



Montana Library Association
From the Mountains to the Prairies

MLA IFC Meeting Minutes – April 11, 2022

Present

Anne Kish, Kaia, Cody Melton, Matt Beckstrom, Kaia Rosen, Mark Wetherington, Mary Drew, Jim Kammerer, Gavin Woltjer

IFC member status

The committee members have termed off. Matt has sent out some requests for new members and asked if previous members would want to renew.

Matt also brought forth the idea of changing the members of the committee from 3 PLD, 3 ASLD, and 3 SLD to 2 PLD, 2 ASLD, 2 SLD, and 3 At Large. He will write up a proposed by-laws change for approval by MLA board.

Right now, here is the list of proposed IFC members:

Matt Beckstrom, PLD – Chair – First term - 2021 – 2024

Gavin Wolter, PLD – Second term 2021 – 2024

Anne Kish, ASLD – Third term 2022 – 2025

Jim Kammerer, ASLD – First term – 2022 – 2025

Hayley Botnen, SLD – First term – 2022-2025

Kerri Cobb, SLD – Second term – 2021 - 2024

Cody Melton, At Large – First term – 2022 – 2025

Kaia Rosen, At Large – First term – 2022 – 2025

Mary Drew, At Large – First term – 2022-2025

If this list is confirmed by the committee, the by-laws change and new committee members will be sent to the MLA board for approval this summer.

Pat Williams IFC award nominations

We received two nominations for the PWIF award. They are very similar to each other so it was suggested that we contact the nominators and ask them if they would be interested in combining them into a single nomination. Matt will contact them and get back to the committee.

Montana challenge updates

There are no new updates at this time regarding the challenges in Montana.

Upcoming conferences/presentations

A proposal for the TRAILS Symposium was accepted. Matt will put together some slides and materials for the presentation. If any member of the committee would like to help, please let Matt know.

A proposal to the Tri-Conference is still pending, we are waiting to hear back if there are any open slots. If one opens up, Mary Drew would be willing to present.

Review of resources / Website

Matt has moved over the majority of the information from the old IFC wiki to the new MLA website. It is currently located at www.mtlib.org/ifc. Please take some time to review the available list of resources on the page and make any suggestions for additional resources or updates.

Matt will put together an IFC forum on the website that the committee can use to discuss issues, propose actions, converse on committee issues, etc. It will be closed the public and restricted to IFC members.

Different modalities regarding intellectual freedom

Gavin wants to suggest we start considering other types of intellectual freedom issues besides book challenges. There are other types of issues libraries face including space use and hotspots. We are starting to see a rise in issues relating to these topics. Matt noted that at the PLA conference, IF issues were a big discussion point and other libraries around the nation are starting to see more challenges that relate to other topics than just books.

The committee will put together some recommendations for libraries around the state on how to prepare and deal with other types of challenges.

Next meeting – August 5, 2022, Missoula and online

The committee's next meeting will be held at the Tri-Conference in Missoula on August 5, 2022. Matt and several members will not be at the conference, so it will be held in a hybrid format. Details to come.