the last report:

An article on best practices for working with volunteers in public libraries was written, edited and submitted to ILA for consideration in the ILA Reporter. Feedback was provided to the committee to amend the article with a survey to academic and school libraries. The committee decided to cease further work on the article and focus on other goals.

A best practices survey to obtain suggestions on best practices that members would be interested in was created and submitted to ILA. It will be shared through ILA Alerts and ILA's Facebook page as well as the new Best Practices Committee Facebook page through June 30th.

Projected activities during the upcoming months:

The survey will be available until June 30th. Committee members will then disseminate the survey results and share with the new Best Practices Committee co-chairs.

Questions or concerns that need to be addressed by the ILA Board:

Since July 2018, the Best Practices committee has requested clarity and updates to the committee's charge. The charge mentions that the committee will select an annual award winner, however there is no Best Practices award. No action has been taken to amend the charge.

There needs to be more efficient and independent methods for communication for committee members via virtual meetings. Fulfilling the committee's charge of "Promotes excellence in Illinois libraries by identifying and making known innovative services, community outreach initiatives, and management procedures" is difficult within the limits of articles and the timeline of the annual conference and committee terms. Suggestions include a Best Practices listserv and newsletter as well as regular updates through the ILA website and social media platforms.