SURVEY RESULTS: Rural & Small Libraries Committee  11/28/2016

• 101 individuals submitted their survey responses
  o Less than half of the respondents are ULA members (c=45, 45%)
  o The vast majority of responses came from individuals working in a rural or small library (c=89, 88%)
  o 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
  o 43% of the responses (c=43) came from public libraries
    ▪ Of those in public libraries, 29 are ULA members, 14 are not ULA members
      o Of those in public libraries, 4: don’t work in a rural or small library: 1: trustee, 3: bigger or suburban libraries
  o 40% from schools (c=40)
    ▪ Almost all of the responses from schools (38) are not ULA members; only 2 said they were ULA members
  o 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
  o 3 responses: 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):
  o 3 came from Sherratt Library, SUU
  o 2 from Huntsman Library, Snow College

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

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

• The 4 biggest challenges rural and small libraries face are:
  o Budget: staff and operations (c=65, 64%)
  o Space: materials and programs (c=54, 53%)
  o Training: expense, distance, effectiveness (c=50, 50%)
  o 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, budget, writing grant proposals (c=51, 51%)

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

1. ACTIVITIES:
   a. Wrote & administered Rural & Small Libraries survey:
      i. Distributed to ULA Members (Memberclicks), & librarians from academic, school, tribal & special libraries of any size.
         (Requested that recipients forward survey to other interested parties)
      ii. Recorded results & composed reports with raw date & statements in separate & combined form
   b. Continued to develop web page & Facebook pages
   c. Laurie Hansen attended ARSL (Association for Rural & Small Libraries) Conference, in Fargo, ND, October 26 – 29, Sponsored by USL UPLIFT Professional Excellence Grant
      i. Connected with librarians nationwide in similar circumstances, attended classes & networked with individuals to share ideas & identified resources to understand & address issues specific to rural & small libraries

2. PLANS
   a. Distribute survey results
      i. Link on ULA Rural & Small Libraries webpage at ula.org/rural
      ii. Share with other interested parties (ULA, USL, etc.)
   b. Determine committee actions based on survey responses
   c. Make contact with librarians that expressed interest in RSLC (objectives to be determined)
   d. Identify librarians from remote areas & make personal contact (objectives to be determined)
   e. Continue to develop webpage & Facebook page