ILA Committee and Forum Reports
This form is to be completed by committee chairs/forum managers in collaboration with board liaisons. The ILA Executive Board will meet on the following dates in 2019-20: 11/21/19, 1/30/20, 4/30/20, and 6/11/20. Reports should be submitted two weeks before each board meeting to the board and staff liaison (liaisons are listed on rosters at http://www.ila.org/about/committees or http://www.ila.org/forums) and the ILA office (email: dfoote@ila.org).

Committee or Forum: ILA Reporter Advisory Committee

Report completed by: Eric Edwards Date: April 20, 2020

Activities underway or completed since the last report:

The first issue of calendar year 2020, the March one, included two articles by a Committee member, “ILA Strategic Plan: Current Progress on the Strategy for a Culture of Diversity and Inclusion in the Association” (Sarah McHone-Chase) and “Alma and Primo VE Migration: Changes Coming for CARLI” (Sarah McHone-Chase, in collaboration with CARLI’s Kristine Hammerstrand). The March issue also contained the annual “New Library Buildings” feature. This issue was the first one published under the new quarterly release schedule, which replaces the bimonthly one.

Planning for the June issue is almost complete. At this point, the issue will include at least two articles by Committee members, one by Tana Petrov, on makerspaces and community engagement, and the other by Kim Tipton, on “unplugged” library activities (not requiring the use of new technology). A joint article by Petrov and Tipton, on library volunteers, may also appear, depending on space considerations. If this article does not appear in the June issue, the September issue will include it.

Projected activities/initiatives during the upcoming months:

Alissa Henkel will solicit an article on the latest changes to electronic cataloging and resource-sharing platforms in public libraries. Additionally, Rachel Shulman is planning to submit articles on leadership and advocacy. All of these articles may appear in the September issue, or, if necessary, later ones.
Intended outcome/goals of project(s):

The goals of the above projects are to ensure that the ILA Reporter contains viewpoints from a broad range of Illinois libraries in each issue, and to adhere to the new production schedule, which went into effect at the beginning of calendar year 2020.

Anticipated timeline(s) and completion date(s) for each project:

The Committee submission deadlines for the remaining calendar year 2020 issues are July 20, for the September issue, and October 20, for the December issue. The “public” deadlines (applying to outside contributors) are June 20, for the September issue, and September 20, for the December issue.

Activities should be designed to advance the ILA Strategic Plan. Which strategic goal areas are best addressed by the activities above? Check all that apply and describe briefly how the activities will advance the goal(s). View the full plan at http://www.ila.org/about/strategic-plan.

Goal area: Advocacy—Legislative Advocacy
Goal area: Advocacy—Community Advocacy
Goal area: A Culture of Diversity and Inclusion—In the Profession
Goal area: A Culture of Diversity and Inclusion—In the Association
Goal area: Delivery of Member Value
Goal area: Leadership

The Advisory Committee is working to ensure that articles contain viewpoints from a broader range of libraries, especially those located outside of suburban Chicago and serving significant numbers of patrons from underrepresented groups. Article authors make a conscious effort to reach downstate libraries, in addition to those in the Chicago area, by distributing surveys via statewide newsletters and listservs (ILA, RAILS, IHLS, etc.) and using professional connections. Additionally, to help make the initiatives, programs, and ideas in the articles as relevant as possible to all Illinois librarians, the Advisory Committee’s members strive to apply not just a “how to” mindset, but also a “how to think about” mentality, when writing the articles themselves or guiding volunteers in composing them.
Questions or concerns that need to be addressed by the ILA Executive Board (please discuss with your board or staff liaison first. Board liaisons can help with strategic, programmatic, policy-related and content-related questions; staff liaisons can help with procedural or business-related questions):

The Committee has none at this time.

THANK YOU for your service to ILA and Illinois librarianship!