ULA Program Board Report for 2021-2022

Sections
Academic Section: Dan Broadbent
No report

Public Section: Patrick Hoecherl
No report

School Section: Beth Tanner
No report

Special Section: Diane Matson
No report

Committees
Advocacy: Peter Bromberg and Rebekah Cummings
See report on pg. 7

Bylaws: Daniel Mauchley
See report on pg. 23

Conference: Becca Lael
See survey and budget reports

Continuing Education: Valerie Buck and Erin Mendoza
No report

Intellectual Freedom: Debbie Short and Katie Wegner
Debbie Short and I were appointed to the Intellectual Freedom Committee in May, 2021. We spent the first few months of our appointment updating the Intellectual Freedom webpage and offering our support to librarians and library workers that were dealing with book challenges.
In October, we submitted a conference proposal for “Defending Intellectual Freedom” that was accepted. We presented this together at the 2022 ULA Annual Conference. We contributed several pieces on intellectual freedom to the Utah Libraries magazine throughout the year.
September 2021: Banned Books Week 2021
November 2021: Protecting Utah's Freedom to Read
April 2022: Be Proactive! Preparing for Intellectual Freedom Challenges
Debbie virtually presented on the basics of intellectual freedom at the Southern Utah Media Specialist Conference on November 3rd. She was also able to answer a lot of questions from the audience.
In December, we supported the Utah Library Advocates group with the release of the eBook
Utah Libraries: Keystone of Healthy Democracy, Student Success, and Prosperous Communities by writing several parts of it and helping with edits. We also helped behind the scenes with planning the December 14th press conference to announce the release of the eBook.

I presented virtually on “Book Challenges: What’s Happening in Utah?” at the YSRT Winter Workshop on February 25th.

Throughout the year, Debbie and I both talked with the media about book challenges, bans, and intellectual freedom.

Washington County Parents Want to Ban Some Books from Their Schools’ Libraries
RadioACTive 11/24/2021

Pornography and Censorship: Controversial Books Returned to Utah School Libraries’ Shelves

In the Battles over Banned Books, Utah Librarians Are on the Front Lines

It was a busy year and I am looking forward to engaging with more ULA members to provide more robust support to library workers facing challenges to intellectual freedom.

Web Committee: Mindy Hale

The Web Committee met in person and virtually several times throughout the year to assign duties, learn new posting techniques, and assess progress.

We continually updated and maintained ula.org, emphasizing an aesthetic upgrade and consistency throughout the unit pages.

We were awarded a $5000 grant from the State Library for our Social Media Publicity Campaign and started apply that money toward boosting our social media presence and growing support from the Utah public.

Roundtables
Archives, Manuscripts, and Special Collections (AMSC): Camri Kohler
No report

Assessment: Molly Cozzens
In 2021, the Assessment Roundtable was officially formed and approved for admission to the Utah Library Association.

In 2021, the Assessment Roundtable’s bylaws were officially ratified.

The 2021-22 Steering Committee was composed of Holt Zaugg as Chair, and Molly Cozzens as Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect.

Holt Zaugg presented a workshop at ULA entitled “Introduction to Library Assessment.”

Association of College and Research Library (ACRL): Diana Meiser
• 2022 ULA conference
We moderated a panel discussion on evaluating library policies from the perspective of equity.

- Book club
  - The Academic Section supported the book clubs through the 21/22 Academic year.
- Library tour
  - We were unable to provide a library tour in 21/22, but hope to provide a tour in 22/23.

Business (BURT):

Benjamin Wilson

No report

Copyright Education (CERT):

David Pixton

Focus of the CERT during the 2021-22 program year was on determining what educational activities would be of greatest benefit to round table members and potential members, and then providing that programming.

1. We sent out a survey to the ULA membership to assess member engagement with copyright, including:
   a. Job-related interactions with copyright,
   b. Current knowledge about copyright,
   c. Interest in participation in CERT, and
   d. Interest in different subjects for training.

2. We held an in-person brainstorming/planning session and, based on survey responses, we outlined two trainings to be proposed for the ULA Annual meeting. One addressed more basic copyright principles while the second sought to provide answers to more specific and difficult copyright questions. Both proposals were accepted by the Program Committee.

3. We identified copyright experts in different educational domains and invited their participation in the conference.

4. We surveyed the ULA membership to identify questions about copyright that could be addressed in the second session and used member responses to guide the second session.

5. We held an informal business meeting at the ULA Annual Conference and gathered input of copyright issues of interest to those attending.

6. Members of CERT presented and moderated two sessions at the ULA Annual Conference: “Copyright Basics” on 19 May and “Ask a Copyright Expert” on 20 May.

7. We employed our budget of $500 to purchase copies of the book “Copyright Law for Librarians and Educators” that were given to some attendees of the conference as prizes for participation.

Looking forward the CERT intends to focus on expanding membership, programming, and online resources to reach a broader audience.

Diversity Services (DSRT):

Cristina Reyes

No report

Genealogy (GENRT):

Milan Pohontsch

From June 2021 to May 2022 GENRT has done the following activities:

- Hosted a webinar: “Leveraging Social Media Networking Resources for Genealogical Queries”. The attendance was very low (four attendees, plus presenter).
- Hosted webinar: “Understanding DNA and How to Utilize Test Results to Help Build Your Family Tree”. The attendance was rather good (about 35 attendees) because advertisement was done outside of the regular GENRT distribution list.
- GENRT sponsored and (the chair) moderated a panel discussion during ULA Fall Workshop: “Acquiring and Processing Family History Materials at the Harold B. Lee Library”. The attendance was rather good.

All activities were done without pay. The requested budget of $200 was not used.

There were a couple of things that were planned but were not done. One was to sponsor a genealogy-related presentation during ULA annual. The other was to have a GENRT get-together during ULA annual (breakfast meeting). Both failed because of outside circumstances that could not be controlled by GENRT.

The GENRT membership was stable in terms of the amount of members, but it was difficult to convince GENRT members to participate in GENRT activities.

Government Documents (GODORT): Jen Kirk
No report

Health (HEART): Dave Castelli
No report

Library Administration & Management (LAMART): Charlene Crozier
No report

**Library Instruction (LIRT):** Carol Kunzler
The Library Instruction RoundTable held a business meeting at the ULA conference.

**Library Paraprofessional and Support Staff (LPSSRT):** Julie Heckert
The ULA Paraprofessional Certificate Program Mentor Committee continued to function with limited members and meetings this year but looks forward to the implementation of program changes, outreach to library directors and recruiting more participants. Dona Gay, Payson Library Director has agreed to join the mentor committee. As Nancy Haight has retired, another committee member or two would be most welcome. The committee continues to mentor the candidates who are striving to complete their certification.

The ULA annual conference was held in person and one candidate, Sally Garritson of Duchesne County Library received her certificate. Nine candidates are currently enrolled in the program with four enrolling during 2021/2022.

Julie presented at the ULA conference about the contributions of library paraprofessionals and the advantages of supporting these workers through continuing education opportunities. About 30 participants attended the session. Julie and the committee are completing the program revisions. The State Library has provided Canvas access through the UEN network and in July 2022, the program will move to this online platform for participants to connect with mentors, interact with other participants, submit required documents and track progress.
All documents concerning the program are available in the ULA Google Drive for sharing and program revisions are being documented there as well to insure continued access.

New Perspectives (NPRT): Darby Fanning
No report

Outreach & Community Engagement (ORT): Tina Bartholoma
Communications
- February 2022: Bulk email sent to ORT members encouraging members to step up into open leadership positions. (There were no volunteers.)

Actions
- February 2022: Trevor Alvord, Vice-chair/chair-elect recruited three persons to run as ORT members-at-large on the ULA annual ballot. All three ran unopposed and were retained. (Cindy Brightenburg later stepped up to vice-chair.)
  - Cindy Brightenburg, BYU
  - Dainan Skeem, BYU
  - Pat Huff, retired librarian
- April 2022: Annual ORT Business meeting scheduled to occur during ULA conference.

Meetings
- 05.19.2022: ORT Business Meeting at ULA Conference
  - Empty Chair-elect/Vice-chair position has been filled by Cindy Brightenburg, BYU

Suggestions
- 30-minutes before the keynote on the first official day of the conference is a really poor time for business meetings; leadership is busy with the conference and many round table members are still in transit.
  As community engagement/active involvement is one of the new strategic goals for ULA, can we request that round tables receive a better scheduling position at the next conference? People can’t get involved without an opportunity to check out what the committees/round tables do and receive invitations to join (and in-person invites are the most effective method to make this happen.)

Reference & Adult Services (RASRT): Cherie Willis
No report

Rural & Small Libraries (RSLRT): James Britsch
No report

Technical Services (TSRT): Rachel Wittmann and Nicole Lewis
The Technical Services Round Table hosted a webinar for the 2021 Fall Workshop on September 24, 2021, “Updating Catalogs with More Inclusive Subject Headings: A Planned Approach” by Nicole Lewis and Rachel Wittmann from the University of Utah. In September 2021, the TSRT issued a survey to its members to gather feedback on desired preconference presentation content. From that survey, the TSRT scheduled the preconference working session “MarcEdit for Beginners” hosted by Nicole Lewis. The Utah
Library Association 2022 Annual Conference had a strong representation in the Technical Services category, with 10 presentations in total.

**Youth Services (YSRT):** Kirsten Nilsson

The Youth Services Round Table met *almost* all of our objectives this year, 2021-2022. We just wrapped up a successful ULA Spring Conference where we had enough session proposals accepted to have an offering available for youth librarians each hour. It was a great conference. We also held our annual YSRT Training in February 2022. We were planning to hold two trainings--one at the Park City Library and one at the Cedar City Library--but at the last minute (six weeks in advance) Covid-19 case counts went up in Summit County, so we pivoted to an online training. We had 80+ attendees online which, I imagine, is more than we would've had at both sessions combined. So, although it involves some extraordinary tech savvy (thank you to Patrick Hutchings at SLCPL), it was worth the extra effort. And, it was cheaper with no lunch offering. Our theme followed the broader ULA theme for this year "United in Diversity/Unidas en la Diversidad". We had several guest speakers--including Rita Christensen, current ULA President, Yammie Saied Mendez, a Pura bel Pre award winning author who writes for children and teens, and Leah Nixon, an illustrator who uses a wheelchair and is paralyzed from her upper body down. We also had sessions recommending teen and children's books, a story time booster session and creative teen programming ideas. We made an extra effort to have more to offer teen librarians this year. The day was packed full of information. We'd hoped to forego our own YSRT newsletter and combine with the ULA newsletter, which we managed to do in August, but after that our emails were crossed somehow and our submissions weren't included. Hopefully, the committee next year will be more on top of that communication to members. We also introduced a slack channel for YSRT but no one subscribed. Gloria Larsen, a Washington County youth services librarian, graciously agreed to step in as this year's vice chair as Angela Edwards, due to a job change, couldn't fulfill that role for us. We've had a great committee with some new members from rural libraries so YSRT is alive and well! I've loved serving last year as Vice-Chair, with Lisa Grant, and this year as the YSRT chair. ULA is a rewarding organization. I've made friends and met colleagues in my field from all over the state of Utah.

**ULA Advocacy Committee Report – June 1, 2021 – May 27, 2022**

*Co-Chairs: Peter Bromberg and Rebekah Cummings*

We began the summer of 2021 in a growing climate of threat for libraries and librarians. Across the country, groups that had formed to protest mask mandates in schools were transitioning their activities to protest “crt books” as well as challenges to books in school libraries.
characterized as obscene or pornographic. These books were often by or about members of the LGBTQIA community, as well as by authors of color. Locally, Utah Parents United was ramping up with training videos and lists of books to be challenged, rallying their supporters to show up in force at school board meetings and challenge books in school libraries.

Over the year, this climate of threat and peril only intensified as pro-censorship groups became increasingly well-networked, sharing tactics, strategies, and talking points. We saw a number of troubling bills proposed, with only one - HB374, “Sensitive Materials in Schools” - finding enough support to pass. The version that passed was orders of magnitude better than the bill “as introduced”, and it did not fundamentally change the law; it only pointed to existing law. However, legislators have openly stated that if the “intent” of the law is not realized (i.e. making it easier to remove books from school libraries), they will return in 2022-2023 with new legislation. While we believe the state legislature is still largely constrained by state and federal statutes and federal case law that afford students and school library materials significant protections under the first amendment, that doesn’t mean that they won’t try to advance any number of problematic bills. We can anticipate bills that will:

- seek to impose restrictions on local education agency (LEA) policies
- seek (again) to redefine definitions of obscenity and/or “harmful to minors”, and
- seek to expose librarians and teachers to civil and criminal penalties for sharing constitutionally protected literature with students

The law may fundamentally be on our side, but that doesn’t mean we won’t have to invest significant amounts of time and energy in countering these attempts. We will need to continue to build relationships with legislators through personal meetings. We will need to continue to build political power in the state by providing opportunities for Utahns to self-identify as library supporters (i.e. through the “I support Utah Libraries” petition/pledge). And we need to continue to build relationships with other community organizations and leaders who share common cause and common concern around our values of intellectual freedom, and our belief that all people are entitled to respect, to human dignity, to freedom from discrimination, and to full and equal protection under the law.

Utah Parents United has officially formed as a 501(c)(4), which now allows them to receive and spend unlimited amounts of donations that do not need to be disclosed (i.e. “dark money”). We can therefore anticipate increased opposition to libraries and librarians, and increased attempts to censor library materials at local and state levels as we head into the next legislative session. While we faced significant challenges this year, as we will in the upcoming year, we also employed a number of successful strategies that better positioned us for success. Those strategies included:

- **Creating Utah Library Advocates (UTLA):** In last year’s annual report, we noted that we had “started a new Slack space for Utah Library Advocates. This space is meant to facilitate coalition building, communication, and action (when needed for rapid response), across organizational and jurisdictional boundaries. There is also a private
channel for ULA Advocacy Committee members to share information specific to ULA advocacy.” Looking back, we can see that the creation of UTLA, and having the infrastructure of the slack space and shared Gdrive space, enabled us to coordinate closely with our partners in the library community. These partners include ULA, UELMA, UEA, Utah Library Media Supervisors (ULMS), UALC, SchoolLibraryPals, USBE, and the State Library. The slack space also grew organically to over 80 members of the library community, and we evolved a number of private and public channels to facilitate effective communication, whether one-to-many, one-to-one, or one-to-few. Moving ahead we will be meeting with new leaders in the association and onboarding them as part of the UTLA “steering team”.

- **Coalition Building:** We used the joint publication of our ebook, *Keystone of Healthy Democracy, Student Success, and Prosperous Communities*, as an opportunity to reach out to new coalition partners including NAACP, Equality Utah, PIK2AR, Pride Center, LGBTQ Chamber of Commerce. In the upcoming year we will continue to strengthen these relationships and develop new strategic coalition partnerships.

- **Earned Media and Relationships with press:** As a result of our press conference to promote the publication of ebook in November, we received a good deal of positive press, and were able to shift the language being used in reporting about libraries by highly quotable content in the ebook. This event also led to connections and trusted relationships with members of the press, who are increasingly reaching out to ULA leadership for comment on any library-related stories. This gives us an opportunity to proactively shape narratives in the media as opposed to simply offering counter-narratives.

- **Using Social Media to Build Understanding and Support:** We began intentionally using the ULA Facebook page to speak to Utahns about libraries and offer them a chance to self-identify as library supporters through the “I support Utah Libraries” petition hosted by EveryLibrary. A generous five thousand dollar grant from the State Library is helping us to boost posts. Over the past six months we have increased our Facebook page likes and doubled our number of Utahns in our database to nearly 1400. While this is significant growth, when we get to between 100-150K contactable Utahns in our database we will have significant standing with elected officials as an organization that needs to be respected and listened to.

- **Legislative meetings:** Members of the Advocacy Team met with nearly every member of the Business, Economic Development, and Labor Committee (BEDL), and met personally with every member of the powerful Executive Appropriations Committee (EAC) to advocate for funding for libraries. This summer we will begin meeting with legislators, with a focus on committee leadership, to build relationships and offer assistance.

- **Legislative citation:** Working with Senator Escamilla, we received a joint legislative citation from the Senate and House and we received a standing ovation from the Senate
after hearing personal testimony on the value and power of libraries from a number of Senators. This helps to inoculate against bad bills, and we will seek support for a pro-library citation again in 2023.

- **Utah Cultural Alliance Membership:** Our organizational membership in the Utah Cultural Alliance, and Peter’s participation as a UCA Board member, has led to strong lobbying support from UCA Executive Director Crystal Young. In addition to actively advocating for libraries with legislators, Crystal has also been generous in teaching, guiding, and mentoring the Advocacy Team in how to effectively advocate for ourselves on the Hill.

In sum, over the last year ULA’s advocacy efforts continued to evolve and mature as we faced a number of challenges, built relationships with legislators and coalition partners, successfully advocated against a number of bad bills, and scored a few legislative wins. All of this happened against a backdrop of local, statewide, and national attempts to censor library materials, and to expose librarians and educators to potential civil and criminal penalties for providing constitutionally protected materials to students.

**CHRONOLOGICAL HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2021 2022**

**JULY 2021 - JANUARY 2022**

- **Strategic Planning:** Peter participated on the Strategic Planning team to provide input into the overall strategic direction of the organization, and help ensure that advocacy goals were appropriately represented.

- **Advocacy Training for Public Library Directors:** Presented to the Public Library Directors group on how to talk to legislators and community leaders about libraries. Offered three live coaching sessions in August/September to refine messaging/stories.

- **UTLA Steering Team Team-Building:** Rebekah and Peter convened a meeting with UTLA Steering Team to discuss the power of coalition, the need for infrastructure, and the importance of building relationships among library leaders across sectors to facilitate rapid response

- **State Library Advisory Board:** Rebekah was appointed to State Library Advisory Board

- **Legislative Agenda Development:** In collaboration with the State Library, and UTLA partners we developed a legislative agenda, talking points, and marketing collateral (as a
leave behind for legislators)

- **Advocacy Training session:** On January 27, Rebekah and Peter offered an online advocacy training. Approximately 40 ULA members attended the live training, which was also made available online for those unable to attend live.

**JANUARY 2022 - MAY 2022**

**Key Activities and Accomplishments**

Members of the Advocacy Team met with nearly every member of the Business, Economic Development, and Labor Committee (BEDL), and met personally with every member of the powerful Executive Appropriations Committee (EAC) to advocate for funding for libraries. Additionally, Peter offered live testimony to the BEDL committee, and also spoke with, emailed, and sent hand-written thank you notes a number of members of the Public Education Committee in support of the Library Specialist position at the Utah State Board of Education (USBE). While we were not successful in securing funding for the State Library’s requests (two full time positions and additional CLEF money), we did have some success in securing other funding and in working with legislators (or bringing pressure upon them) to drop or revise proposed legislation that we saw as problematic. We also strengthened relationships and collaboration across library and education organizations, and developed or strengthened relationships with new and existing coalition partners.

The following are highlights of our significant activities and accomplishments:

- **Secured one-time 750K for public library broadband and infrastructure:** It was a long and winding road, but these funds were approved by the Executive Appropriations Committee (EAC) in the final days of session. The funds were appropriated to the Utah Education Network (UEN), with a letter of intent that directs them to pass the money through the Utah State Library who will determine how the funds are to be distributed. We are awaiting additional guidance from legislative fiscal analysts who will specify eligible expenses. These funds were the end result of an early November phone call with Senator Luz Escamilla who recommended that we bring her a pro-library bill. The original request was focused strictly on infrastructure funding, but with Senator Escamilla’s guidance and continued support, we were able to identify federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) money that is specifically authorized to address broadband connectivity and digital equity.

- **Secured Ongoing Funding for a new Library Specialist position at Utah School Board of Education (USBE):** This position will provide leadership and guidance to all school library staff across the state. Because many schools and districts do not have a certified teacher librarian, this position is key to ensuring that state standards are implemented
consistently and effectively in support of student success.

- **Neutralized Bill HB374 “Sensitive Materials in Schools”** The original bill introduced by Representative Ken Ivory was highly problematic, and would have exposed librarians and educators to civil penalties of $10K for providing “sensitive materials” to children. The original bill also sought to create a new (and likely unconstitutional) definition of materials that are illegal to provide to children. Ultimately, the original bill was diluted to the point that it has no effect. The bill as passed (5th substitute) eliminated the problematic elements including the incentive for parents to sue schools -- which would have required schools to spend limited taxpayer funds defending meritless claims, as opposed to spending those funds on students. It also aligned the definition of "sensitive materials" with the current state and federal "harmful to minors" statutes rather than create a new overly-broad definition that would likely have been found unconstitutional. The 5th substitute also added language from Representative Karen Kwan that requires the inclusion of "parents who are reflective of a school's community when determining whether an instructional material is sensitive material" which is intended to provide a safeguard against silencing of diverse perspectives in the challenge process. In every important way (except prevention of passage) this was a win for us! We ran a petition against the bill which Peter promoted heavily on Twitter, garnering over 500 signatures. (Note: The Governor has still not signed the bill as of 3/22.)

- **Eliminated HB471 Public Library Background Checks:** This bill from Senator Dan Johnson was ostensibly about requiring background checks for librarians, but it went beyond that and, being based on a similar law requiring background check for teachers, was poorly constructed and would have been problematic for public libraries if implemented. We do not oppose the idea of background checks for public employees who work with vulnerable populations such as children. However, most libraries are already conducting pre-hire background checks, and the bill would have required ongoing monitoring and reporting for every staff member in a way that would have been burdensome. Senator Johnson agreed to pull the bill and work with librarians off session to better understand the need and craft a better bill, if needed, in 2022.

- **Unnumbered “Pornography in Schools”** This bill, pre-filed by Rep. Travis Seegmiller, never got out of the gate.

- **ULA School Libraries Statement in Support of School Libraries and Librarians** In response to books being removed from the shelves of libraries at Canyons and Washington County school libraries, the ULA Board published this statement in support of librarians, and advocated for good policies that promote “access to materials that reflect a variety of thoughts, perspectives, and experiences”, and in opposition to “targeted elimination of materials that reflect the authorship or experiences of anyone based on their race, gender, or sexual orientation”. Using our UTLA Slack channels, we were able to coordinate messaging and public comments with our partners in UELMA and UEA. We also maintained contact with library staff that were being directly affected.
to ensure that our actions were ultimately aligned with a successful resolution.

- **Ebook Publication and Press Conference:** Early in November when the school library book challenges were heating up and there was an expectation of some anti-library legislation being proposed, Peter reached out to Sen. Escamilla to ask for advice. She was generous with her time and insight and suggested that we 1) give her a pro-library bill to run and 2) Draft a pro-library resolution/citation, both of which would give us an opportunity to have positive conversations about libraries. She also suggested 3) having a press conference to help create more positive coverage of libraries in the media. However, we needed a good reason to call a press conference if we hoped to draw coverage. We decided to write/publish an ebook entitled, *Utah Libraries: Keystone of Healthy Democracy, Student Success, and Prosperous Communities* to help Utahns and parents understand the values underlying libraries and intellectual freedom, and to offer parents tools to be meaningfully involved in their children’s reading. The ebook was jointly published by Utah Library Advocates (UTLA), and simultaneously posted by ULA, UELMA, and UEA on our respective websites. UEA was generous in mentoring us on how to host a press conference, and with our ebook in hand, and a number of coalition partners including UEA, NAACP, Equality Utah, PIK2AR, Pride Center, LGBTQ Chamber of Commerce joining us, we held a press conference on December 14. The event was very well attended by members of the press and generated positive coverage across all major news outlets. The event also paved the way for continued coverage, and many journalists have continued to proactively reach out to ULA for comment on library-related issues, ensuring that our language and perspective are included or even highlighted in their reporting.

- **Library Lovers Month Legislative Citation:** On the advice of Senator Escamilla, we drafted a Citation for “Library Lovers Month”, which she then championed with her colleagues in both the House and the Senate. On February 22, President Rita Christensen, along with State Librarian Chaundra Johnson, and Advocacy Co-Chair Peter Bromberg were invited to the floor of the Senate to receive the Citation. Many Senators offered personal comments and thanks, and we received a standing ovation (which we were told is rare!)

- **Statewide Marketing Grant:** As part of a larger effort to create more positive understanding and discussion of the value of libraries, we worked with the Utah State Library to secure 5K in funding to inform Utahns about the many ways libraries create positive outcomes. This marketing campaign was a “rapid response” strategy, intended to have an immediate impact and positively influence the dialogue and media coverage around libraries, countering much of the early negative coverage that connected libraries with the concept of obscene or harmful materials. Many of our posts have had good reach and led to increased likes/follows from Utahns. Moving forward, we will continue to use our social media platforms to talk to Utahns about the value of libraries with a goal of building understanding and sustainable support.
• **Utah Cultural Alliance (UCA) Membership/Partnership:** As a member of the Utah Cultural Alliance (UCA) Partnership, ULA continued to benefit from the guidance, mentoring, and lobbying efforts of UCA Executive Director Crystal Young. As a registered lobbyist, and a skilled advocate with 10+ years of experience, deep working knowledge of how the legislature *really* works, and well-developed relationships with legislators, Crystal's support has been key in helping us connect with the right legislators, at the right time, with the right messaging. We encourage all libraries to consider joining UCA as members.

• **45 Days of Advocacy social media campaign:** This is an annual campaign created and managed by UCA to promote arts, culture, and libraries during the 45 day legislative session. ULA participated this year, and we encouraged all members to participate, posting suggested marketing activities on social media throughout the legislative session. We also created a library video as part of the advocacy campaign that was shown on loop at the UCA dinner.

• **Library Day on the Hill:** Library Day was supposed to be February 3, but due to COVID, we made the hard decision in early January to cancel the event. However, we did join UCA and the Utah State Library on February 1st and 3rd to do some tabling in the Capitol Rotunda, deliver cultural awards to members of the Cultural Caucus, and have a few scheduled meetings with legislators. This was a great opportunity to have both formal and informal conversations with legislators.

• **UCA Legislative Dinner:** The annual UCA legislative dinner is a great opportunity to meet and talk with legislators in a more relaxed environment. This year, we sponsored a table and had six library representatives in attendance (Merrily Cannon, Rachel Cook, Rebekah Cummings, Peter Bromberg, Davina Sauthoff, and Tricia Fenton.) The State Library tabled at the event and we were able to chat with many legislators about library services and issues. We were seated with Representative Christine Watkins, who subsequently invited Merrily and Rachel to tour the Capitol and join her on the floor of the House. Rep. Watkins also featured a photo of Rachel and Merrily in her newsletter. A number of ULA members had previously toured the Capitol with Senior Advisor to the Governor Mike Mower.

• **School Library Model Policy:** Peter provided testimony on behalf of ULA to USBE Law and Licensing Committee regarding passage of a model policy for school libraries. The testimony, and written comments that were also provided to the Committee, were aligned with UELMA's strategy of preventing adoption of a model policy at this meeting.

• **Statements to media regarding HB374, AG Memo providing guidance to USBE, and Speaker Brad Wilson’s letter to USBE:** Peter provided interview to KUER offering ULA's position that we support the AG memo, and the clear statements that HB374 did not fundamentally change the law, and that school library materials and students are
entitled to significant first amendment protections.

- **Negotiated special UCA membership rate for libraries:** Rebekah and Peter worked with Utah Cultural Alliance (UCA) to negotiate a special membership rate for libraries as follows:
  - $25 a FTE
  - $50 minimum
  - $2,000 maximum cap

  We will be promoting this discounted membership opportunity to libraries in the near future.

- **ULA Program: Advice from Elected Officials:** Rebekah and Peter co-moderated a panel discussion of elected officials at the ULA annual conference in May.

- **Presented advocacy awards to Senator Escamilla and Crystal Young:** We presented advocacy awards to Senator Escamilla and UCA Executive Director Crystal Young in recognition of their support of libraries in 2021-2022.

- **Continuity in Committee Leadership:** Peter and Rebekah volunteered to continue to Co-chair the Advocacy Committee to provide continuity of leadership and build on our knowledge and relationships with state leaders.

- **Preliminary talks about pro-library bills in next legislative session:** We have begun dialogues with Senator’s Escamilla and Senator Riebe about running pro-library bills, as well as library bills aimed at pre-empting attacks, in 2022-2023. Additionally we are talking with our State Librarian about working with Representative Dan Johnson on an acceptable library background check bill.

- **UALC Partnership:** Rebekah presented to UALC and a follow up discussion with Brian Shuppy from Utah System of Higher Educaon. We will continue to build a strong working relationship with their team, and coordinate on legislative agenda development and advocacy.

**CONCLUSION and LOOKING AHEAD**

This past legislative session was a very busy and in many ways successful legislative season for ULA. We would like to offer specific recognition and gratitude to President Rita Christensen who was very involved in meeting with legislators, speaking to the press on-camera and off, being engaged and supportive of our advocacy efforts in numerous ways this year. We also like to thank and recognize Mindy Hale for her work meeting with legislators, managing our social media and marketing, and offering a great deal of support every step of the way. Katie Wegner and Deb Short were instrumental in drafting our ebook guide in record time, and Eden and Rita Christensen did a tremendous job of laying out the book design and making it look professional,
readable, and esthetically pleasing. Thanks to Alfred Mowdood for co-chairing Library Day on the Hill and to the LDOTH planning team. Our thanks also to Davina Sauthoff and Tricia Fenton, Executive Director and President of UELMA, respectively, who were highly engaged partner in our new UTLA coalition. Heidi Matthews, Executive Director of UEA was also a very engaged partner, particularly in strategizing and coordinating messaging and strategies related to legislation and the request for the Library Specialist position at USBE.

Finally, it is worth noting that there was a true gelling of partnership and participation of so many people in our UTLA Slack channel and we would like to thank everyone who participated and shared their time and thoughts as we came together as a library community to navigate through numerous challenges (literal and figurative) this year. We are looking forward to building on the foundation of our partnerships, as we continue to learn and grow our advocacy skills and put together and advance our library funding and policy agenda for 2023 and beyond.

2021-2022 Unit Reports
**Bylaws Committee**

Three sets of bylaws amendments were prepared for the 2022 ballot. Chair Daniel Mauchley conferred with Parliamentarian Joe Frazier particularly on the School Section amendments. They included the following:

**Dissolution of the School Section; Reinstatement of the UELMA Liaison office; Reduction of ULA’s voting board to 14 members; Clarification of the presiding officer’s vote.**

**Summary:**
Since 1982, the Utah Educational Library Media Association has been Utah's leading association for primary and secondary school librarians. Though ULA has maintained a School Section and afforded its Chair with a vote on the board, participation in the School Section has dwindled to only 23 members, the great majority of whom are not school library staff. Participation in School Section activities has been very low, with no school librarians joining. In comparison UELMA has hundreds of members which attend their one-day conference in March. This one-day event has been more accommodating for the Utah school library profession as they are afforded only 1-2 personal days a year. Concerning recent advocacy and censorship challenges, it has been UELMA working with ULA's Advocacy Committee that has effectively led those cooperative efforts. Rather than continuing to encourage school librarians to divide their limited time and resources between ULA and UELMA, it is proposed that ULA dissolve the School Section, promote UELMA as our school librarian sister-association, continue cooperative advocacy efforts, and reinstate the UELMA Liaison on the ULA Board. These bylaw changes would dissolve the School Section and remove their vote on the ULA Board; reducing the voting board to 14 members. The quorum of the voting board will still be 8 members for a majority. Tie votes are not a majority. The ULA President holds one of the 14 votes. Robert's Rules of Order (ULA's parliamentary authority) states that the President/Chair may utilize their vote to create a tie to defeat a motion or may break a tie to create a majority. The UELMA Liaison will be a non-voting member of the Board appointed by the ULA President-Elect as are committee chairs and the Utah State Library Liaison. The UELMA Liaison will be a member of both associations, attending both associations' meetings, and facilitating cooperative efforts and communication. UELMA members who wish to also become a member of ULA will continue to be offered a discounted rate.

**Proposed Amendments:**

**Article 5.C. Recording Secretary, Historian, Parliamentarian, & UELMA Liaison.**

The Recording Secretary, Historian, Parliamentarian, and Utah Educational Library Media Association Liaison shall each be appointed annually by the Vice-President/President-Elect as per Article 6.B.4. The **UELMA Liaison shall be a member in good standing of both ULA and UELMA.**

**Article 6.B.4.** The Vice-President/President-Elect shall appoint the Recording Secretary, the Historian, the Parliamentarian, the **UELMA Liaison**, and the chairs of all Association committees prior to the annual conference at which the Vice-President/President-Elect assumes office as President. The officers and committee chairs so appointed shall begin functioning at the time the Vice-President/President-Elect assumes office as President.
Article 6.L. **UELMA Liaison** *(Other appointed positions in this article will be moved down the alphabetical sections.)*

The Utah Educational Media Library Association Liaison shall:

1. Attend board meetings of both ULA and UELMA regularly and report on the activities of each to the other organization.

2. Prepare articles on ULA and UELMA activities for the newsletters of the two associations.

3. Facilitate cooperative initiatives of the two associations under the direction of the ULA and UELMA boards.

Article 7.A. The **fifteen (15) voting members** of the Board shall consist of: (1) the President (2) the Vice-President/President-Elect (3) the Immediate Past President (4) the six (6) Members-at-Large (5) the Academic Section Chair (6) the Public Section Chair (7) the School Section Chair (7) the Special Section Chair (8) the MPLA Representative (9) the ALA Chapter Councilor.

Article 7.B. The Executive Director, the Executive Treasurer, the Program Board Chair, the Conference Chair, the Parliamentarian, the Historian, the Recording Secretary, the USL Liaison, the **UELMA Liaison**, and committee and roundtable chairs shall serve as non-voting ex-officio members.

Article 9.C.2. The presiding officer, usually the President or unit Chair, only votes to **break a tie create a majority or to create a tie to defeat a motion**. If the presiding officer is needed to create a voting quorum, they vote on all motions of that meeting.

Article 14.B.3.a. **Sections**

i. There shall be **three (3) four (4) sections** based on type of library—academic, public, school, and special.

ii. Sections shall be concerned with administrative, management, political, or policy issues which relate to a specific type of library.

iii. The School Section steering committee shall also:

1. Have at least one representative that is a member in good standing of both ULA and the Utah Educational Library Media Association and must be able to attend board meetings of both associations regularly and report on the activities of each association to both associations.

2. Prepare articles on ULA and UELMA activities for the newsletters of the two associations.

3. Facilitate cooperative initiatives of the two associations under the direction of the ULA and UELMA boards.

iii. The Academic Section steering committee shall also:

Have at least one representative that is a member of the ALA Association of College and Research Libraries division and currently employed in an academic library. This representative acts as chair of ULA’s ACRL chapter.
Have at least one representative that is able to attend board meetings of both ULA and the Utah Academic Library Consortium regularly and report on the activities of each to the other organization.
Prepare articles on ULA, UALC, and ACRL activities for newsletters and other communications of ULA and UALC.
Facilitate cooperative initiatives of the ULA and UALC under the direction of each respective board.

**Program funding request clarification**

**Summary:**
Budget requests are handled through the ULA Finance Committee and are approved by the ULA Board. Each September, all ULA unit leaders submit their anticipated annual budget requests. However, Article 10.D. currently states that the Program Board handles those requests, when it should be the Finance Committee chaired by the ULA Immediate Past-President. This correction was overlooked in the 2021 bylaws revision.

**Proposed Amendments:**
Article 10.D. The Program Board will submit to the Board at its quarterly meeting in September an outline of all programs and goals submitted by all unit chairs—excluding the annual conference—planned for the current fiscal year. and an **Unit chairs submit** accompanying budget requests to the Finance Committee to be compiled and to be approved by the Board as part of the Association’s annual budget. Funding for programs which are developed after the September meeting of the Board may be approved at the next regular Board meeting or, if necessary, by the Executive Committee as per Article 8.C.1.

**ULA Mission revision**

Based on feedback received and the priorities highlighted by hundreds of participants in ULA’s strategic planning survey this past year, the mission of the Utah Library Association is proposed to be revised to:

"The Utah Library Association cultivates professional development, connection, and inclusivity to promote strong Utah libraries."

The current mission is: "The Utah Library Association advocates for libraries and cultivates leadership development to promote library excellence for the Utah library community."

All amendments were approved in the ULA 2022 ballot with the following results:
Article 1. ULA Bylaws Mission Revision - PASSED (87.2%)
Article 5.C.; Article 6.B.4.&L.; Article 7.A.&B.; Article 9.C.2.; Article 14.B.3.a. - Dissolution of the School Section; Reinstatement of UELMA Liaison; ULA Voting Board reduced to 14 votes - PASSED (97.8%)
Article 10.D. - Program Funding Request Clarification - PASSED (99.1%)

**Nominating Committee**

Chair Daniel Mauchley and Board Members-at-Large Anna Neatrour and Angela Edwards were busy in January and February in following up with all of ULA’s unit leaders in gathering candidates for the ULA ballot that was released on February 23rd. In some cases, they also contacted ULA members to specifically nominate them for unit offices. We are pleased to report that only the Special Libraries Section, Library Administration and Management
Roundtable, and Outreach and Community Engagement Roundtable were without Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect candidates; however, all ULA units will have a Chair leading their unit through 2022-2023 and many more units have members-at-large to serve on their steering committees! It must also be recognized that the leaders of those three mentioned units put out many calls to their unit members and other individual invitations to be nominated. We greatly appreciate their efforts to do all they could to find nominees. We are confident Chair candidates for those units will be found for the 2023-2024 terms. We also express gratitude to all the other unit leaders who worked hard to get candidates prepared by the January 31 deadline. The ULA Ballot closed on March 20. The results (with incoming chairs included for convenience) were:
ULA President-Elect: Patrick Hoecherl, SLC Public Library
ULA Board Member-at-Large: Angela Edwards, Wasatch Library
ULA Board Member-at-Large: Hiroko Hashitani, U of U

Academic Section
Chair: Diana Meiser, Weber State University
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Paul Robbins, Brigham Young University
Member-at-Large: Nena Schvanavelt, University of Utah
Member-at-Large: Catherine Soehner, University of Utah

Public Section
Chair: Erin Warnick, American Fork Library
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Casandria Crane, American Fork Library

Special Section
Chair: Karen Newmeyer, Rocky Mountain University
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: NO CANDIDATE

Archives, Manuscripts, & Special Collections Roundtable
Chair: Kathleen Broeder, Dixie State University
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Bryan Hull, University of Utah

Assessment Roundtable
Chair: Molly Cozzens, Salt Lake County Library
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Heidi Fendrick, Utah State Library Division
Member-at-Large: Ambra Gagliardi, University of Utah
Member-at-Large: Lindsey Memory, Brigham Young University
Member-at-Large: Cristina M. Reyes, Utah State Library Division

Business Roundtable
Chair: Zach Allred, Salt Lake Community College
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Brandon Bowen, Ensign College
Member-at-Large: Leticia Camacho, Brigham Young University
Member-at-Large: Alex Sundt, Utah State University
Member-at-Large: Ben Wilson, Utah Valley University

Copyright Education Roundtable
Chair: Dave Pixton, Brigham Young University
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Ann Richins, Salt Lake Community College
Member-at-Large: Becky Loveridge, Family History Library

**Diversity Services Roundtable**
Chair: Diana Castro, Salt Lake City Public Library
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Karen Liu, Utah State Library Division
Member-at-Large: David Bird, Salt Lake County Library
Member-at-Large: Teirza Kupka, Orem Public Library
Member-at-Large: Cristina Reyes, Utah State Library Division

**Genealogy Roundtable**
Chair: Jeremy Myntti, University of Utah
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Matt Armstrong, Brigham Young University
Member-at-Large: Katie Althoff-Hall, Family History Library
Member-at-Large: Joe Everett, Brigham Young University

**Government Documents Roundtable**
Chair: Shane Wallace, University of Utah
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Jen Kirk, Utah State University

**Health Roundtable**
Chair: James Heiner, Provo
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Meg Frost, Brigham Young University

**Library Administration and Management Roundtable**
Chair: Casandria Crane, American Fork Library
Vice-Chair (Not Chair-Elect): Juan Lee, Wasatch County Library

**Library Instruction Roundtable**
Chair: Ernesto Hernandez Jr., Weber State University
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Jessica Green, Brigham Young University
Member-at-Large: Ashley Bassett, Intermountain Health Care
Member-at-Large: Anne Diekema, Southern Utah University
Member-at-Large: Katherine Paterson, Utah Valley University

**Library Paraprofessional and Support Staff Roundtable**
Chair: Abigail Brisson, Provo
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Kara VanderLinden, Salt Lake County Library
Member-at-Large: Melanie Petersen, Duchesne County Library

**New Perspectives Roundtable**
Chair: Nathan Robison, Orem Public Library
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Maggie Marchant, Brigham Young University

**Outreach and Community Engagement Roundtable**
Chair: Trevor Alvord, Brigham Young University
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Cindy Brightenburg, Brigham Young University
Member-at-Large: Pat Huff, Huff Paralegal
Member-at-Large: Dainan Skeem, Brigham Young University

**Reference and Adult Services Roundtable**
Chair: Jamie Bartlett, Orem Public Library
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Deanna Simonis, Salt Lake County Library
Member-at-Large: David Bird, Salt Lake County Library
Member-at-Large: Cynthia Lopez, Manti Public Library
**Rural & Small Libraries Roundtable**
Chair: Rachel Cook, Utah State Library Division  
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Emily Coltrin, Hyrum City Library

**Technical Services Roundtable**
Co-Chair: Tammy Buehler, Southern Utah University  
Co-Chair: Christopher Clark, Southern Utah University  
Co-Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Abby Beazer, Brigham Young University  
Co-Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Julia Pehrson, Murray City Library

**Youth Services Roundtable**
Chair: Gloria Larsen, Washington County Library  
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Katrina Kmak, Park City Library

**Finance Committee**
Longtime ULA Treasurer Javaid Lal announced his resignation in the fall of 2021 and ended his tenure on Dec. 31. Allen Arnoldsen, a Library Controller/accountant at Brigham Young University, was hired as the new ULA Treasurer. He worked with Javaid throughout the transition and has communicated well with the Executive Committee in assuming his new role. At the September 10th ULA Board Meeting, the following non-conference budget requests were approved for the 2021-2022 year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requesting Unit/Officer</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Trish Hull, ALA Councilor | ALA Annual Conference Attendance 2022:  
Airfare  
Hotel - 5 nights  
Per Diem - 5 days  
Travel to Airports | $2200 total  
$600  
$1250  
$250  
$100 |
| Copyright Education RT, Benjamin Whisenant, Chair | Roundtable leadership/planning lunch  
Book Giveaway | $500 total  
$125  
$375 |
| Genealogy RT, Milan Pohontsch, Chair | Honorarium for 2 webinar presenters during the year | $200 total  
$100 each |
| Youth Services RT, Kirsten Nilsson, Co-Chair | Honorarium for author Yamile Saied Méndez to speak at two  
YSRT February workshops  
YSRT Workshop early sign-up incentives, e.g. art kits | $800 total  
$500  
$300 |
Advocacy Committee, Rebekah Cummings, Co-Chair

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library Day on the Hill 2022:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rooms</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6' tables (15 count total: $7/6' table, $7/round table, $10/pedestal round)</td>
<td>$4,645 total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easels (4 at $10)</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extension Cords (6 at $5)</td>
<td>$140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standing Microphone</td>
<td>$40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chairs (60 at $1.50)</td>
<td>$30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posters (4 at $20)</td>
<td>$15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3D Prints/Swag</td>
<td>$90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Packets &amp; nametags for library advocates</td>
<td>$80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utah Cultural Alliance Legislative Dinner sponsorship</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utah Cultural Alliance Legislative Dinner table to attend</td>
<td>$3000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$1000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL** $8,345

The annual financial report will be available on the ULA website soon. The conference budget and revenue report will be provided by the Conference Committee.

In an effort to further diversify ULA’s revenue sources, Vice-President Marissa Bischoff investigated various association’s newsletter advertising rates and their publication formats. A draft of proposed advertising rates scaled to ULA's newsletter format, frequency of distribution, and quantity of recipients was given to the Executive Committee. The EC approved the rates as follows:

**Publication Schedule:** Quarterly, four issues per year

**Rates & Measurements:** 15% off for four issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size:</th>
<th>Measurements (Horizontal x Vertical):</th>
<th>One:</th>
<th>Four:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full Page</td>
<td>7” x 9”</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half Page</td>
<td>7” x 4.5”</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>$170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizontal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half Page Vertical</td>
<td>3.5” x 9”</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>$170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarter Page</td>
<td>4.5” x 3.5”</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>$85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Card Size</td>
<td>2” x 3.5”</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Policies and Procedures Ad-hoc Committee

Daniel Mauchley was selected as Chair of this ad-hoc committee. He expresses sincere apologies to the ULA Board and to those that volunteered for this ad-hoc committee effort for not initiating the work assigned this year, citing the need to redirect available time to other roles as ULA Past-President, Nominating Committee Chair, Bylaws Committee Chair, a member of the Strategic Plan ad-hoc committee, and the construction of a new library in his system.