Forum or Committee
ILA Reporter Advisory Committee

Report Completed by
Eric Edwards and Jane Hanna, Committee Co-Chairs—submitted on November 15, 2018

Activities Underway or Completed This Quarter
The Committee gave a poster session, titled “The ILA Reporter: Providing ‘All Inclusive’ Coverage of Illinois Libraries”, at this year’s ILA Annual Conference. Rachel Shulman submitted the proposal and put together the poster itself, and Eric Edwards, Robin Helenthal, and Sarah McHone-Chase also attended the poster session and provided support. Approximately 15 people stopped by the session to ask questions and pick up old copies of the ILA Reporter, and several individuals expressed interest in contributing articles to future issues.

Planning for the December issue, which Eric managed, is finished. Depending on space and other considerations, the issue will tentatively include articles covering the following topics: “non-traditional” library services, by Eric Edwards; a book box program, by Karen Keefe of the Hinsdale Public Library; libraries and health literacy, by Amanda Civitello of the Waukegan Public Library; and either fighting food insecurity or providing sexual health services for teenagers, by Elizabeth Lynch of the Addison Public Library. A report on this year’s Annual Conference will also appear in the December issue.

Planning for the February issue, which Rachel is managing, is underway. She will take responsibility for two articles (the topics are yet to be determined). Other articles that will appear in the February issue will cover disaster preparedness and recovery in libraries, by Eric Edwards; and partners in technology, by Lyndsey Carney of the Normal Public Library.

Proposed Activities During the Upcoming Months
The remaining issues for 2018-2019 are assigned as follows: Sarah McHone-Chase, April; Erica Cullinan, June; and Robin Helenthal, August. Possible topics for future issues (not specifically assigned yet) include promoting awareness of LGBTQ issues, helping reintegrate former prisoners back into the community, replacing the Dewey Decimal System with another method of organizing materials, and the presence of library branches at “non-traditional” locations, such as shopping malls.

Questions or Concerns That Need to Be Addressed by the ILA Board
The Committee does not have any at this time.