2017-2018 ALA CD#18.1-18.3

2018 ALA Annual Conference

**International Relations Committee Report to Council**

June 24, 2018

Committee Members: Leslie Burger (Chair), Mustafa Abdelwahid, Vivian Bordeaux, June Garcia, Valerie Gross, Brian Hart, Robin Kear, Allan Kleiman, Haipeng Li, Alexandra Rivera, Joan Weeks, Janice Welburn, Kenya Flash (intern), Ben Himmelfarb (intern), Michael Dowling (staff liaison).

**International Participants at ALA Annual**

The IRC is pleased to report to Council that 530 librarians from 59 countries are attending the Conference here in New Orleans. The IRC welcomed IFLA President Gloria Pérez-Salmerón and Secretary General Gerald Leitner at its meeting on Friday. Also attending the conference this year are a number of national association presidents, including Sang-Bok Lee, President of the Korean Library Association, as part of the biannual exchange of visits between ALA and the KLA.

In addition to the attendees, the exhibit floor has been enriched by the participation of 51 exhibitors from 11 countries.

International attendees have been providing information and insight on activities and initiatives in their countries through numerous programs and 24 posters. Attached is the flyer of international-focused programs and events (CD#18.2).

The IRC would like to thank the leaders and members of the International Relations Round Table (IRRT) for all their efforts to ensure a positive experience for our colleagues from abroad, from an orientation on Friday to staffing the International Visitors Lounge. In addition, international and U.S. colleagues will celebrate tonight in New Orleans style as the International Reception will be at B.B. King’s Blues Club.

**IFLA’s Global Vision and Mapping the World**

Pérez-Salmerón and Secretary General Leitner provided the IRC with an update on IFLA activities. After input from 31,000 librarians, library workers, and library supporters from 190 countries, IFLA released the [Global Vision Report Summary](https://www.ifla.org/files/assets/GVMultimedia/publications/gv-report-summary.pdf) this March, which provides ten highlights and opportunities toward uniting the global library community. The three-year [Global Vision](https://www.ifla.org/node/11905) has now moved into its second phase, turning the report into actionable ideas. ALA and three of its divisions (AASL, ACRL, PLA) and many affiliates participated in the North American regional workshop in April in Ottawa at the National Library and Archives of Canada.

Pérez-Salmerón and Secretary General Leitner also provided a program on the Global Vison on Saturday morning.

In addition to the Global Vision, IFLA’s [Library Map of the World](https://librarymap.ifla.org/about) continues to build as a robust tool providing country-level data and a worldwide comparison of different library performance metrics by region. ALA’s Library and Resource Center provides the U.S. statistics for the Map annually.

The Library Map of the World is also designed to serve as an advocacy resource, which will provide stories of how libraries in various countries contribute to achieving the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. ALA President-elect Loida Garcia-Febo will represent ALA and the U.S. library community on Wednesday, June 27, as part of a two-day IFLA advocacy effort at the United Nations. Librarians from 40 countries will participate.

**ALA Call For IFLA Nominations**

IFLA’s next election cycle is coming up. A call will be going out in July for members to serve as ALA representatives to the 48 sections and committees for the term 2019-2023.

**U.S.–Germany Library Partnership**

As the ALA-German Partnership moves into its final year, there continues to be an active exchange of people and information. In May a webinar was coordinated by ALA’s Europe Committee on “Libraries in Germany serving immigrants and refugees” with librarians working with migrant communities participating from Bremen, Hamburg and Stuttgart. There are 11 German librarians attending this year’s conference, and this morning there will be a program here at the conference center, entitled, “Library Building Design in Germany: An Overview.”

ALA President-elect Loida Garcia-Febo and members of the Europe Committee met at the German Library Conference earlier this month to discuss ideas for the final year of the partnership.

**American Library in Paris**

John Berry’s term as ALA representative to the American Library in Paris (ALP) ends this summer. A call will go out in July for nominees. Berry provided a final report to the IRC. There will be a change in leadership at the end of this summer as Deputy Director of Audrey Chapuis will take over after Director Jeffrey Hawkins departs. Planning is underway for the Library’s Centennial in 2020. The occasion offers a unique opportunity to raise funds and increase membership as the Library, founded by the American Library Association and Library of Congress at the end of the Great War, enters its second century. Stay tuned for details as initiatives are implemented.

**ALA-FIL Free Pass Program to Guadalajara Book Fair**

The IRC would like to thank ALA Executive Director Mary Ghikas for renewing the agreement for the ALA-FIL Free Pass Program for another three years, through 2021. This is one of the longest running diversity and inclusion initiatives in the association, and 2019 will mark the 20th year of this collaboration. The new agreement again will provide small stipends for up to 150 ALA members to attend the Guadalajara Book Fair to review and purchase from the wealth of Spanish-language materials at the Fair for their communities.

For the past few years a number of LIS student programs have participated, providing a valuable head start for the next generation of librarians who will be serving new immigrants and current residents in their libraries.

**Sharjah Library Conference**

ALA has developed another strong program for the 5th Sharjah Library Conference that will take place November 6-8, 2018, in collaboration with the Sharjah International Book Fair. Registration is open now open. In addition to the full slate of programs on November 7-8, two preconference workshops will be held on November 6th. One is the “ACRL Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education” and the other is “School Librarians Making Meaningful Change Around the World.”

**Caribbean Library Disaster Relief**

In addition to the recent 20 grants totally $80,000 to libraries in need in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, funds donated by ALA members were used to provide the payment for the shipment of 20 donated computers from Florida International University to the Philipsburg Jubilee Public Library on St. Maartin.

**Engaging New International Professionals**

ALA’s Emerging Leader’s Group G has created a report stating they will help recruit and connect with new international professionals. “Towards Increasing Engagement of International New Professional Leaders in ALA Activities” analyzes the results from Group G’s survey of ALA/IRRT international members. The IRC thanks the members of Emerging Leaders 2018 Groups G: Lindsay Inge Carpenter, Twanna Hodge, Joi Jackson, Gina Kromhout and Grace Yan Liu. The International Relations Office will be sharing and discussing the report with other ALA units this summer.

**Sixth North America-China Library Conference**

ALA will be part of this high-level event taking place July 31-August 2 in Columbus, Ohio. ALA President Jim Neal will provide the U.S. keynote. The theme of the conference is “Collaboration and Innovation: Envisioning a Shared Future.”

**Letter on Denial of Visas for Cuban Librarians to ALA Annual Conference**

As a follow-up to the recent interactions between ALA and the Cuban library community, a program on academic libraries in Cuba was planned for this year’s conference. Unfortunately, due to the deterioration in the government relations between the U.S. and Cuba, the Cuban librarians invited to be in New Orleans were denied visas. Fortunately, however, this did not happen last year as a number of Cuban librarians participated in the Chicago Annual Conference.

The IRC voted to ask ALA, under the signature of Executive Director Mary Ghikas, to send a letter to Secretary of State Michael Pompeo on this issue under ALA policy B 6.4 that states:

“In addition, ALA affirms and supports the rights of librarians and library workers from outside the U.S. to travel to the U.S. and not be prohibited or impeded by U.S. government policies, to attend and participate in conferences, to purchase books and other library materials, to meet and develop working relationships with librarians and library staff, to develop gift and exchange programs, to pursue and establish ties with library and other professional associations and libraries, and to conduct educational and professional library-related activities.”

The full policy B 6.4 is attached as CD#18.3.

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| A close up of a sign  Description generated with very high confidence | **ALA Welcomes**  **Library Professionals from**  **Around the World**  **to New Orleans!** |



2017-2018 ALA CD#18.2  
2018 ALA Annual Conference

**The ALA International Relations Office, the International Relations Committee (IRC), and the International Relations Round Table (IRRT) invite you to attend programs, events and meetings with an international focus.**

## IRC and IRRT Meetings

**FRIDAY, JUNE 22\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**International Relations Committee I**1:00 – 2:30 pm  
Ernest N. Morial Convention Center (MCC) - Room 203

**SATURDAY, JUNE 23\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**IRRT/IRC All Subcommittee Meeting**8:30–11:00 am  
Ernest N. Morial Convention Center - Room 271-273  
  
8:30 – 9:00 am IRRT Chairs Meeting

9:30 – 10:45 am IRRT Subcommittee Meetings

*8:30* – *11:00 am IRC* Committee Meetings

**IFLA Global Vision Discussion**11:00 am – 12:00 pm  
Morial Convention Center - Room 271-273

**SUNDAY, JUNE 24\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**IRRT Executive Board Meeting**11:30 am – 1:00 pm  
Ernest Morial Convention Center – Room 212

**International Relations Committee II**1:00 – 2:30 pm  
Ernest N. Morial Convention Center (MCC) - Room 211

**SUNDAY, JUNE 26\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**IRRT Executive Board Meeting**

8:30 am – 10:00 am  
Orange County Convention Center - S321

**MONDAY, JUNE 27\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**International Relations Committee II**

1:00 – 2:30 pm  
Orange County Convention Center - S321

**Don’t forget to visit the**

**IRRT International Visitors Center!**

Friday, June 22 – Sunday, June 24: 8:00 am-5:00 pm

Monday, June 25: 8:00 am-2:00 pm

Ernest Morial Convention Center, Lobby H

(near Registration Area)

**S**it and relax | **C**heck email or use the Internet | **A**sk questions about the ALA Conference and the city of New Orleans | **L**earn more about international events at the conference **U**se the IVC as a meeting point to connect with friends, and more!



**International Librarians Orientation**

2:30 PM - 4:00 PM  
Ernest N. Morial Convention Center (MCC) - Room 260-262  
**Description:** An introduction to the ALA Conference and the city of New Orleans, for international and other attendees from abroad. ALA members will provide an overview of the conference, including recommended programs and social activities. Learn about conference transportation, how to navigate the exhibit hall and how to get involved. You will also meet and network with other colleagues from ALA’s many divisions and round table who will help you to get the most from your conference experience.

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**Developing the Next Generation of Library Leaders in Africa**

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Ernest N. Morial Convention Center (MCC) - Room 284

**Description:** Librarians in Africa have a crucial role in national, regional, and global development. With 57 countries and 1.3 billion people Africa is a vast continent with opportunities and challenges. Libraries can be key to success, but to help transform libraries on the continent a new generation of library leaders, from all types of libraries, needs to be developed. Thanks to support from the Carnegie Corporation of New York and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation’s Global Libraries Initiative efforts are underway. The creation of the Centre for African Leadership, the training of academic librarians from Ghana, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda, and the new collaborative project between the Public Library Association and The African Library and Information Associations and Institutions are initiatives that will be showcased.

**Speakers: *Marlene Holmner***, University of Pretoria, South Africa; ***Buhle Mbambo-Thata***, AfLIA - the African Library and Information Association and Institutes

**Central American Connections**

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Ernest N. Morial Convention Center (MCC) - Room 285

**Description:** Want to better understand the situation in Central America and its libraries?  Interested in connecting with others working in the region?  A panel of experts working in the region will provide an overview of the current situation and the challenges being faced. They will be highlighting opportunities for helping libraries in Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador.  The Library of Dreams in El Salvador will be discussed by the founder, author and library activist, Jorge Argueta.  We will also have representatives from the Riecken Foundation in Guatemala and Honduras, the REFORMA Children in Crisis project and the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY).  Please plan on attending and showing your support for the region.

**Speakers:** ***Patrick Sullivan***, REFORMA Children in Crisis Task Force Co-Chair / San Diego State University; ***Jenny Lizarraga***, Cinco Books; ***Bill Cartwright***, Riecken Community Libraries, Changing Lives in Central America; ***Jorge Argueta***, Founder of Library of Dreams in El Salvador

**Libraries Saving Lives: Serving Immigrants and Refugees - IRRT Chair's Program**

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Ernest N. Morial Convention Center (MCC) - Room 391

**Description:** Global mobility and recent worldwide crises have led to an increase in immigrants and refugees seeking to improve their lives in sometimes unfamiliar countries and cultures. Libraries around the globe are responding to and welcoming the newcomers of all ages, languages, and nationalities into their communities. By developing services, programs, collections and spaces, they are assisting these particularly vulnerable populations with logistical and cultural adjustment through such programs as innovative language learning meet-ups, job-seeking guidance, and homework assistance. During this program, you’ll hear about how librarians in Malmö, Sweden; Cologne, Germany; and Kentucky, U.S., are using ground-breaking models and creating dynamic spaces to engage immigrants and refugees. Panelists will make suggestions on how you can adapt these ideas to transform your own libraries into socially inclusive spaces.

**Moderators: *Christina Riehman-Murphy***, Penn State University Libraries, Abington College; ***Jeremiah Paschke-Wood***, University of Arizona

**Speakers**: ***Loida Garcia-Febo***, Information New Wave; ***Hannelore Vogt***, Cologne Public Library; ***Sophie Maier***, Louisville Free Public Library; ***Torbjorn Nilsson***, Malmo City Library

**Support for Services to Immigrant and Refugees through Sister Libraries**

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Ernest N. Morial Convention Center (MCC) - Room 283

**Description**: The Sister Libraries partnership program managed through IRRT is often perceived as a means for foreign libraries – especially those in developing countries - to improve their professional quality, by learning from American libraries. While this is one of the benefits for those libraries, there are also benefits for American libraries. Partnerships are two-way streets, and when handled well both sides can learn a lot from each other. A particularly timely lesson that partnerships can help American libraries learn is how to support people in their communities who are immigrants and refugees, or even simply exchange students – people who are far from home and looking to become comfortable in their new environment. Public libraries are often called upon to participate in the package of support provided to these individuals, but so are school and academic libraries. Unfortunately, however, these libraries are often not provided support of their own, and are left to figure out for themselves how to serve these populations.

**Moderator: *Rebecca Miller***, BiblioDev, LLC

**Speakers:** ***Alexandra Humphreys***, Arizona State University Library; ***John Szabo***, Los Angeles Public Library; ***Javier Martinez***, City of Buenos Aires, Argentina; ***Carol Brey***, U.S. Department of State City of Buenos Aires, Argentina

**Equality, diversity and inclusion in Southeast/East Asia & Pacific Libraries**

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Ernest N. Morial Convention Center (MCC) – Room 290

**Description:** Libraries are considered inclusive institutions, where all users expect to receive the same level of service regardless of personal characteristics such as age, gender, marital status, race, religion, sexual orientation or social class. Librarians from Southeast/East Asia & Pacific region will be sharing experiences from different countries on (1) development of inclusive services/programs/activities; (2) challenges faced; and (3) future opportunities.

**Moderator**: ***Katherina Lee***, Nanyang Technological University

**Speakers:** ***Caitlin MacKenzie Mannion***, Shanghai New York University; ***John Hickok***, California State University Fullerton; ***Somporn Puttapithakporn,*** Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University (STOU); ***Buenaventura "Ven" Basco***, University of Central Florida; ***Wen Yu***, New Taipei City, Taiwan

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**Libraries supporting social Inclusion for refugees and Immigrants - IRRT's Paper and Projects Session**

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Ernest N. Morial Convention Center (MCC) - Room 285

**Description**: A panel of international speakers will discuss how libraries throughout the world, on their own or in collaboration with community organizations, are providing social services and support for refugees and immigrants. UNESCO emphasizes the importance of social inclusion for international migrants and encourages cities and local governments to "ensure social rights for migrants to adequate housing, education, health and social care, welfare and decent standard of living according to basic needs such as food, energy and water.” This program will examine ways that libraries are doing that.

**Speakers:** ***Elena Clariza,*** University of Hawaii at Manoa; ***Marit Vestlie,*** National Library of Norway; ***Nicola Ravden,*** The Royal Danish Library; ***Anne K. Thuv,*** Finnmark County Library; ***Veronicha Angell Bergli,*** Finnmark County Library***; Sophie Essmat,*** Oslo University College

**International Poster Session**

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Exhibit floor - Next to booth 711

**Description:** Come to the Exhibit floor and find out about innovative programs and transformative ideas that are shaping libraries all over the world.

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| 1. A Survey of The Provision of Consumer Health Information on Public Libraries Websites in Taiwan 2. A Toolkit for Assessing and Reframing Services for International Students 3. Above and Beyond: Librarians Co-Leading Cross Cultural Short-Term Study Abroad Courses 4. Bringing Madagascar to Florida: A librarian's experiences with the 8th Continent 5. CCS E-News Value-Added Service 6. Data Democracy: Data Literacy in Public Libraries 7. Establishing Long-Lasting and Successful Partnerships with Academic Libraries around the World 8. Heuristic Evaluation of Online Reference Service System 9. Is a Fulbright in Your Future? 10. Kyrgyz immigrant community’s perceptions and expectations of the U.S. public libraries 11. Libraries at the Intersection: Mapping the Libraries’ role to Campus Internationalization Efforts at CU Boulder 12. Libraries for Peace: An International Initiative and Resource  13. Providing Library Training in Rural Ethiopia | 14. Qatar National Library Heritage Collection Retrospective Cataloging Project: Issues and considerations 15. Reading for your Life: The Impact of Reading and Writing During the Siege of Sarajevo. 16. Sister Libraries: 9 years of successful partnership between the Libraries of Troy University, Dothan (AL) and Kropivnitsky State Pedagogical University (Ukraine) 17. Solving Training Troubles  18. Successful Characteristics of Rural Literacy Development Programs: Vietnam 19. Supporting University Global Engagement through Library-Student Collaboration 20. The library association’s role in creating and promoting the international relations: a case study of the Chinese American Librarian Association (CALA) 21. The True E-Textbook Availability 22. Turning a shopping street into learning space: public libraries’ engagement in community learning in Japan 23. US-Russia Dialogue on the Civic Role of Libraries in the 21st Century 24. You’ve Got Real Mail! A Creative Global Experiment to Raise Public Awareness of the Value of Libraries |

**Project Welcome Recommendations and Action Plan: Implications for Libraries Serving Refugees**

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Ernest N. Convention Center (MCC) - Room 343

**Description:** Project Welcome, an IMLS-funded planning grant, has completed its work to learn and articulate ways libraries can address the information needs of refugees and asylum seekers in their resettlement and integration process. The session will present the recommendations, action plan and guide, developed by the Mortenson Center for International Library Programs in partnership with ALA’s Office for Diversity, Literacy and Outreach Services, and the International Relations Office, followed by a discussion on how libraries can adopt ways to support the successful resettlement and integration of refugees into their communities, and partner with refugee resettlement agencies and others in this endeavor.

***Speakers: Clara Chu***, Mortenson Center for International Library Programs, University of Illinois, Library at Urbana-Champaign



**Library Building Design in Germany: An Overview**

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Ernest N. Morial Convention Center (MCC) - Room 290

**Descriptions:** In 2014, ALA signed an MOU establishing collaboration and partnership with BID (Bibliothek & Information Deutschland), the umbrella organization of German library associations, from 2016 through 2019. In 2016, American librarians traveled to Leipzig for the German Library Congress to present talks and papers, and to build personal and professional relationships with our German colleagues. This session will highlight the state of library building and design throughout Germany. Two German library design experts, will focus on trends, issues, and interesting designs and how these all relate to library design in the United States. The speakers will discuss public libraries and university libraries as well as state and national and some specialized. Previous collaborative programs during this partnership included an overview of libraries in Germany, services to refugees, management trends in academic libraries and research support.

**Moderator: *Sharon Bostick***,Illinois Institute of Technology

**Speakers:** ***Olaf Eigenbrodt***, University of Hamburg, Germany; ***Dorothea Sommer***; University and State Library Sachsen-Anhalt in Halle, Germany

**How Libraries Abroad Address the Worldwide Refugee Crisis - (ISLD program)**

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Ernest N. Morial Convention Center (MCC) - Room 288

**Description:** In 2018 the world continues to contend with the worse humanitarian crisis since WWII, with over 68 million displaced by conflict, the majority of whom are minors. Recognizing the profound crises of forced migration, the International Sustainable Library Development (ISLD) interest group has organized a panel on "How are libraries and information centers helping build capacity for refugees?" This is especially acute because refugees often do not have experience with libraries and would not consider them as a key resource in their resettlement and integration. Panelists share approaches for working with displaced people, and resources to support capacity building.

**Moderator: *Peter V. Deekle***,National Peace Corps Association

**Speakers: *Clara M. Chu***, Mortenson Center for International Library Programs, University of Illinois Library at Urbana-Champaign; ***Karen Fisher***, University of Washington; ***Rebecca L. Miller***, BiblioDev, LLC

**International Librarians Reception**

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

B.B. King's Blues Club

1104 Decatur Street

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**Description:** Please join the ALA International Relations Round Table (IRRT) in welcoming and celebrating with librarians from more than 70 countries at the ALA Annual Conference. Open to all conference attendees, this reception offers a unique opportunity to network with hundreds of information professionals from around the world. Join us for a mixing of culture and ideas, regional cuisine, hors d’oeuvres and open bar. ALA President, Jim Neal, will announce the recipients of the ALA Presidential Citation for Innovative International Projects. Winners of the Bogle Pratt Award and the Humphry/OCLC/Forest Press Award for International Librarianship will be announced. Advance registration is required. International librarians registered for the full conference will receive one complimentary ticket. A ticket must be purchased for additional guests. Tickets will be sold in the convention center. **\*No tickets will be sold at the reception site. \***

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**Friday, June 22:** *Opening Reception on the Exhibit Floor* 5:30pm - 7:00pm *\*Full Conference Registrants Only, not included in Exhibits Only Pass***Saturday, June 23 – Sunday, June 24** 9:00am - 5:00pm  
**Monday, June 25,** *Exhibits Closing Events* 9:00am - 2:00pm

2017-2018 ALA CD#18.3

2018 ALA Annual Conference

**B.6.4 Rights of Librarians and Library Workers to Travel (Old Number 58.5)**

The American Library Association affirms and supports the rights of librarians and library workers in or from the U.S. to travel to all countries in order to attend and participate in conferences, to purchase books and other library materials, to meet and develop working relationships with librarians, to develop gift and exchange programs, to pursue and establish ties with library and other professional associations and libraries, and to conduct educational and professional library-related activities.

In addition, ALA affirms and supports the rights of librarians and library workers from outside the U.S. to travel to the U.S. and not be prohibited or impeded by U.S. government policies, to attend and participate in conferences, to purchase books and other library materials, to meet and develop working relationships with librarians and library staff, to develop gift and exchange programs, to pursue and establish ties with library and other professional associations and libraries, and to conduct educational and professional library-related activities.