

# RUSA Quarterly Update

Welcome to the summer 2018 RUSA Quarterly Update. Before you head to ALA Annual, learn all the news on programs and committee work along with a terrific message from RUSA President Chris LeBeau. See you all in New Orleans!

## From the President

Greetings RUSA members!

We are rapidly approaching the end of another year which signals the major event of the year, the Annual Conference. Our volunteers are completing their committee work. I have sat in on many meetings this year, and I know how hard everyone is working for the association. I thank all of you for your willingness to get involved. RUSA is full of wonderful professionals, and it has been a great pleasure to work side by side with you. I also thank you for working above the call of duty, for making a difference for your peers, and recognizing the importance of participating in a national professional association.

Our profession is undergoing some stresses and strains. We are being tested by those outside our profession (see my RUSQ column "Librarians as Target"). "All politics is local" is an expression that aptly applies to libraries. The person who uttered this famous quote said it from a seat at the national table of government. Libraries and librarians need a voice at the national table, now more than ever. Associations like RUSA and ALA give us that voice. RUSA and ALA help us grow professionally, provide needed insights into our changing environment, and thus create the strong foundation on which we can advocate for all types of literacies and services. We are stronger because of our professional networking and continued willingness to educate ourselves on behalf of our patrons, customers, students and clients.

### **A Year of Many Firsts**

At the beginning of the year, I said this will be a year of new beginnings. This was:

- the first time in nearly a decade that we welcomed a new executive director (in October)
- a first year for some major organizational restructuring
- a first year for a RUSA Leadership Council
- the first time in years that we did a comprehensive review of our policies
- the first time in a number of years that we took a fresh, hard look at our online learning
- a first year for the new Annual Conference remodel
- a first year for RUSQ as an Open Access journal

- a new year for a major upgrade of ALA Connect which meant major downtime for all of us

By necessity, this was a year of reorganizing and responding. This change impacts the productivity of the organization. Next year we will regain our momentum. Budget concerns continue to demand our attention.

Beyond RUSA, ALA has set its sights on major organizational change over the next year and a half. Coping with ambiguity is a required skill for any 21<sup>st</sup> century librarian.

### **Annual Conference Highlights**

Super exciting for me is to bring to the membership our presidential program speaker, Dr. Carla Hayden, Librarian of Congress. Dr. Hayden will be led in conversation by former ALA president and RUSA member, Courtney Young.

I invite all members to attend our major event, the Andrew Carnegie Medals for Excellence Ceremony and Reception on Saturday, June 23 from 8:00-10:00 pm in the Sheraton New Orleans, Grand Ballroom. It is a ticketed event; order tickets through conference registration. Help celebrate Jennifer Egan and her fiction work, *Manhattan Beach*.

Our other ticketed event is the “Literary Tastes: Celebrating the Best Reading of the Year,” June 24, 8:00-10:00 am. We have a wonderful panel of authors lined up.

<https://www.rusaupdate.org/2018/05/journalist-jason-fagone-added-to-literary-tastes-panel/>

### **360 Degrees of Thanks**

I wish to thank the RUSA Board of Directors for their hard work and support. Thank you also to the new RUSA Leadership Council and to all the committee members who serve RUSA, the Sections and Interest Groups. I congratulate our recently elected vice president/president-elect for 2018-2019, Beth German, and all of our newly elected RUSA leaders (<https://www.rusaupdate.org/2018/04/rusas-2018-election-results-are-in/>). Special thanks to everyone who ran for office this year. It has been my pleasure to work closely with vice-president Ann Brown, and I am grateful for her steady, informed input all year. She is well equipped to walk into the president’s role in July. And my gratitude to the RUSA staff, Jessica Hughes, Leighann Wood, Melissa Tracy and Ninah Moore for their tireless support in meeting our endless needs.

With appreciation for the opportunity to serve you,

*Chris LeBeau*  
RUSA President, 2017-2018

## **RUSA News/Announcements**

Join us on the new RUSA Update page for RUSA news and announcements (<http://www.rusaupdate.org>).

# News from RUSA Sections

## BRASS Notes

*Elizabeth Malafi, Editor*

### BRASS COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### **Business Reference in Public Libraries**

The committee has been very active concerning its membership drive. We have built a relationship with the Public Library Association (PLA) that allows us to collaborate with them concerning us sharing our publications via Briefcase through their information channels. This expands the reach of the articles to other librarians outside of the traditional sphere of the Committee and BRASS.

We had hosted two “open house” meetings to drive interest in membership. The turnout was good with a variety of interested parties joining the meeting. Out of this initiative, we were able to secure a number of memberships to the committee. One of the main priorities that we identified was getting commitments to writing new articles for the Briefcase. We have secured a definite three article commitment and a possible fourth article may be forthcoming. Our goal is to have these published by the end of July 2018.

We are in the process of determining what updates need to be made to the Committee website and will consider pursuing the updates after July 2018: this will be a committee priority for next year.

Amilcar has been able to address the concerns of our committee to his professional Business Interest Group made up of business librarians around the Chicago area.

*Ray Cruitt, Co-Chair 2017-2018*

*Amilcar Perez, Co-Chair 2017-2018*

#### **Membership Committee**

The BRASS Membership Reception at ALA Annual will take place on Friday, June 22, 2018 from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM (CDT) at the House of Blues New Orleans (225 Decatur Street) in Big Mama's Lounge. Celebrate 30 years of BRASS with appetizers, drinks, and cake, courtesy of Reference USA.

If you plan to attend, please let us know (even, if you will be arriving late). RSVP at <https://2018-brass-reception.eventbrite.com>.

*Erin Wachowicz, Chair 2017-2018*

#### **Reference Services Discussion Group**

The Reference Services Discussion Group held three virtual discussions this spring. Notes from the discussions will be shared with BRASS members; method to be determined pending details of the new ALA Connect platform. There will also be an in-person discussion during ALA Annual in New Orleans to which we invite all BRASS members. The in-person discussion will be

held on Monday June 25th at 8:30am in Morial Convention Center, Rm 398-399. Virtual discussions resume in fall. We look forward to seeing people at Annual and to hearing from them through the virtual discussions!

*Lisa Martin, Chair 2017-2018*

### **Student Travel Award sponsored by SimplyAnalytics**

Rachel Holder, a student at Indiana University, is the 2018 award recipient. We thank SimplyAnalytics for their continuing support and we welcome Rachel to the profession and to BRASS.

*Patricia Kenly, 2017-2018 Chair*

## **Emerging Technologies Section (ETS)**

*Geoffrey Morse, Editor*

Greetings, all!

This year has flown by in a whirl of events, discussions, brainstorming, experiments, and realigning as the Emerging Technology Section works to continue our active support of tech-savvy and tech-interested public service librarians and find new ways to serve our members and our profession.

I'd like to extend a personal thank you to everyone who voted for our bylaws changes in the recent election! By replacing our Member-at-Large positions with three new roles, we're able to implement a more flexible structure, have clearer expectations for each elected role, and give interested leaders new opportunities to serve. I'm excited to share that in addition to our newly elected Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect Geoffrey Morse and Secretary Rachael Cohen. Christina Pryor will be filling the role of RUSA Board representative. Her new role will provide RUSA with a consistent ETS voice during her three-year term. Our current Members-at-Large have agreed to take on new roles as well! Shannon Jones will serve as Professional Development Director through June of 2019, and Jessica Cerny will serve as Member Engagement Director. We are eager to remain nimble and responsive to the needs of RUSA and our members, and we believe this new structure will help! For more on our 2018-2019 changes, see the announcement below.

I hope to see many of you at ALA Annual next month. ETS has an exciting lineup of events, including a new Membership Meeting. This will be a fantastic opportunity to get to know ETS and help us develop our plans for the coming year, so we hope you'll join us! I'm personally excited about our program, which will feature two different but wildly successful tech projects. You'll be equipped with practical tips for managing your own tech projects, and our presenters will give you their best insights into making tech projects work from concept to conclusion in public and academic libraries. And if you're free Monday afternoon, stop by our Hot Topics discussion about the latest trends and tech experiences at your library!

As always, please contact me any time with questions, suggestions, or comments at [beth.boatright@ipfw.edu](mailto:beth.boatright@ipfw.edu).

*Beth Boatright,  
ETS Chair 2017-2018*

## **New Member Opportunities as ETS Grows**

You know us for fantastic discussion groups about hot topics and engaging programs about leadership, systems, and user experience. Now ETS is bringing a revitalized structure and slate of committees together to focus on what we love: equipping public-service librarians to implement tech-savvy solutions that work for all kinds of libraries and users.

[Read more about how ETS is changing and learn about our exciting new Tech Showcase and BETA committee here!](#)

## **Join ETS at ALA Annual**

[Make it so: Insights into successful leadership of emerging tech programs](#) -

Sunday, 10:30 AM, MCC 285

Launching a technology related project can involve many stakeholders, steps, considerations, and constraints. This panel will discuss best practices for project management for library technology projects. Using examples from successful initiatives at their institutions, panelists will share strategies for managing complex technology projects from the initiation phase through the closing phase. Librarians from all library sizes and audiences will learn how project management strategies can be applied in their libraries to successfully manage technology projects. Additionally, audience members will be invited to engage in a thoughtful Q&A session with panelists.

## [Membership Meeting](#)

Sunday, 1 PM, MCC 223

Exciting things are happening in the Emerging Technology Section! At this meeting you'll have the opportunity to get to know other ETS members, learn about volunteer and leadership opportunities and engage in discussion about how ETS can best support you, ALA, and our profession. Part of the meeting will be reserved for small-group discussions about the future of technology in various public services settings. Bring your questions and expertise, and prepare to get connected to our fantastic community of tech-forward public service librarians.

## [Hot Topics: Is There an App for That? A Discussion of Emergent Tech Trends in Library Services](#)

Monday, 1 PM, MCC 390

Join us for a lively discussion on the technologies that are impacting reference and public services at your library. What are your biggest emerging technology successes, failures, and lessons learned? Share your problems and crowdsource for solutions! What can we learn from you? Use #etsreftalk on Twitter to join the conversation during this session.

## **History**

*Laura Hibbler, Editor*

### **History Section events for 2018 ALA Annual:**

**Friday, June 22, 2018** RUSA Genealogy Pre-conference sponsored by ProQuest  
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM Morial Convention Center, Rm 218-219

**Saturday, June 23, 2018** All Committee Meeting (RUSA HS)  
8:30 AM - 10:00 AM Morial Convention Center, Rm 346-347

**Saturday, June 23, 2018** Region, Race, and Research: Perspectives from Local History

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM *Morial Convention Center, Rm 393*

**Sunday, June 24, 2018** Genealogy and Local History & History Librarians

Discussion Groups

8:30 AM - 10:30 AM *Morial Convention Center, Rm 206*

**Monday, June 25, 2018** RUSA HS Exec. Breakfast Meetup at The Ruby Slipper Cafe

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM *200 Magazine St, New Orleans, LA 70130*

The Reference and User Services Association's History Section (RUSA-HS) is seeking volunteers for a number of our committees. If you are interested in participating, please read on and complete the ALA volunteer form!

### **About the History Section:**

The Section represents the subject interests of reference librarians, archivists, bibliographers, genealogists, historians, and others engaged in historical reference, research, and instruction. It brings together representatives of history collections in all formats from all types of libraries, archives, and historical societies. See more about the history and work of the section on [our website](#).

### **Committee Work in the History Section:**

We aspire to have a mutually beneficial partnership with all our committee members and pride ourselves on a collegial and friendly environment that is open to a wide variety of participants. Through committee work you can network, learn more about how RUSA and ALA function, and help with meaningful work that benefits the profession.

- Previous committee experience is not required. New ALA/RUSA members are encouraged to become active in HS!
- Terms begin July 1, 2018 and usually last for 2 years, with the possibility of renewal.
- You must be member of RUSA and up-to-date on your RUSA and ALA dues to serve
- Most work is conducted virtually via email, phone meetings, etc. While attendance at the Annual Meeting is encouraged, it is not generally required. No History Section committees require attendance at the Midwinter Meeting.

### **How to Volunteer:**

Complete the ALA volunteer form available

at: <http://www.ala.org/cfapps/committee/volunteerform/volunteerform.cfm> (you will need to log in before you can complete the form)

(Note: Earlier postings on RUSA and RUSA-HS social media accounts linked to a google form. Since the ALA form is functioning now, that form has been discontinued.)

## **Committees Seeking Volunteers at this Time:**

Other committees will be seeking volunteers in the future, but we have many openings right now, including:

- **Genealogical Publishing Company Award Committee**

Administers an annual award of \$1,500 to a librarian, library, or publisher to encourage, recognize, and commend professional achievement in historical reference and research librarianship.

Great for: People interested in celebrating colleagues' contributions to the profession

- **Historical Materials Committee**

Promotes enhanced availability and visibility of quality historical works, information, and reference products (bibliographies, indexes, databases, etc.) in all fields of history; and to evaluate the patterns and effectiveness of coverage in historical reference products. Each year the committee calls for, receives, and evaluates nominations to the yearly Best Historical Materials List, selecting those items of particular quality for inclusion on the List (published in RQ).

Great for: People who interested in a specific, concrete project and those who like to explore historical materials of various types.

- **Local History**

Focuses on the issues and concerns related to all aspects of local history services, collections, and preservation. This includes newspaper projects, oral histories, photograph/AV collections, traditional archival/manuscript materials, digital projects, instruction, house/building history, etc. Committee organizes virtual and in-person discussion sessions, as well as a variety of other programs.

Great for: Local history librarians, archivists, and others working in local history

- **Membership & Communications Committee**

Focuses on member recruitment, retention, and engagement within RUSA-HS. This includes promoting Section membership, activities, and initiatives; coordinating membership-promotion activities of all the Section's committees and discussion groups; managing the Section's communication outlets (including the website, listserv, social media, and contributions to RUSA Update); and advising on other communication- and member-related issues.

Great for: Social media and technical people, those who like to share with/talk to others, new members with fresh ideas and long-standing members with experienced perspectives.

- Academic Librarians Committee

Serves as a forum to address the professional needs and concerns of history and humanities librarians working in academic institutions. It will focus on issues of interest such as instruction and information literacy, collection development and assessment, digital pedagogy and scholarship, and mentoring for new librarians. This is a new committee and it includes the following subcommittees:

Great for: Any and all working in history librarianship within academia. This is a new committee, so members will help mold this committee and its future work!

- Instruction and Information Literacy
- Collection Development and Assessment
- Digital pedagogy and scholarship
- RUSA HS-Liaisons (liaisons from the RUSA History Section to other relevant sections/groups)

### Questions?

Please contact Vice-Chair/Incoming Chair Jenny McElroy ([jennifer.mcelroy@mnhs.org](mailto:jennifer.mcelroy@mnhs.org)) with any questions or include them on your volunteer form.

## RSS

*Denise Wetzel, Editor*

Welcome to summer everyone!

We're getting ready for ALA Annual in steamy-hot New Orleans. Then again, New Orleans has such charm that it's a great place to be anytime. Lots of RSS activities happening at the conference, including:

- Another joint ETS/RSS Social on Friday evening, June 22, from 7:00-8:30 pm. At the end of the social, there will be a tour guide who will give a walking tour of historical spots, at \$20.00 per person. RSS socials are always fun, offering a chance to meet and eat (courtesy of Plunkett Research), and simply relax and socialize. The location will be posted on RSS-L when it is finalized...
- RSS has its all committee meeting on Sunday, June 24 (8:30 – 10:00 am, Morial Convention Center, rm. 275-277). If you are interested in volunteering for an RSS Committee or you want to find out what RSS and its committees are doing, this is a great time to find out. The RSS officers will be there, as well as representatives from each committee. Talk to us, ask questions, make new connections.
- On Monday, June 25, from 4:00 - 5:00 pm at Morial Convention Center, rm. 390, RSS is hosting a discussion forum, Sound Bites: Current Conversations About Reference. Join us in a discussion one of three current reference issues:
  - managing reference services in a library with a single point of service;
  - providing multilingual library services;
  - developing best practices for using social media to extend and market reference services.

Brainstorming is encouraged.

RSS is still seeking volunteers for its committees. For a list and description of each committee go to <http://www.ala.org/rusa/sections/rss>. To volunteer for a committee, go to the RUSA Volunteer Form, <https://www.ala.org/cfapps/committee/volunteerform/volunteerform.cfm?>, and click on RUSA-RSS at the bottom of the first page. Service on RSS committees is terrific for two reasons: 1) you can feel pride in contributing to your profession and to reference services, and 2) you can make some great friends from around the country.

There have been some exciting changes in the various RSS committees—a few on hiatus and three that have merged to focus on management and evaluation of reference. Stay tuned for more on this.

If you're going to ALA Annual, enjoy the wonderful programs, meet new people, and don't miss out on any of the RSS activities.

Have a wonderful summer,

*Rebecca Jackson*  
*RSS Chair*

### **RSS Newsletter Announcement**

Looking for a chance to contribute your editing skills to RSS? Want to get gain more experience with RSS, but not chair a committee? Look no further. Our current editor, Denise Wetzel, will be stepping down at the end of June 2018 and we will need a new editor. The editor solicits and edits copy for the quarterly section column in RUSA Update, serves on the Communications Committee, and has an ex-officio role on the RSS Executive Board. If you are interested, please contact Cynthia Johnson, RSS Vice-Chair, [cynthiaj@uci.edu](mailto:cynthiaj@uci.edu).

Many thanks to Denise Wetzel for all of her contributions as RSS Editor!

### **RSS Honor Roll**

It's that time of year! We want to recognize you and your contributions to RSS!

The RSS Honor Roll gives recognition to active RSS members who have served the section in three different capacities since its inception.

If you have been a member of three or more committees or discussion groups since RSS was established in 2004 and have not previously been added to the honor roll, please send your name and a list of the three ways you have served RSS to Ellen Keith at [keith@chicagohistory.org](mailto:keith@chicagohistory.org).

Not only will you become a member of this esteemed group, you will also be recognized at ALA Annual in New Orleans!

Join the RSS Honor Roll today!

## RSS COMMITTEE REPORTS

### **Communication & Teaching at the Point of Need Committee**

The Communication and Teaching at the Point of Need Committee will be helping to facilitate part of RSS' Discussion Forum at ALA Annual in New Orleans, on June 25th; the session is titled, *Sound Bites: Current Conversations about Reference Services*. The Committee is also continuing work in updating the bibliography that it hosts on its Connect site, as well as beginning to work on a document on "Best Practices for Social Media."

*Shannon Richie, sgr1@psu.edu*  
*Tricia Greenstein, southard@email.gwu.edu*  
*Co-Chairs, 2017-2018*

### **Communications Committee**

The RSS Communication Committee is suggesting the following to help keep RSS activities publicized and committee web pages updated:

A survey will be sent to RSS committee chairs at the beginning of a committee year, and possibly a variation of it each time the *RSS Review* editor sends out the reminder to submit reports for the *RSS Review*.

- What are your committee's goals for this year?
- Please write a short statement (to be posted on your committee's web page) indicating the reasons a librarian who is looking for involvement in ALA/RUSA/RSS would want to join your committee.
- Do you have upcoming events that the RSS Communication Committee can publicize for you (webinars, events at conferences, etc.).
- Is there anything else you would like updated on your committee's web page? Does anything need to be added or removed?

After the first issue of the *RSS Review* for the year, the survey will likely only include the last two questions.

Members of the Communications Committee are posting regularly to the RSS Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/rss.rusa>), so feel free to send your committee news and activities to the Facebook contacts, Denise Wetzel ([dwetzel@fsu.edu](mailto:dwetzel@fsu.edu)) or Manda Sexton ([asexto14@utk.edu](mailto:asexto14@utk.edu)) for posting.

*Laura Friesen, lflynn@umflint.edu*  
*Chair, 2017-2018*

### **Library Services for an Aging Population**

We are encouraging librarians who have an interest in services for older adults to take a look at the [Guidelines for Library Services with 60+ Audience: Best Practices](#). Revised guidelines were approved by RUSA Board in September 2017. The companion publication, [Keys to Engaging Older Adults @ your library](#), has also been updated.

Committee meeting participants at midwinter offered ideas and recommendations to build awareness about the committee. In addition participants shared successful program ideas to engage older adults. The discussion and exchange of ideas illustrated the importance of serving older adults especially now as many communities have significant older adult populations.

The committee is sponsoring a program ALA Annual: *A New Frontier-Training Older Adults for the Latest Gadgets*. It will be held on Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9 a.m. – 10 a.m. at Morial Convention Center in Room 290. Program panelists include Taina Evans, Brooklyn Public Library; Roger Goldblatt, Federal Communications Commission; Allan Kleiman, Montville Township Library; Nann Hilyard, Retired Members Round Table; and Fatima Perkins, Chair, Library Services to an Aging Population. Thus far, sixty-four individuals have registered for the program.

Chair, Fatima Perkins, will pass the baton to incoming chair Taina Evans during the annual meeting.

Join us at the RUSA/RSS All Committee Meeting. We're calling all librarians who enjoy planning and conducting programs for older adults to join us. We need your expertise, skills, and talents. We are looking forward to recruiting new members.

*Fatima Perkins, FPerkins@psa10a.org*  
*Chair, 2017-2018*

### **Research & Statistics Committee**

The Research and Statistics Committee is currently working on the reference research bibliography for 2017 and planning the final details for our program at ALA Annual. The program details are:

*New Discoveries in Reference: The 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Reference Research Forum* on Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> from 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. at Morial Convention Center, Room 289.

The speakers are:

- **Reframing Reference through Participatory Visual Methods**  
Eamon Tewell, Reference & Instruction Librarian, Long Island University, Brooklyn
- **Reference on Demand: Testing an 'Uber Reference' Service in an Academic Library**  
Brian D. Moss, Reference Services Manager, University of Kansas Libraries
- **You Didn't Say 'Hola': What Happens When the Reference Script Is Altered**  
Julie Marie Frye, Education Library Head, Indiana University  
Maria Hasler Barker, Assistant Professor, Sam Houston State University  
Full details can be found [here](#).

*David Ward, dh-ward@illinois.edu*  
*Joseph Yue, contact.jyue@gmail.com*  
*Co-Chairs, 2017-2018*

### **RSS Virtual Reference Services Committee**

The RSS Virtual Reference Services Committee reminds the RSS membership that the Virtual Reference Companion (VRC), a set of web pages containing text and links about aspects of virtual reference, is scheduled for retirement/deletion. We would like to thank all RSS/ETS members for their thoughtful contributions to this resource over the years.

While the committee is not holding a separate discussion meeting in New Orleans (please attend the RSS section discussion, *Sound Bites: Current Conversations about Reference Services*), we will be meeting to brainstorm activities, topics, and formats for the coming year.

We hope interested individuals will join us at the RSS All Committee meeting on Sunday, June 24<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. (See the ALA Annual Scheduler for location details.)

*Karen Reiman-Sendi, karsendl@umich.edu*  
*Chair, 2017-2018*

### **Services for Job Seeking Patrons Committee**

Our year was full of bumps. We knew early on that our chances of getting space for a discussion forum at Midwinter were slim, based on new RUSA/ ALA conference planning so we instead submitted a program for a webinar. That request went unanswered for several months until we got a hold of the new executive director (thanks Jessica and thanks Cynthia for helping us out!). In that intervening time, we received a sort of last minute invite to propose a discussion group, which we declined since we had no planning time.

Once we heard the ok from Jessica re: a webinar, we began planning, only to find out our committee is on hiatus for next year. We are scattering to other RUSA/ RSS committees and we'll see what becomes of Services for Job Seeking Patrons in 2019 – 2020.

*Rachel M. Minkin, minkinr@lib.msu.edu*  
*Chair 2017-2018*

## **STARS**

*Kerry Keegan, Editor*

Letter from the Chair

Greetings!

The end of my term as your Chair is quickly approaching and I can hardly believe how fast time goes by us! I am delighted to share some progress our section has made together, as well as some excited things to come!

ALA Midwinter in Denver provided the first opportunity for RUSA's new Executive Director, Jessica Hughes, to meet many RUSA STARS members face to face for the first time. With Jessica now filling this important position, a lot of work that had been waiting for RUSA level guidance has been able to slowly resume for STARS.

If you remember from my onboarding letter, we were excited to begin reviewing the STARS Section Committees to better align with the RUSA organization changes that were implemented at ALA Annual 2017, as well as continuing to work on some exciting committee initiatives. This work has slowly started to move forward and will continue throughout the next year under Vice-Chair, Megan Gaffney's, stellar leadership!

Our new Atlas Systems Publication Award was approved! Well done to the hard-working Ad Hoc Committee charged with this wonderful, new award implementation.

RUSA finalized their new branding, which STARS has since continued to implement across our own work.

STARS continues to explore online learning opportunities and partnerships to deliver our popular ILL 101: Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about ILL course. More information about this event will be available, later this year.

Our Outreach and Promotion Committee continues to recognize STARS members through our STARGazer interviews and I'm pleased to congratulate Kurt Munson as our most recent STARGazer. Stay tuned for details on the Committee's next announcement at ALA Annual 2018!

ALA Annual will also mark the first time STARS awards will be presented at our annual STARS Social – a recent change, due to the cancellation of the RUSA Awards Ceremony.

As I look back on this year, I am honored and awed at the resilience, flexibility, and continued passion of my wonderful colleagues. ALA, RUSA, and STARS continue to go through many changes, yet I am constantly encouraged and motivated by the connections I have with all of you, as well as the knowledge that you are out there - in your own libraries, doing fantastic work for your patrons. What we do is important. It is valued, and it is essential to the support and education of the larger society in which we live. Each and every one of you "STARS" is making a difference and I am so grateful to be part of your constellations.

Thank you, STARS!

*Micquel Little*  
*STARS Chair 2017-2018*

### **Rethinking Resource Sharing Policies Committee**

The RUSA STARS Rethinking Resource Sharing Policies Committee was proud to award 17 libraries with STAR certificates this academic year. The committee has also been working on a blog series that unpacks the [Rethinking Resource Sharing Initiative Checklist](#) questions and addresses areas of confusion. Additional goals for the blog include encouraging discussion on the [Manifesto](#), revising the [RRSI website](#), and discussing the possibility of checklist translations. Please take a moment to visit and review the first post in this series, available at: <http://rethinkingresourcesharing.org/thoughts-on-the-rrsi-star-checklist/>.

Amanda Musacchio will be taking over as Chair of the RRS Policies Committee, after ALA Annual.

*LeEtta Schmidt, Chair*

### **Research and Assessment Committee**

The Research and Assessment Committee has been working on the distribution and collection of surveys from Midwinter STARS-sponsored events. The latest set of results have been uploaded into SurveyMonkey. A new assessment form has also been created, in response to changes in SurveyMonkey's options for free accounts.

Current Chair, David Ketchum, will be ending his term as chair and is being replaced by Lars Leon, in FY '19.

*David Ketchum, Chair*

### **International ILL Committee**

The International ILL Committee has continued to explore mechanisms for electronic IFLA vouchers and has been working to revise the international ILL survey in preparation for translation into the official IFLA languages. These surveys aim to broaden our collaboration with IFLA and peer institutions abroad, enhancing our understanding of international services and their support of local researchers.

*Kurt Munson, Chair*

### **Legislation & Licensing Committee**

The Legislation & Licensing Committee has finalized the Model ILL License Clause and submitted their work to the STARS Board for review. This document was created using research and public polling by committee members on various listservs, where they sought information on the "Library Public Domain" and Section 108(h) of the US Copyright Law, which allows libraries to digitize and provide access to works in the last 20 years of their copyright term.

This research has been published in RUSA Update by Naomi Chow and Cen Cheng and may be found here: <https://www.rusaupdate.org/2018/04/what-you-need-to-know-about-library-public-domain/>.

*Jennifer DeVito, Chair*

### **Atlas Systems Mentoring Award Committee**

The Atlas Systems Mentoring Award Committee is pleased to announce Pearl Adzei-Stonnes and Guerda Baucicaut as the two recipients of the STARS Mentoring Award, sponsored by Atlas Systems and administered by the Sharing and Transforming Resources Section (STARS) of the Reference and User Services Association (RUSA). The award offers \$1,250 to fund travel expenses associated with attending ALA's annual conference and is awarded to a library practitioner who is new to the field of interlibrary loan/document delivery or electronic reserves, and who has daily, hands-on involvement in the areas of borrowing, lending, document delivery, electronic reserves, material delivery, or resource sharing.

*Amy Paulus, Chair*