

Member Update September 2017



Executive Board Action on September 18, 2017

Bylaws up for Member Comment

The MLS Bylaws Committee made recommendations to revise the bylaws. The Council of Members must approve such changes at the Annual Meeting. The Board reviewed the changes and agreed that members should be given the opportunity to comment prior to the Annual Meeting. Because of the short time-frame and because we need legal review and additional Board input, we offer members the chance to **comment by September 29, 2017**.

[Revised Bylaws](#)

[Comment Form](#)

[Register for Annual Meeting](#)

Vacancy on Board Filled

An unanticipated vacancy on the Board was filled with the appointment of **Melinda Webster Loof of the Bowman School** in Lexington. Melinda has served on the Budget Committee for some time and will run for election in November to complete the remainder of the two-year term.

Approved Nominating Committee Recommendations--Slate of Candidates for Election on November 6, 2017

Executive Board Directors

Last Name	First Name	Library	Community	Type	Term
Loof	Melinda Webster	Bowman School	Lexington	School	2 years
McAndrew	Tina	Worcester Talking Book Library	Worcester	Special	3 years
Plimpton	Becky	Joshua Hyde Public Library	Sturbridge	Public	3 years

Executive Board Officers

Dombrowski	Clare	Amesbury PL	Amesbury	Public	Vice President /Pres/Past Pres	3 years
Schuck	Elena	Mattacheese Middle School	W. Yarmouth	School	Clerk	1 year
Berube	Matthew	Jones Library	Amherst	Public	Treasurer	1 year

Directors Forums being scheduled over the Coming Months – Seeking Host Locations

These events provide an opportunity for library directors to get together with a brief MLS update and conversation with your colleagues on topics of your choice. If you would like to host a directors forum, please send a note to [Greg Pronevitz](#). We often hold directors forums on Friday, sometimes as a brown bag lunch and at other times as a morning or afternoon meeting. Usually we schedule two hours. Please let me know if you have a preference for a day of the week or time of day.

Commonwealth eBook Collections RFP

Many responses were received and we are sharing information about vendor webinars, online trials, and evaluations via email. If you would like to be part of a trial, please send a note to [Steve Spohn](#).

Institute for Database Engagement and Leadership (IDEAL)

A program to provide and share information with a small group of members on database content, techniques, promotion, in collaboration with Gale, MBLC, and MLS. Applications are due by October 3, 2017. [CLICK for MORE INFO or to APPLY](#)

Site Visits

MLS and Optima are continually researching ways to improve and optimize services for our members. Over the past month, we have made site visits to libraries and viewed their operations. Everyone has expressed positive comments with their delivery service. Operations appear to be running smoothly. Various libraries utilize different approaches to processing materials. These approaches include low-wheeled bin trucks, lifts, and a materials handling system. We are looking forward to more site visits.

Upcoming Fall Events – Check Out our New CE Calendar

We are pleased to announce our Fall 2017 Training Calendar! Our schedule includes more than 50 events of the type you've enjoyed in the past: in-person half- and full-day events, webinars, special guests, Commonwealth eBook Collection (CeC) training, and discussion forums.

We're excited to welcome **Miguel Figueroa, Director of ALA's Center for the Future of Libraries**, who will be our featured speaker at our **Annual Meeting on November 6**. In addition to our business meeting and updates, current Project SET participants will make short presentations – a popular element of last year's program! [RSVP](#)

Our **Ninth Annual Teen Summit** is scheduled for **October 17 in Worcester**. [RSVP](#)

The "real world" is *now* for teens – how can teen librarians help prepare them for life outside of the library? Join us to engage in topics such as mental health, civic engagement, social justice, and programming for today's teens. Our keynote speaker, Danielle Allen, PhD, Director of Harvard's Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard University and author of *Cuz: the life and times of Michael A*, will speak about civic engagement and teens in society.

Paired workshop days offered by the MLS Consulting Team provide the option of attending either session, or both for a full day of learning which are repeated in multiple locations. [Register](#)

- [Get STEAMed: the How and Why of Adding STEAM to Your Library](#) with April Mazza

- [Run with Scissors: Library Hacks and Creative Problem-Solving for You and Your Patrons](#) with Christi Showman Farrar
- [Sustainable Change Management: Motivation](#) with Kelly Jo Woodside
- [Sustainable Change Management: Communication](#) with Cinthya Ippoliti, Associate Dean for Research and Learning Services, Oklahoma State University
- [Caring for the Mind: Providing Mental Health Information at Your Library](#) with Michelle Eberle
- [Mindfulness for Librarians](#) with Ethel Fraga, former librarian and mindfulness coach

New CE Calendar for MLS and Affiliates

We're also pleased to announce that in response to our members and staff suggestions and guidance, we have a new event calendar platform! Please update your links and bookmarks! Visit our new calendar at calendar.masslibsystem.org

New features include search, filtering events by interest (topic), format (CE classes, meetings, MLS events, webinars, or self-paced online learning), and a more streamlined registration field. You can also manage your registration, which includes cancelling when necessary.

You'll also find meetings hosted by Massachusetts library groups on our **Affiliate Calendar**, which can be selected from our main calendar page by clicking the "Browse by Calendar" button.

Development Task Force Formed

This taskforce will look at what is out there and select a path forward by evaluating and bringing recommendations to the board. This could end up being ongoing recommendations. Our strategic plan calls for the development of different funding sources and this would have to intersect with that work.

ILL Policy Task Force Formed

The ILL policy needs to be reviewed and revised to bring it in line with new national ILL standards, which were just updated. The taskforce will update and revise and send to executive board to approve.