

Member Update - November 2017



Fy2017 Annual Report

We are pleased to announce the publication of our fy2017 MLS Annual Report. We've summarized many accomplishments and milestones for the past year in as concise a manner as possible. We welcome your comments on this report. [DOWNLOAD](#)

Upcoming Events

Directors Forums - We are pleased to announce two upcoming library directors' forums in December and January. Our colleagues in member libraries are hosting these meetings with the chief purpose to provide library directors an opportunity to discuss topical issues with your colleagues.

Please send a note to greg@masslibsystem.org, if you have a topic to discuss or if you'd like to host a forum in February, March, or April.

- Northfield, Dickinson Memorial Library, Dec. 15 at 11-1 (brown-bag lunch)
- Blackstone Public Library, Jan. 17 at 11-1 (brown-bag lunch)

[CLICK FOR CE CALENDAR](#)

Actions and Report from the MLS Annual Meeting – November 6, 2017 at the College of the Holy Cross, Worcester

Henry Toromoreno, MLS President (Haverhill High School Library) kicked off the meeting with a welcome and expression of thanks to MLS' great group of staff members who make it happen with their upbeat attitudes and hard work. He also thanked outgoing long-term Board members Betty Johnson, Griswold Memorial Library (Colrain) and Patrick Marshall, Jonathan Bourne Library (Bourne) for their lengthy service that extended from the MLS Transition Team.

Greg Pronevitz, Executive Director, provided an update that also expressed appreciation to the staff, and included MLS' new Declaration of Inclusion and an update on the goals in our strategic plan, i.e., facilitating a co-creator culture, enhancing future readiness, and enhancing capacity for marketing and communications to strengthen the Massachusetts library community. [CLICK](#) for presentation summary.

Congratulations to Newly Elected 2018 Executive Board Members and Officers

Elected

1. Tina McAndrew, Worcester Talking Book Library (3-year term)
2. Becky Plimpton, Joshua Hyde Library, Sturbridge (3-year term)

Re-elected

1. Matthew Berube, Jones Library, Amherst (3-year term)
2. Melinda Webster Loof, Bowman School, Lexington (2-year term)

3. Jackie Rafferty, Paul Pratt Memorial Library, Cohasset (2-year term)

Elected Officers

1. Clare Dombrowski, Amesbury Public Library, Vice President/President/Past President (3-year term)
 2. Matthew Berube, Jones Library, Amherst, Treasurer (1-year term)
 3. Elena Schuck, Matacheese Middle School, W. Yarmouth, Clerk (1-year term)
- **Members unanimously approved the fy2019 Plan of Service/Budget and revisions to MLS Bylaws.** The Plan of Service/budget for fy2019 will be the second year of implementing our strategic plan and, unfortunately, anticipates level funding with the current year and, due to this, services that were curtailed on July 1 are still unrestored, i.e., database funding, filling a Consultant vacancy, and reduction of more than 100 delivery stops.

The [Bylaws](#) revision improves board effectiveness by enlarging the pool of current board members eligible to run for President; adds the option to appoint non-voting Expertise Directors to add to the strength of our library colleagues on the board; and adds two new standing committees, i.e., Budget and Personnel. In addition the terms of office for board members appointed to fill vacancies have been clarified.

- **Project SET** - Congratulations to the dozen Project SET participants who impressed the crowd with their presentations. And thanks to the Project SET crew at MLS who have supported this learning community over the year. Nice job all! [CLICK](#) for presentations and more information.
- **Miguel Figueroa**, ALA Center for the Future of Libraries, brought our attention to the future in support of our strategic goal of enhancing libraries capacity for future readiness. [CLICK](#) for trends.

Delivery RFP - MLS issued a delivery RFP, which was posted on Friday, October 6, 2017. We held a Q&A phone call with vendors and we've posted written Q&A on the [RFP site](#). We are evaluating responses, which were due November 10th.

Commonwealth eBook Collections RFP - We have concluded the web presentations by the 16 vendors who submitted proposals to the eBooks, eMagazines and Streaming Media Solutions RFP. Trials are running and will end on November 17th. For complete information, please see the eBook RFP Dashboard or contact steve@masslibsystem.org.

2017 Teen Summit - On Tuesday, October 17 over 160 librarians from Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire attended the 9th Annual MLS/RIOLIS Teen Summit to share, learn, and discuss all things teen services. The day began with a keynote by Danielle Allen, Ph.D., James Bryant Conant University Professor and Director of the Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard University. Dr. Allen's work with the Youth Participatory Politics Research Network was the reason she was chosen to speak at Teen Summit. Attendees were given a thought-provoking introduction to the Network's "[10 Questions for Change Makers](#)", a framework to help youth determine their ability and place in civic engagement. In addition to her work researching youth participatory politics, Dr. Allen is also an author. She spoke briefly about her new book, [Cuz: the life and times of Michael A.](#), the story of Dr. Allen's cousin who, as a teen, was caught in a cycle of violence and incarceration.

The majority of the daylong conference consisted of breakout sessions on hot-topics in teen services. Participants were able to choose from sessions on great adult graphic novels for teens, breaking mental health stigma, providing safe spaces for teens, and creating social justice zines. The final session of the day was an ignite-style panel of program ideas for all types of library settings, from large-scale events like a Harry Potter party, to library-classroom collaborations in a high school. Feedback from the sessions was positive, with librarians saying the day was a “great selection of topics, breakouts, and panel speakers” and that they “always feel inspired after the Teen Summit.”

Mass. Library System (MLS) and the Rhode Island Office of Library Services (RIOLIS) would like to thank all the librarians and experts who made Teen Summit possible, with an especially warm thank-you to [Eduporium](#), our coffee sponsor and Tech Petting Zoo host. The MA-based company is a reseller of STEAM and MakerED innovative technology, providing kits and support to schools and libraries. To read more about the 2017 Teen Summit, and to find handouts from the sessions, visit the MLS [Guide](#). We hope to see you all next year at our 10th Annual Teen Summit!

Bet You Didn't Know! BiblioTemps Curiosities - BiblioTemps® was started in 2004 by the Central Massachusetts Regional Library System (CMRLS), which made 189 placements in 74 client libraries in the five years it operated the service. BiblioTemps® was discontinued in the merger of the six regional library systems into MLS and was relaunched as an MLS service in May 2012. From 2012 to 2017, BiblioTemps® has helped 89 libraries by successfully filling over 290 placements. Our client libraries consist of 63% public, 25% academic and 12% special or school libraries. We have filled 15 Interim Director placements, 70 Reference Librarian roles, 14 jobs in the Children's department and 130 positions in Circulation and much more.

We have filled some specialized roles that you may not have expected which include Business Office Assistant, Local Music Collection Cataloger, MakerLab Coordinator, and Library & Technology Services Specialist. The shortest temporary role was for one day and the longest was a position started in April 2014 and is ongoing as of November 2017.

Surprised? Call BiblioTemps® today to see what we can do for your library. BiblioTemps® is the Staffing Solutions for Libraries! Contact Shelah Coullard at 508-357-2121 x322 or Bibliotemps@masslibsystem.org

New and Returning Members

Cambridge Street Upper School Library
Contact: Norah Connolly
Email: nconnolly@cpsd.us

Southbridge High School Library
Contact: Mary Ellen Blake
Email: mblake@southbridgepublic.org