



ULA RURAL & SMALL LIBRARIES COMMITTEE: Report Dec 2, 2016

1. RESULTS FROM THE RSLC SURVEY: PUBLIC LIBRARIES SECTION: Statements based on results of the 2016 Rural & Small Libraries Committee (RSLC) Survey - 11/28/2016 Results of entire survey (including public, academic, school & special libraries) found on RSLC Website: ula.org/rural
 - a. TOTAL RESPONSES: 101 PUBLIC LIBRARIES RESPONSES LISTED BELOW
 - i. *Data from all libraries can be found at ula.org/rural*
 - b. 43 individuals from public libraries submitted survey responses
 - i. Around 2/3 of the respondents are ULA members (c=29, 67%)
 - ii. Most came from rural or small libraries (c=39, 91%)
 - c. The 4 biggest *challenges* rural and small libraries face are:
 - i. Budget: staff and operations (c=29, 67%)
 - ii. Space: materials and programs (c=29, 67%)
 - iii. Programming: attendance, quality, staff time (c=23, 54%)
 - iv. Training: expense, distance, effectiveness (c=16, 37%)
 - d. The top 4 ways in which people *currently* receive training are:
 - i. Webinars: real-time or archived (c=38, 88%)
 - ii. In-person training: outside local area (c=28, 65%)
 - iii. In-person training: local area (c=27, 63%)
 - iv. Internet research: online databases, publications, YouTube (c=27, 63%)
 - e. The top 4 ways people *prefer* to receive training are:
 - i. Webinars: real-time or archived (c=32, 75%)
 - ii. In-person training: local area (c=30, 70%)
 - iii. In-person training: outside local area (c=29, 67%)
 - iv. ULA Conference (c=23, 54%)
 - f. The top 4 *obstacles* that influence participation in training are:
 - i. Time: balancing work duties and training opportunities (c=38, 88%)
 - ii. Budget for staff: payroll costs for staff to attend training or to replace trainee's absence (c=36, 84%)
 - iii. Budget for training and travel: funds to register for and attend the training (c=31, 72%)
 - iv. Distance: transportation arrangements or don't like to travel (c=26, 61%)
 - g. The top 4 broad *categories of training* people need help with are:
 - i. Programming: children, teens, adults (c=26, 61%)
 - ii. Advocacy, marketing & outreach (c=25, 54%)
 - iii. Technology and digital literacy (c=24, 56%)
 - iv. Collaboration with other libraries, schools, businesses (c=19, 44%)
 - h. 19 individuals had interest in helping with the RSL Committee move forward. 13 are ULA members and 6 are not