



# MLS Member Update

## August 2017

### Executive Board Action/Approvals -- August 21, 2017

#### Declaration of Inclusion

The Board approved a new statement for MLS that was drafted and finalized by MLS staff members to be as inclusive as possible and encourage inclusiveness in member libraries.

“The Massachusetts Library System (MLS) mission states: “The Massachusetts Library System, a state-supported collaborative, fosters cooperation, communication, innovation, and sharing among member libraries of all types. The MLS promotes equitable access to excellent library services and resources for all who live, work, or study in Massachusetts.” Our mission has always embraced social justice.

The MLS Team is committed to providing services that benefit and contribute to the library profession’s core values: diversity, inclusion, equity, access to information, free expression, privacy, and social justice.”

### Annual Meeting Agenda (tentative) – November 6, 2017 at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester – Mark you Calendars and Please Join Us!

9:00	Registration (coffee on your own)
9:30	MLS Update and Business Meeting
	MBLC Update
	MLA Legislative Committee Update
	Project SET Presentations
12:30	Luncheon (provided by MLS)
	Miguel Figueroa, ALA Center for the Future of Libraries - Keynote
3:00	Adjourn

#### Personnel Committee recommendations

- Two revised job descriptions (see more info below)
  - MassCat/IT Manager (full time)
  - Desktop Support Specialist (full time)

### **FY2018 Budget Revision (the current fiscal year)**

- State funding was boosted by about \$98,000, which helps greatly with inflationary increases. Unfortunately it is insufficient to alleviate the service curtailments implemented in July due to a shortfall approaching \$1 million.

### **New Roles for MLS Staff**

**Scott Kehoe** is now the MassCat/Internet Technology Manager. In addition to his responsibilities as MassCat Manager he will manage all of MLS internal information technology, service and support for MLS working closely with Amos Thomas, Desktop Support Specialist.

**Amos Thomas** our part-time Desktop Support Specialist has accepted the full-time position at MLS and he will split his time between Marlborough and Northampton. His full-time duties will begin on September 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **Member News – New Director Appointments**

Kelly Unsworth, Merrimac Public Library  
Catherine McDonald, Lucius Beebe Memorial Library, Wakefield  
Whitney Pape, Blanding Free Public Library, Rehoboth  
Abigail Noland, Gleason Public Library, Carlisle

### **eBook Request for Proposal Issued**

On behalf of Commonwealth eBook Collections and other Interested Parties and Partners, Massachusetts Library System (MLS) seeks responses from a wide array of interested eBook, eMagazine and Streaming Media Solution Providers to serve its consortium of academic, public, school and special libraries. All established and emerging Providers are encouraged to submit responses. Click [here](#) for more information about the RFP.

### **Member Service News**

A recording of our July webinar "[Librarians' Critical Role Serving Immigrant Communities](#)" is now available on the [MLS Vimeo channel](#). The webinar is presented by Ted Albers of the US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), the US Government branch of the Department of Homeland Security responsible for providing immigration services and benefits such as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), employment authorization, lawful permanent

residency and U.S. citizenship. In this webinar, Mr. Albers offers suggestions about how to refer library patrons who may need immigration information or services to qualified immigration service providers. Click through to the video's description for additional resources, and a special offer.

Our recent webinar on **Libraries and Compassion Fatigue** saw our highest registrations for a webinar ever. Over 170 people registered to attend. We're investigating a follow-up session.

The Spring Program, **Talking Diversity in MA Libraries**, which highlighted several of our Strategic Plan goals and themes, saw over 130 attendees. It was co-created with our planning committee, made up of MLS staff, MBLC staff, and member library staff. The Idea Fair at the program was also a co-creator culture development.

The **Word of Mouth Marketing** program kicked off and is in progress. 25 libraries are participating in teams and several have begun their projects. Visit Talkie, the new mascot for the Perkins Braille and Talking Book Library, which was created as their WOMM project.

[https://twitter.com/perkins\\_library](https://twitter.com/perkins_library)

**Project SET** has entered year three, with 12 participants from libraries representing all types and areas of MA. They will be presenting at our Annual Meeting in November. Project SET is a valued and critical service provided by MLS.

**BiblioTemps®** conducted six interviews in July and made two placements. We currently have nine active BiblioTemps placed. The marketing team is working with BT to get the word out to more libraries about this unique MLS service.

## Upcoming Events

September 8

**Getting to Know InfoTrac Newsstand**

[Online]

September 11

**Rethinking School Outreach**

[Shrewsbury] & **Reaching Teachers:**

**Practical Tips for Librarians** [Shrewsbury]

September 15

**MHEC EXPO**

Mass Mutual Center (new location)

1277 Main St, Springfield MA 01103

<http://www.mhec.net/events/event/expo-2017/>

November 6

**MLS Annual Meeting** Keynote: Miguel

Figueroa, ALA Center for the Future of

Libraries [Worcester]