

MINUTES OF THE MARYLAND STATE LIBRARY BOARD

Thursday, December 12, 2019

Howard County Library System

Elkridge Branch

6540 Washington Boulevard

Elkridge, MD 21075

Amended as Approved at March 16, 2020 Board Meeting

The Maryland State Library Board met in regular session on Thursday, December 12, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. at the Elkridge Branch of the Howard County Library System. The following members were in attendance: Mr. Alfred Martin, Chair, Ms. Andrea Berstler, Ms. Melissa Daggett, Ms. Heidi Daniel, Mr. Jim Fish, Ms. Laura Hicks, Mr. Wilson Parran, Ms. Lynn Wheeler, Mr. Robert Windley, Ms. Sharan Marshall and Ms. Irene Padilla, State Librarian.

Ms. Sharon Maneki was absent (excused).

Dr. Brian Butler, Dr. Tamar Sarnoff, Mr. John Owen, Ms. Jody Malmstrom, and Mr. Samuel Quist were also present.

Mr. Martin, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the State Library Board of both September 27, 2019 were considered. Ms. Wheeler moved to approve the minutes as presented; Mr. Parran seconded. The motion received unanimous approval.

MSLB Legislative Issues

LBPH Name Change

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped Name Change

- Ms. Padilla, with advice from Jody Malmstrom, presented information on behalf of Ms. Maneki who was not present. Ms. Padilla explained that changing the name of LBPH to the Library for the Blind and Print Disabled is in line with the National Organization. This was discussed prior to the board meeting between Jonathan Lazar (iSchool), Jody Malmstrom, Irene Padilla and Sharon Maneki. Mr. Butler was concerned that the new acronym of LBPD will be confused with other organizations.

- Dr. Butler shared the name change from University College of Information Science to University College of Information Studies.
- Mr. Owen spoke with Ms. Maneki the morning of December 12, 2019 (today's meeting) and shared her concerns: changes in legislation and identifying potential people to sponsor the bill to change the name. Ms. Maneki is also asking for the support of the board to testify on behalf of the bill.

Board Membership

- Ms. Padilla discussed that board members are appointed by the Governor and that anyone can ask the Governor to be appointed. Mr. Windley expressed concern over the language to ensure that the board is not obligated to accept representative from special populations.
- Ms. Padilla presented the newly published the Maryland Laws for Public Libraries and discussed the need to make changes to the library statutes.
- The motion to approve the name change from the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped to the Library for the Blind and Print Disabled was considered. Ms. Berstler moved to approve the name change; Ms. Marshall seconded. The motion received unanimous approval.
- The motion for the State Board member requirement be that at least one member be a blind representative. Ms. Berstler moved to approve the blind representative to the board; Ms. Marshall seconded. The motion received unanimous approval.

State Librarian's Update

Personnel

We have welcomed the following new staff:

Mary Ramos, Assistant Director, Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

Taryn Tranby, Administrative Specialist II, LBPH

Denise Sellers, Office Secretary III, LBPH

Positions pending hire include:

Administrator III, Finance and Support Services

Administrative Specialist II, Finance (CFO)

Collection Development Librarian, LBPH

MSL Headquarters

The construction of our new offices at 25 S. Charles, Suite 1310, is almost complete, pending inspections and minor adjustments.

We plan to move in January 2020.

Federal FY 2020 Budget

Senator Reed (RI) and Senator Collins (ME) and Representatives Grijalva (AZ) and Young (AK) have submitted a request letter to the Chair and Ranking Members of both the Senate and House Committees on Appropriations encouraging them to include in the final fiscal year 2020 spending bill an increase of \$17 million for LSTA funding. \$17 million was the number in the House version of the budget, so this outreach is directed primarily to the Senate, whose original number was much lower (\$1 million). I have written a letter of support to Senator Van Hollen. The current continuing resolution ends on December 20th.

Capital Grants Program

The Annual Facilities Needs Assessment for FY2019 was conducted in November 2019 and the statewide report is now available. According to report, more than half of the public library buildings in Maryland are over 25 years old. Consequences of this aging infrastructure are:

- 17 buildings need a new roof
- 10 facilities require alterations for ADA compliance
- 17 libraries have HVAC systems that are at the end of their useful life
- 42 buildings require technological upgrades in order to provide 21st century library services
- 59 existing facilities require general renovation at an estimated cost of \$75,000,000
- 11 buildings have been identified for replacement with a new structure at an estimated cost of \$63,000,000

The Maryland State Library reserved 20 seats for participants from 18 library systems for ALA/PLA's "Planning and Management of Buildings" online training session being offered January 13, 2020 through February 23, 2020. The course is asynchronous and recorded lectures, so there are no set times for participation.

The Governor's Capital Budget for FY 2020 will be released on January 15, 2020. The Department of Budget and Management's Capital Budgeting Office indicates that it is considering our request for supplemental funding above the mandated \$5,000,000. The Montgomery County Library System withdrew their proposal to renovate the Chevy Chase Library on November 13, 2019 resulting in just four projects from four counties being recommended at a total of \$7,100,000.

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (LBPH)

Programs and Events

- The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped will change its name to the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled as of October 1. The Maryland LBPH is continues to work with stakeholders on changing its name.
- The Maryland Accessible Textbook Program is working with 47 students at eight colleges across the state. They have completed over 151 textbook conversions for the fall semester. In particular, they have been working on conversions of specific editions of Shakespeare plays for LBPH patrons attending St. John's College.
- The Recording Studio has submitted 159 Marylandia books to the Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD). These titles have been downloaded 9,085 times by patrons across the State of Maryland and across the country.
- The Duplication on Demand task force continues to work on implementing customized cartridges for our patrons, making recommendations for hardware and workflow. The Scribe device will arrive from Keystone in December for LBPH to begin testing.
- LBPH Outreach led by Ashley Biggs, Outreach Librarian, has included a teleconference on weather and disaster preparedness for people with disabilities, and an upcoming tactile tour of M&T Bank Stadium, home of the Baltimore Ravens.
- The LBPH Blog went live in November, featuring regular contributions and information from staff, patrons, and partners. Find it at <https://mdlbph.blogspot.com/>.
- LBPH participated in One Maryland One Book. This year's book was What the Eyes Don't See by Mona Hanna-Attisha. Mary Ramos, Collection Development Librarian, moderated a teleconference with Ruth Ann Norton of the Green and Healthy Homes Initiative speaking about lead poisoning prevention in the state of Maryland.

- Ms. Biggs attended the Library Marketing and Communication Conference in St. Louis, presenting on accessibility in marketing materials.
- Jerry Price is preparing a new slate of LBPH Technology User Group (TUG) sessions for 2020, exploring accessible devices and software. We are looking at hosting TUG meetings year-round and adding a teleconferencing option for remote real-time participation.
- The Build a Better Book summer program with OpenWorks Mobile, Full Blast STEAM and Baltimore City Youthworks created several tactile and multi-modal books, using both traditional textiles as well as electronics. Ms. Myles and Amanda Gonzalez, Patron Services Librarian, presented at MD TechConnect in December and have visited other public library systems to garner interest in creating a collection of these types of books. They will also be presenting at the MLA Conference and the NLS Conference, both in May 2020.
- As part of the Read Across Maryland initiative, LBPH promoted Read Braille Across Maryland by sending out Braille Bettie in the month of October to great success. Ms. Biggs and Ms. Myles are approaching other LBPHs around the country about making this a national emphasis. See the Braille Bettie posts by searching at #ReadBrailleMD.
- Our volunteers have contributed over 2,200 hours of service so far this calendar year.
- LBPH currently serves 6,990 Active Patrons in every county in the State of Maryland

[Public Libraries and State Networking Branch \(PLSNB\)](#)

Programs and Events

- Use of the statewide Ask Us Now! 24/7 chat reference service has been declining for several years, therefore, we will be sun-setting the program in calendar year 2020. The first steps will be to change the hours to 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. instead of 24/7 effective January 1, 2020.
- PLSNB hosted a Veterans/Military Services Summit: "Serving Those Who Serve" on Thursday, November 7, 2019 at the New Carrollton Branch (PGCMLS). This was a gathering of library liaisons and staff from support organizations for veterans/military families to nurture a partnership in the provision of resources, programs, and services to veterans, military families, and youth connected youth. The 50 attendees reported that it was one of the most useful programs they had been to, and they had learned about valuable resources previously unknown.
- The Public Library Trustees/Citizens for Maryland Libraries Conference was held on Saturday, October 26, 2019 at the newly renovated Central Branch of the Enoch Pratt Free Library. More than 130 people attended this event. Thanks to CML for working with MSL to produce such a special day!
- The statewide committee has selected a consultant, Opinion Works, for the State-Wide Public Opinion Poll. The results will be used, in part, to tell us what people value in libraries and communities. Some state-level marketing materials to communicate the impact of libraries will be funded through the grant.
- A new cycle of One Maryland One Book is beginning for 2020 - this year's theme is Friendship.

Grants

We will be announcing 2020 MLA Conference Grant application dates in the next few weeks. We're hoping that by moving the timeline, we will be able to simplify the process for both MLA and systems.

Youth Services

- The November Youth Services Coordinators' (YSC) fall meeting included a discussion of changes to the Summer Reading Program promotional artwork. It was determined that some of the artwork may be deemed offensive to American Indians and Tribal nations. Carrie Sanders, MSL's Youth Services Coordinator demonstrated statewide leadership in working both with the national group (Collaborative Summer Reading Program) and Maryland youth services staff in managing a very fast response to a quickly evolving situation. The meeting folders contain an infographic describing the magnitude of impact that the summer reading program has in Maryland.
- 44,000 copies of the Maryland Day By Day: Family Literacy Activity Calendar, as well as books by the illustrator were distributed to all public libraries in Maryland in the middle of November.
- MSL is participating in the second national cohort of YALSA's Transforming Teen Services: A Train the Trainer Approach project, which will train staff to support connected learning and computational thinking skills in teens. Carrie Sanders and Kelsey Hughes from Prince George's County Memorial Library System attended an intensive training in November in Chicago, and have begun presenting the training to Maryland libraries.

Organizational and Staff Development

- MSL is offering intensive three day workshops on Agile project management. The first sessions were held at two Central Maryland locations (Arbutus and Laurel). Approximately 50 people attended. The Agile workshop series has also been scheduled for the Eastern and Southern regions this winter and will be scheduled for spring in the Western region.
- MSL hosted the fifth annual MD Tech Connect conference at USM Shady Grove campus on December 6, 2019. The event was designed to bridge the various library technology worlds to be inclusive of staff from all types of libraries. Over 250 people from all types of libraries (including librarians from other states). Event partners included Universities of Shady Grove Priddy Library and the Special Libraries Association, Maryland Chapter.

Updates

Citizens for Maryland Libraries

- Ms. Wheeler reported on the annual CML trustee's conference and shared how successful the conference was. She also discussed the CML meeting in Easton the past Saturday.
- Ms. Wheeler informed the board on the status of the Poe House Literary Landmark celebration on January 19, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. The celebration is being held on Poe's birthday and will be at the Poe House on Amity Street. This is being sponsored by United for Libraries.

University of Maryland iSchool

Faculty Awards / Recognition

- Dr. Jonathan Lazar received the Inaugural Rachel Olivero Accessibility Innovation Award from the National Federation of the Blind MD for championing and developing accessible technology for people with disabilities. [Read more.](#)
- Dr. Mega Subramaniam received the Library Journal Mover and Shaker Award for developing innovative youth programming and tools in libraries.
- Dr. Mega Subramaniam received a Fulbright Specialist Award.

- Dr. Michael J. Kurtz received the Society of American Archivists (SAA) Council Exemplary Service Award.
- Student Awards / Recognition
- Jennifer Conway (MLIS) and Gabi Huesca (MLIS) received the ALA Spectrum Scholars Award.
- Bryce Hammond (HCIM, formerly InfoSci), Brian Nganjo (InfoSci), and Darius Lawson (InfoSci) received 3 Forbes Under 30 Scholars Awards.

Research Grants

- Dr. Susannah Paletz received a \$1.5M Minerva Grant to understand what triggers social media sharing in information/disinformation campaigns.
- Dr. Ana Ndumu submitted two IMLS grants: Libraries, Integration, and New Americans: Understanding immigrant acculturative stress (Research in Service to Practice grant) and Breaking barriers: National forum on the future of Black librarianship in conjunction with BCALA.
- Faculty Presentations / Workshops
- Shandra Morehouse (PhD), Dr. Jessica Vitak, Dr. Mega Subramaniam, and Yuting Liao (PhD) are presenting the research paper Creating a library privacy policy by focusing on patron interactions at the 2020 iConference in Boras, Sweden.
- Dr. Beth Bonsignore, Dr. Mega Subramaniam, and Dr. Tamara Clegg are leading a workshop by the YX lab team with their industry and library collaborators at the 2020 iConference in Boras, Sweden, titled Designing learning technologies and programs with youth: A designathon.
- 20 iSchool students (including 11 MLIS students) have contributed to the 4th Computational Archives Science (CAS) Workshop held at the 2019 IEEE Big Data Conference in Los Angeles, CA on Wednesday, December 11, 2019.
- Dr. Richard Marciano is presenting at the UCLA Computational Archival Science Unconference on December 12, 2019, together with three iSchool students (“Reframing Digital Curation Practices through Computational Thinking Framework”).
- Innovations / Service to the State of Maryland
- Dr. Niklas Elmquist is leading a team to build DataWorld on the UMD College Park Campus. Data World is an augmented reality world that shows events, history, fast facts, crime alerts, and more on your phone/tablet/headset as you walk through campus (similar to Pokemon Go). UMD College Park is the test center with the intention of a future widespread rollout to have implications on public safety, tourism, and civic engagement.
- Dr. Ana Ndumu is working with PG County and the MSL Census Task Force to collect data and help prepare Maryland’s academic libraries, especially HBCUs, to achieve complete census count.
- Bachelor of Science in Information Science (BSIS) Program Innovation
- The BSIS program launched 2 new specializations: Cybersecurity & Privacy and Digital Curation.
- The Digital Curation specialization was driven by the interests and expertise of faculty involved in the MLIS program. In this specialization, students learn to collect, digitize, appraise, curate, and disseminate information assets effectively and efficiently. The rollout of this specialization began with the offering of one course, INST341: Introduction to Digital Curation, which reached maximum capacity shortly after being announced and added to the Fall 2019 Schedule of Classes. New courses for the specialization are planned for Spring 2020: INST441: Information Ethics and Policy and INST443: Tools and Methods for Digital Curation. Two weeks into registration for Spring courses, INST441 was already on a waitlist. InfoSci students have also continued to inquire about expanded offerings in the Digital Curation specialization, including

additional sections of INST341. The popularity of the Digital Curation specialization demonstrates InfoSci student interest in information organization and digital resources.

Faculty Hires

We are in the process of a faculty search in the area of Library Innovation. Read more.

Fall 2019 Graduation

The Fall 2019 graduating class consists of 129 students, including 98 InfoSci students and 25 MLIS students.

Career Fairs

The Fall 2019 Library and Archives Career Fair had 20+ employers present.

The Spring Career Fair is on Wednesday, March 4th in the Colony Ballroom and will focus on cybersecurity and human-computer interaction.

ALA Accreditation Reception

The ALA accreditation reception has not been finalized yet, but it will most likely be held on Wednesday, February 19th from 4:00 - 6:00 pm in Hornbake North 0300.

Diversity and Inclusion

- Dr. Ana Ndumu has been invited to chair ASIS&T Diversity & Inclusion Task Force
- Across all degree programs, we have 1450 students from 49 countries, 29% of students are from underrepresented groups (black, hispanic, or mixed/other), 44% of students are female. In our Bachelor of Science in Information Science program, with 1000 students, 36% of students are from underrepresented groups. In our Master of Science in Human-Computer Interaction program (a STEM program), 67% of students are female.
- Dr. Butler also advised that the undergraduate program will be voted on in January. Dr. Butler discussed staffing for the iSchool. The school is hiring eleven faculty and twelve staff members. These will include library innovation and three archive positions as well as a faculty director for the shady Grove location.
- Renovations on the Hornbake Library will be in the next two to three years. The school has the money for the renovation. The scope of the renovations are adding new lab space (preservation space), offices, research labs, and collaborations. The renovations will take up about two-thirds of all the space. Dr. Butler is on the strategic plan which is working on how to reach the rest of the state.
- A new program is being introduced in information design and a technology program. There will also be a masters in gaming analytics. This will be a first for the east coast as there is nothing for egaming. The iSchool is partnering with the College of Behavior Science to offer a social data science degree. Both will also be partnering with the Criminology Program.
- The iSchool will have an accreditation visit on February 19th through February 21, 2020 with a visit from ALA. There will be a reception on February 19th.

Enoch Pratt Free Library

Ms. Daniel reported that Enoch Pratt has adopted their new five year strategic plan for 2022 through 2025. Their focus was on funding, community outreach and community engagement. They will be

introducing literacy in non-traditional forms. There is a staff focused component on trauma informed training. She also shared that circulation is the highest it has been in nine years with increases in library visits and that attendance in programs has exceeded their goals.

Ms. Daniel also reported that the City of Baltimore is proposing a five percent budget reduction that will potentially affect the Park Heights and Pimlico areas. This will be a nine million funding shortfall.

Higher Education Commission

This seat on the State Library Board is vacant.

Maryland Library Association (MLA)

Leadership Training

- Nettie B. Taylor Maryland Library Leadership Institute (MLLI) - MLA celebrated the completion of course work for the 24 students in the 2019 class. The scope of project ideas and the leadership discussions held for the closing retreat were impressive. The future of Maryland libraries are in good hands. Maureen Sullivan did a wonderful job challenging them to stretch themselves and learn.
- All three sessions of Agile Training were completed on December 4. This training was well received with some helpful input from attendees.
- MLLI and Agile Training were supported, in part, by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, through the Library Services and Technology Act, administered by the Maryland State Library.

Library Legislative Day – February 5, 2020

- Libraries from all over Maryland will visit their delegates and senators in Annapolis on Wednesday, February 5, 2020. Input from both the Intergovernmental Advisory Panel and the Legislative Panel is being compiled to provide attendees talking points for these visits. This day is a very good way for librarians and staff to get an opportunity to see their legislators as they work in Annapolis, and to speak with them on issues relevant to libraries in Maryland.

MLA/DLA Conference 2020 in Cambridge, MD

- The 2020 Conference Committee continues to work towards another successful annual conference. The theme will be “Into the Roaring Twenties.” Programs have been selected and keynotes scheduled. The 2020 conference will be held May 6-8, 2020 at the Hyatt Regency in Cambridge.
- Maryland Association of Counties Conference, Winter, Dec 4-6, 2019
- Margaret Carty and Morgan Miller attended the winter MACO conference.
- MLA Units and Task Forces
- Tech Committee will be hosting a “Technology Petting Zoo” at the upcoming conference.
- The MLA Branding Task Force is working on the recommended next steps of holding focus groups with members and non-members.

Literary Landmark

- The Edgar Allan Poe House & Museum in Baltimore has been awarded Maryland’s first Literary Landmark. This program, founded by former FOLUSA President Frederick Ruffner and overseen

by United for Libraries, encourages the dedication of historic literary sites. There are currently landmarks in 35 states and 4 located inside Washington DC. A dedication is planned in honor of the esteemed poet's 211th birthday on Jan. 19, 2020. at 1 p.m. The date coincides with the celebration of Poe's 211th birthday. The event is free, and the public is invited to attend

eBook Access

- MLA continues to monitor the situation with Macmillan. At this time there is little new information to present.

Nominations for 2020-2021

The Nomination Committee has submitted a slate of officers for 2020-2021. Once the open nominations period is completed, a slate of officers will be submitted to the membership for elections. Morgan Miller, Executive Director of Cecil County Public Library, is the incoming President.

MLA Legislative and Advocacy Issues

- Ms. Marshall reported that there has been many changes in the Annapolis leadership. Not only with Senator Mike Miller stepping down but also a lot of committee membership and leadership changes. She anticipates that libraries will be very busy building new relationships.
- Advocates inter-governmental, MLA and Pratt to increase funding for SLRC in 2020 that has received advice from the Secretary for the budget. The libraries were not dissuaded from pursuing the issue of SLRC funding increase. For the capital budget, Ms. Marshall stated that there has been no change to the amount of funding since 2008.
- Ms. Marshall reported on the library systems going fine free. There is an effort to have the State reimburse the library systems that go fine free. Senator Elfreth is backing this effort. There may be problems with asking the State to reimburse the library systems. This is a slippery slope because we do not want the State stepping on local library boards' authority. Ms. Marshall asks that will find a solution that will end the discussion and makes everyone look good.

School Library Media

- Maryland Standards for School Libraries – We conducted two Standards trainings this Fall. There were many presentations at the Maryland Association of School Librarians conference in October.
- School Library Media Online Reporting – Final draft of the survey is complete. The survey opens February 10, 2020 and closes May 8, 2020
- Maryland Repository/#GoOpen – OER (Open Education Resources) Initiative – We have conducted regional meetings with 14 of the 24 districts to discuss OER and School Library Media priorities.
- Upcoming meetings and important dates:
- Combined meetings with School Library Supervisors and Instructional Technology Liaisons – March 24, Carver Staff Development Center, Gambrills
- MDK12 Digital Library
- Vendor was held November 22. 8 vendors presented. Trials for new products will run through the end of January.

Upcoming meetings:

- Early February – review trails; send RFQs to chosen vendors

- March/April - meetings to finalize price list

MILEX – Information Literacy Summit

- The 2020 Summit will be held at Pratt again in July.
- Local School System - Library Media Positions
- Still no update on the Maryland Teacher Staffing Report. It is expected that the School Library Media Specialist will still be classified as a critical shortage area.
- Eastern Shore districts continue to eliminate/reduce positions. The MASL Advocacy Committee, chaired by Emmanuel Faulkner (Baltimore City PS), is organizing responses to these cuts.
- Ms. Hicks reported that Dr. Karen Salmon will not be running again for her position as School Superintendent. Hopefully, the new superintendent will be in the role in July. MSDE is expecting a trickledown effect.
- Ms. Hickes discussed standards approval. Certification repealing COMAR will impact the school librarians. Standards outranks all other changes to COMAR. MSDE will have the standards revised and ready to move forward hoping to make the January meeting for approval. It is tenuous as to whether this will be approved in time.
- Ms. Daggett reported that with increase in communication, membership in MASL has increased. They are updating the website. The conference last fall had a record number of paying attendees. They used cell phone apps to push out meetings and online events.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Public Comment

No public comments were submitted.

State Library Board Members Update

Ms. Marshall announced her retirement. This was only to the board. A formal public announcement will be made in the following week. She will retire the end of April, 2020.

Mr. Martin discussed the need to review the bylaws for possible updates. Ms. Malmstrom has been working on this issue.

FY 2020 Meeting Calendar

Ms. Padilla represented for Ms. Maneki the request to move the Board meeting from Friday, March 20, 2020 to Monday, March 16, 2020 because of a conflict with legislation being in session. The location for the March meeting will be announced at a later time.

Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 12:44 p.m.