

**2016-2017 ALA-APA CD#5\_11217\_INF  
2017 ALA Midwinter Meeting**

**TO:** ALA-APA Council

**RE:** 2017 Midwinter Report

**ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT:**

*No action requested.*

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**BACKGROUND:**

The ALA Allied Professional Association (ALA-APA) is a nonprofit professional organization established “to promote the mutual professional interests of librarians and other library workers.” To that end, the ALA-APA is focused on two broad areas:

- Certification of individuals in specializations beyond the initial professional degree.
- Direct support of comparable worth and pay equity initiatives, and other activities designed to improve the salaries and status of librarians and other library workers.

## **CPLA Program**

The Certified Public Library Administrator (CPLA) Program is a voluntary post-MLS certification program for public librarians with three years or more of supervisory experience. Its aim is to further professional education and development and help librarians move to a higher level of practical professional experience. To date, there are **290** enrollees in the program and **89** graduates. Three new elective online courses are now being offered to satisfy fulfillment of the CPLA competencies. The courses are *Library Marketing*, *Current Issues* and *Serving Diverse Populations*. For more information about the schedule of these and all other course satisfying competencies visit: <http://ala-apa.org/certification/courses-offered/>

## **LSSC Program**

The Library Support Staff Certification (LSSC) Program offers library support staff the opportunity to commit to professional development and continuing education through the completion of competency sets developed and implemented by the ALA-APA. There are a total of **521** enrollees in the program and **165** graduates.

## **APA Wellness**



The newly re-designed APA Wellness website and logo have now been developed. This project is based on ALA President Loriene Roy's 2007-2008 Circle of Wellness Initiative. Ted Chaffin, Sara Jeffress, Jennifer Turner, and Laura Warren-Gross—all members of the 2008 cohort of ALA Emerging Leaders—created the Circle of Wellness website and several accompanying tools. In the spring of 2016, the website's content, tools, organization, and design were updated by Amanda Avery, Dory Cochran, and Jennifer McElroy, members of the 2016 cohort of ALA Emerging Leaders. The site was designed to provide resources to help library workers achieve a well-rounded life which include all seven dimensions of wellness: physical, social, environmental, emotional, intellectual, spiritual, and occupational. It is felt that this valuable resource is needed now more than ever with today's changing workplace dynamics. The site can be accessed at: [www.ala-apa.org/wellness](http://www.ala-apa.org/wellness)

## **Committee Volunteers Sought**

Volunteers are being sought for appointments to the **2017-2018** ALA Allied Professional Association committees. Appointments will be made to the following committees: Certification Program, Certified Public Library Administrator Certification Review, Library Support Staff Certification Review and Salaries and Status of Library Workers (see charges, visit [APA Committee's page](#)). Appointments take effect at the conclusion of the 2017 Annual Conference. In order to ensure broad representation and diversity on all committees, geographical location, type of library, gender, ethnicity, previous committee work (ALA, ALA-APA and other), relevant experience, and other factors are considered when the committee appointments are made. To volunteer, visit: <http://ala-apa.org/get-involved/>

### **Wear Red for Equal Pay Day**

This year's celebration of Equal Pay Day will be celebrated on **April 4, 2017**. It was first originated by the [National Committee on Pay Equity](#) (NCPE) in 1996 as a public awareness event to illustrate the gap between men's and women's wages. Because women earn less, on average, than men, they must work longer for the same amount of pay. Tuesday was selected to represent how far into the work week women must work to earn what men earned the previous week. Why do we celebrate this day? ALA was one of NCPE's charter members and currently, ALA-APA is one of its 94 organizational members. Also, as a female dominated profession (over 85%) pay equity is important to all library workers regardless of gender.

### **#NLWD17 is Coming!**

This year, National Library Workers Day (**NLWD**) will be celebrated on **April 11, 2017**. The original resolution to begin the celebration was proposed to recognize the hard work, dedication, and expertise of library support staff and librarians. It was proposed that the Tuesday of National Library Week be designated the day; and, that on that day, interested library workers, library groups, and libraries should advocate for better compensation for all library workers. If the day coincides with the national celebration of Equal Pay Day, these individuals, groups, and libraries should recognize both days together. Library organizations are encouraged to host a celebration and submit a star to honor a great worker, team or department by visiting the NLWD website ([www.ala-apa.org/nlwd](http://www.ala-apa.org/nlwd)) . To share stories or plans on how a library organization plans to celebrate, articles can be sent to: [libraryworklife@ala.org](mailto:libraryworklife@ala.org).

## **Social Media and Promotional Materials**

For monitoring of APA activities and events, visit the website at: [www.ala-apa.org](http://www.ala-apa.org) or follow the APA on Twitter [@alaapa](https://twitter.com/alaapa) or like us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/alaapa) . Keepsake t-shirts and tote bags are on sale in the **ALA Midwinter Store** with the slogan, “*Libraries Work because we do @alaapa*”.

## **Acknowledgements**

In closing, I would like to thank the hard working volunteers and committee members of all of the various APA groups without which we would not be able to continue the work of advocating for library workers.

I would personally like to acknowledge the support of the MPS, Finance, ITTS and Governance Office staffs for their overall support of the APA. And finally, I would like to acknowledge the APA’s staff and consultants (Kimberly Redd, Beatrice Calvin, Pamela Akins and Jamie Bragg) for their dedication, commitment and hard work in getting the work done.