Statements based on the results of the 2016 Rural & Small Library (RSL) Committee Survey
11-28-1026

- 101 individuals submitted their survey responses
  - Less than half of the respondents are ULA members (c=45, 45%)
  - The vast majority of responses came from individuals working in a rural or small library (c=89, 88%)
  - Of the dozen individuals who said they do not work in a rural or small library but are interested in the RSL topic, only two individuals are interested in the RSL committee
  - 43% of the responses (c=43) came from public libraries
    - Of those in public libraries, 29 are ULA members, 14 are not ULA members
    - Of those in public libraries, 4 said they do not work in a rural or small library: 1 was a trustee, 3 were from bigger or suburban libraries
  - 40% from schools (c=40)
    - Almost all of the responses from schools (38) are not ULA members; only 2 said they were ULA members
  - Almost 11% from academics (c=11)
    - Almost all of the responses from academics (9) are ULA members; only 2 said they were not ULA members
  - 3 responses came from bookmobile staff, 2 from the State Library, 1 from a special library, and 1 from a retired individual

- From the academic library responses (c=11):
  - 5 came from Sherratt Library, SUU
  - 2 from Huntsman Library, Snow College

- From the public library responses (c=43):
  - 4 came from Summit County
  - 3 from Emery County
  - 2 from Brigham City, Duchesne County, Eagle Mountain, Mt. Pleasant, Park City, and Wasatch County

- From the school library responses (c=40):
  - Approximately 19 came from Elementary Schools
  - 4 from Middle Schools
  - 16 from High Schools
  - 1 from a District

- The 4 biggest challenges rural and small libraries face are:
  - Budget: staff and operations (c=65, 64%)
  - Space: materials and programs (c=54, 53%)
  - Training: expense, distance, effectiveness (c=50, 50%)
  - Budget: collection development (c=47, 47%)
• The top 4 ways in which people currently receive training are:
  o Webinars: real-time or archived (c=81, 80%)
  o In-person training: local area (c=69, 68%)
  o Internet research: online databases, publications, YouTube (c=67, 66%)
  o In-person training: outside local area (c=63, 62%)

• The top 4 ways people prefer for getting training are:
  o In-person training: local area (c=77, 76%)
  o Webinars: real-time or archived (c=76, 75%)
  o In-person training: outside local area (c=67, 66%)
  o Internet research: online databases, publications, YouTube (c=52, 51%)

• The top 4 obstacles that influence participation in training are:
  o Time: balancing work duties and training opportunities (c=88, 87%)
  o Budget for training and travel: funds to register for and attend the training (c=81, 80%)
  o Budget for staff: payroll costs for staff to attend training or to replace trainee’s absence (c=65, 64%)
  o Distance: transportation arrangements or don’t like to travel (c=65, 64%)

• The top 4 broad categories of training people need help with are:
  o Technology and digital literacy (c=68, 67%)
  o Programming: children, teens, adults (c=55, 54%)
  o Collaboration with other libraries, schools, businesses (c=52, 51%)
  o Finance, budgets, writing grant proposals (c=51, 51%)

• 36 individuals expressed interest in helping the RSL Committee move forward