

Memorial Resolution Honoring Dr. Donna Louise Gilton

Whereas, Donna Louise Gilton, Professor Emerita from the University of Rhode Island passed away on November 28, 2023;

Whereas, she earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education and history and M.L.S. from Simmons College, and a PhD. in Library Science from the University of Pittsburgh;

Whereas, she worked as a reference librarian for many years at Boston Public Library, Belize Teachers College, Western Kentucky State University and Pennsylvania State University;

Whereas, she served for 23 years as a professor at the Graduate School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Rhode Island;

Whereas, she published extensively in peer-reviewed journals on information literacy, multiculturalism, diversity and business reference;

Whereas, she was the author of two books on multicultural children's literature and lifelong learning in libraries;

Whereas, she was a member of the American Library Association for 37 years;

Whereas, she was a member of several ALA divisions and round tables including: ACRL, PLA, RUSA, UNITED, EMIERT, IRRRT and LIRT;

Whereas, she served on several ACRL and RUSA Committees;

Whereas, she was a member of the Rhode Island Library Association;

Whereas, she was a longtime member of the Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA);

Whereas, she was a co-founder of Cornucopia of Rhode Island: a Library Community of Color in 2005;

Whereas, she was a member of the South Kingstown (Rhode Island) Library Board of Trustees;

Whereas, she mentored countless library students, advocated for their future, upheld the highest standards for the profession, and was a champion for diversity in librarianship;

Resolved, that the American Library Association, on behalf of its members,

1. Recognizes the distinguished 39 year career as a leader, educator and mentor;
2. Extends its sincere sympathy to the family of Dr. Donna Louise Gilton;
3. Send a copy of this resolution to her family, and to Dr. Valerie Karno, Director, University of Rhode Island Graduate School of Library and Information Studies and Laurel Clark, Director of the South Kingstown (RI) Public Library.

Moved by: Ed Garcia, Rhode Island Chapter Councilor edlibrary401@gmail.com

Seconded by: Catherine Damiani, Councilor-at-Large

Endorsed:

Jim Neal, Councilor-at-Large

Ana Elisa de Campos Salles, ALA Executive Board Member

Amy Lappin, ALA Executive Board Member

Adriana Blancarte-Hayward, Councilor-at-Large

Joseph Thompson, Maryland Chapter Councilor

Rhode Island Library Association