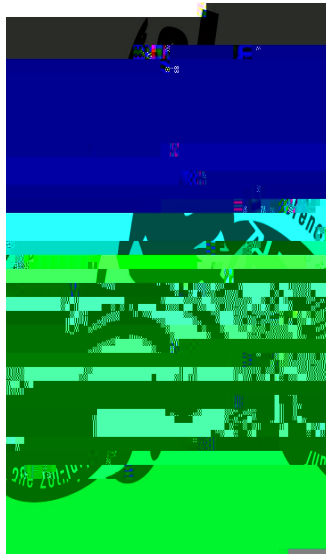




February 2008

Newsletter

## Calling all Library Staff: Ride the Wave to Empowerment!



Did you know that the ALA Annual Conference now has specialized programs designed just for **YOU**—the technical processing clerk, the reader’s advisor, or the circulation desk assistant? Are you ready to attend one of the most important educational opportunities available to library staff at your level? The Empowerment Conference is **THE** national event for library support staff! Take a look at some of the great programs on work life balance, ergonomics, handling difficult people, workplace safety, and customer service. The keynote address will feature Disney professionals sharing their secrets of great customer service!

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Choose from a variety of programs designed for support staff.

new people to see!  
in library support  
staff roles.

Learn how others tackle those every day challenges.

Share ideas and successes with colleagues.

Explore the world’s largest library vendor showcase with more than 900 exhibitors! With everything from books to databases, integrated library systems to library security, and architects to furniture suppliers, there is something for

Attend special events like the Scholarship Bash on Saturday night at Disneyland (extra fee) or the LSSIRT Night Out at Buca di Beppo (extra fee).

Better yet, Empower Yourself in ALA! Join ALA and LSSIRT for \$52 and save \$23 on the conference registration.

Either way, register for the Empowerment Conference TODAY, and find yourself in the same place with the best and brightest in the library profession.

Register online at:  
<http://tinyurl.com/yq82jf>

Mini minutes from the LSSIRT  
Steering Committee meeting  
Philadelphia Convention Cen  
ter, Philadelphia,

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the funding to allow all this to happen. For example, I suggested and strongly "encouraged" Jim Hill, past LSSIRT chair, to work with other library support staff to organize the first Denver metro library support staff conference, and I helped to support that conference financially. This successful conference led to the formation of the Metro Area Library Paraprofessionals' organization.

To My LSSIRT Colleagues:

First, please accept my sincerest apologies for not being able to meet with you today. I don't want my absence to indicate that I am not a strong supporter of LSSIRT or of library support staff. I am very disappointed that I am missing your meeting.

I want to thank Dorothy Morgan for allowing me to present this statement and thank Teri Switzer for finding the time to read my statement.

I am running for ALA president. For those who have worked with me can tell you that I am a strong supporter of library support staff. I continue to encourage support staff's involvement in library service and professional service. Every administrative position I held, I encouraged and pushed library support staff to get involved in local and national library association activities and other external library related activities. This included giving support staff release time for this involvement. I started or increased

In the library work environment, I empowered library support staff to reach their potential within our library organizations. I worked to change the tone for all staff by refusing to allow support staff to be treated like second class citizens by library faculty. For me, professionalism is a state of mind not a class of library employees.

One of my strengths I bring to the ALA presidency is my passion for

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Library support staff is es

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**Degrees and Certifications:**

American InterContinental University, Bachelor of Fine Arts  
Visual Communications, 2004.

**Current Position:** Library Assistant, Cleveland Public

## Candidate for Secretary: Kareen Turner

Kareen earned a B.S. in Elementary Education at the University of the Ozarks (formerly College of the Ozarks) in Clarksville, AR. She also completed several post graduate courses in Adult Education at the University of Arkansas.

Kareen has over 23 years of library experience in public

schools, college & university, military and public libraries. She also brings 6 years experience in retail book sales in the United States and Europe. She joined the University of Arkansas Interlibrary Loan Department in 1997. After serving as an active member of the Arkansas Library Paraprofessionals since 1998 (as Chair and Conference Committee Co Chair), she joined LSSIRT in 2006.

She considers herself an expert at book ordering and interlibrary loan programs. She has also taken classes to become computer proficient in online services, office software, graphics and desktop pub

lishing.

Her community activities have included the The Officers' Wives and Spouse Clubs at Ellsworth AFB, SD; RAF Greenham Common and RAF Mildenhall, United Kingdom; and, Landstuhl, Germany.

Kareen would like to see support staff receive recognition for all their contributions to libraries throughout the nation and the world. She feels a certification program would be one way to achieve that recognition.

section of the Technical Services Team.

Kerrie has served for over 3 years on the University of Arizona Libraries Staff Governance Association as a Member At Large

Kerrie Stramler is a Library Information Analyst at the University of Arizona. She has worked at the U of A for over 17 years as Library Support Staff beginning as a Library Assistant in 1991 in the Physical Processing and Bindery

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Degrees and Certifications: Western

## Candidate for Member-at-Large: Denita Hampton

Hi! My name is Denita Hampton and I am the Manager of Access and Media Services at University Library at Georgia State University in Atlanta. I've worked in libraries most of my life. I started as a volunteer at my elementary

school when I was 9. I worked at GSU Library for 27 years and I love it! I've worked in the Catalog Department, but have to admit my love is circulation... where I've been for 20 years!

The past 18 months the library has undergone a huge transformation! We added a learning commons, additional study rooms, an additional bridge that connects the two library buildings, and a coffee shop. Usage has doubled! The library is sometimes crowded! Hard to believe if you visited the library this time 2 years ago!

Being a support staff in my library, I'd like to see more professional support at the national level. I'm fortunate that the leadership in my library sup

ports me attending professional conferences and workshops. I believe these conferences and workshops offer something for all staff. I think more professional development would aid support staff in performing their jobs successfully!

More recognition for staff is needed! Support staff are great in doing what they do! They are the backbone here at GSU!

Since becoming Manager, I've attended ALA conference in Chicago in 2005; New Orleans in 2006 and last year in Washington, DC. I look forward to Anaheim this year!

**Degrees and Certificates:** College of DuPage, Library Technical Assistant Certificate, 1995; Bethany Theological Seminary, Master of Divinity, 1992; University of Tennessee, Knoxville, B.S., in Elementary Education theGSU!





## **LSSCP: Library Support Staff Certification Program**

The "core" competency areas are:

Foundations of Library Services

Friday: 6/27/2008; 2:00 - 4:00 pm  
Managers Who Have the "Union  
Advantage"

Tom Galante, Director, Queens  
Borough Public Library; Susan  
Veltfort, Children's Selection Li  
brarian, King County

The *LSSIRT Newsletter* is the official publication of the Library Support Staff Interests Round Table (LSSIRT) of the American Library Association.

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It is distributed free to members of LSSIRT and is published three four times a year.

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For timely updates and for networking with LSSIRT colleagues,  
be sure and sign up for the newsletter. You can sign up here: [http://www.library.org/lssirt/newsletter](#)