



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 2022-23: 9/22/22, 11/17/22, 1/12/23 (mid-year “mini meeting;” no report necessary unless you are requesting board action), 3/9/23, 5/25/23. Reports should be submitted two weeks before each board meeting to the board liaison, the ILA staff liaison, and emailed to ila@ila.org.

Forum or Committee: **Best Practices**

Report completed by: **Alea Perez**

Date: 2022 09 02

Activities underway or completed since the last report:

The Best Practices Committee (BPC) held a meeting on Monday, August 29, which included most members as well as our Board and Staff liaison. Much of what has taken place so far this year is getting members and myself (serving a non-consecutive year from my last appointment) up to speed on where last year's work left off and what our goals are for this year. A meeting schedule for the committee's year is being determined and topics are being reviewed on what key ideas should be included for an EDI Toolkit that is similar in nature to the Oregon Library Association's. Deadline for both of these actions has been set for 9/16.

Projected activities during the upcoming months:

Committee members are finalizing a topic list*, to be done by Friday, September 16. We'll prioritize and assign topics to members of the committee by Friday, October 7 to begin in earnest our work of researching/gathering, assessing, and synthesizing information for the toolkit. Contact has been made with IACRL for future collaboration, thanks to our Board Liaison, and will additionally be made to the Intellectual Freedom and Advocacy Committees in October.

*<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1BUfYZDmfuqm59bng8g7xAiJOdOg4ITIUEwEBRRKoOsa/edit?usp=sharing>

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

Commentary, more than outright concerns: I will be interested to see what we're able to pull together by the end of the year. As should be shocking to no one, library workers (including our volunteers) continue to feel significant time crunch and other work stresses at elevated levels. Everyone has expressed excitement about digging into the work and I'm happy to report I'm working with an amazing group of openly communicative, passionate individuals. I'm hopeful that, even if this is a large undertaking, we'll still have an amazing project to show for our efforts come next summer. I'd also like to give a big thanks to Laura and Kristin, who have been top notch liaisons in their involvement and communication. They're a dream team.