I am excited to announce that our opening keynote speaker at the Annual Conference on October 10-12 in Coralville will be Chris Crutcher. Chris will speak to us about the importance of intellectual freedom and the freedom to read and what they mean to the future of libraries and our society.

Chris Crutcher is an author and therapy consultant born in Dayton, Ohio to a WWII bomber pilot and a homemaker. He grew up in Cascade, Idaho and graduated from Eastern Washington University with a BA in psychology and sociology and a teaching credential. After teaching in Washington State and California, Crutcher became the director of a “last chance” K-12 alternative school in Oakland, CA before returning to Spokane to write his first book, *Running Loose* for Greenwillow in 1982. Eight (soon to be nine) other novels, a collection of short stories and an autobiography followed, all from Greenwillow/HarperCollins.

Crutcher’s fast paced fiction — heavily influenced by his work as a therapist and child protection advocate — is known for its expert balance of comedy and tragedy, as well as its unflinching honesty. He is a public speaker and a popular columnist (*Voices From the Middle, the Signal Journal, iParenting*.) Crutcher speaks more than 60 times a year to school boards, parents, students, teachers, library patrons, and at state and national library and teacher conferences.

Crutcher still works as a therapist and child protection advocate. His life experiences in rural Idaho, in urban Oakland, in education and in mental health keep his fiction rooted in real life. “Crutcher writes with heart-wrenching realism,” according to *People Magazine* with “superb plotting, extraordinary characters and crackling narrative,” *Publisher’s Weekly* said.

Crutcher is a committed defender of intellectual freedom and most of his books have been challenged. He often travels to communities where his books are being challenged to help defend them and educate the community about freedom of speech and intellectual freedom issues. His book *Whale Talk* was recently challenged in at least three states.

The American Library Association has named eight of his young adult books, to date, “Best Books for Young Adults,” and four of his books appeared on *Booklist’s* Best 100 Books of the 20th Century, compiled in 2000 — more than any other single author on the list. Crutcher received the ALAN Award in 1993, the NCTE SLATE Intellectual Freedom Award in 1998, the Margaret A. Edwards Lifetime Achievement Award in 2000 and *Writer Magazine*’s Writers Who Make a Difference Award in 2004.

I hope you are as excited as I am about Chris coming to Iowa for Annual Conference. The Conference Planning Committee is working hard to put together a great conference.

Mark your calendars now!

**Iowa Libraries: Cultivating the Future**
October 10-12, 2007
Coralville Marriott Hotel and Conference Center

*Sheryl Bissen*
ILA President

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**CHRIS CRUTCHER IS 2007 ENDOVED SPEAKER!!**
IOWA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL LIBRARIANS
PARTNERS WITH
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS OF IOWA

With last year’s reinstatement of the requirement that each school district in Iowa have a teacher librarian, many school administrators across the state are looking for guidance in developing a vision of what a school library program can and should be and how it will impact students and learning. The Iowa Association of School Librarians (IASL) collaborated with the School Administrators of Iowa (SAI) to offer a one-day workshop that addressed these topics. Enhancing Student Achievement through a Quality Library Program was held on February 20, 2007 at the Heartland AEA in Johnston. The goals were to: 1) share with principals the critical elements of high performing school libraries; 2) provide information about the link between student achievement and good libraries; and 3) help administrators develop a vision for their own library programs.

Mary Jo Langhorne and Denise Rehmke were the workshop facilitators. Matt Carver, legal consultant for SAI, and Carol Greta, Department of Education, addressed the legal aspects of the new rule. Four pairs of administrators and librarians served as panelists addressing the components of the new school library guidelines: Pearl Miller (librarian) and Diane Petty (principal), BCLUW Schools; Nancy Weber (librarian) and Chris Kolarik (principal), Lincoln Elementary, Iowa City Schools; Anne Sushko (librarian) and Phil Kramer (principal), Jefferson Middle School, Dubuque; and Kelly Fischbach (librarian) and Tammie McKenzie (assistant principal) Carroll High School, Carroll. The panelists focused on the critical elements of the teaching and learning component of a school library program, as well as the library management elements necessary for a vital program.

IASL was pleased to partner with SAI in offering this workshop, and gratified by the interest many administrators have in developing strong school libraries. Registration for this workshop was limited to 100 participants, but a waiting list indicates that the workshop may be offered again. This is an exciting time for school libraries in Iowa!

Denise Rehmke
IASL President

Kelly Fischbach, Tammie McKenzie, Chris Kolarik, Nancy Weber, Diane Petty, Pearl Miller, Anne Sushko, Phil Kramer, Mary Jo Langhorne, and Denise Rehmke.

HOPE TO SEE YOU ON LEGISLATIVE DAY -
MARCH 28!
Pre-registration available in the calendar section of the ILA web site
www.iowalibraryassociation.org
**PLANTING SEEDS**

In the spirit of the theme of this year’s ILA Conference, *Iowa Libraries: Cultivating the Future*, the Iowa Library Trustee Association (ILTA) has been planting seeds. The first step in garnering what we hope will be a bumper crop was the mailing of those “seeds” and planting instructions to each of Iowa’s public libraries, more than 550 in all. The instructions, a letter from Sheryl Bissen, ILA president, and me, invited librarians to encourage their board members to join ILTA. We asked each board to “plant” at least one representative in the Association so that we might better serve all Iowa libraries and all trustees through our scholarship grants, our continuing education program and our strong advocacy efforts. The “seeds” were actually ILTA registration forms to be returned with membership dues and bookmarks to be kept as a reminder of what ILTA members can do to help the libraries they love.

One of the two major areas of focus of ILA in the coming year is membership, thus this effort to awaken the so-called “Sleeping Giant” that is Iowa’s library trustees. As a Library Service Area trustee I visit many libraries and talk with many librarians and the message I hear is clear—active and engaged boards are a necessity for success. Board members who join ILTA and ILA are provided the tools, knowledge and opportunity to allow their voices to be heard, and to help continue and improve the myriad services provided to all Iowans by their libraries.

Trustees of a small, rural library, a large urban library, a Library Service Area and the State Library itself are charged to certain duties that may, at times, seem daunting. That’s why membership in ILTA is so important. You are not alone! Librarians and trustees, please encourage your board and fellow board members to join the Association, attend this year’s ILA Conference in Coralville, join in the Trustee sessions and, especially, come to the ILTA Annual meeting. We need you. You need us. A great harvest awaits if we all pull together.

**Jeffrey Pilz**
ILTA Membership Committee Chair
and Vice-President

**ACRL LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATE PROGRAM**

ACRL is launching an advocacy program to have a designated advocate in every Congressional district in the United States. To volunteer to be an advocate, see details at www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlissues/washingtontwatch/acrladvocates.htm

ILA benefits when you shop the Member Mall through the ILA web site.

March/April 2007 Catalyst - 3
When I started at Simpson College in 1978, Robin Martin was at Central College. Many of us can hardly picture the Iowa library scene without her. She has been active in ILA in so many ways – helping us ask questions, collaborate and meet challenges. A role model for many, she is a woman of vision who truly listens and is a positive force for change and growth in all types of libraries. With an interest in Russian language and international travel, Robin also founded the Geisler Library Reading Series with local and world famous authors reading their works. Please enjoy learning more about our 2006 ILA member of the Year.

Cynthia Dyer
Editorial Committee Member

What led you to the library profession? Why have you stayed?

My husband Ray and I came to Pella so that he could teach music at Central College. After searching for work with my newly acquired BA in Russian, I finally landed a position teaching English and Russian in Monroe (IA) high school. I was there only one year when Ray and I moved to Kansas City so that he could pursue his DMA. Classroom teaching just wasn’t my thing. I interviewed for and took a position at Linda Hall Library of Science and Technology as an assistant to the Associate Director. Linda Hall is the largest privately supported public library of science, engineering and technology in North America. My work was exchanging American periodicals for publications from some 50 Soviet and East European libraries. It was fascinating. Among many experiences at LHL, I learned about serials from some of the best librarians in the world. At that time we had about 25,000 subscriptions. I know it’s crazy, but I was hooked on serials. Ray and I returned to Central after nearly 3 years in Kansas City. It was determined that the MLS so that I could continue to work in libraries. I studied at the University of North Texas during the summers. When a position opened up at Central’s library, I was ready. I began as a circulation and periodicals assistant and went on to Reference & Instruction, Associate Director then Director. After 32 years in librarianship I have never had a dull moment. Students, faculty, literature, library colleagues, and technology continue to excite my imagination.

You have been seen as an academic role model. Who has been your mentor?

I would credit Thomas Gillies, my first library “boss” at Linda Hall, and Alice Lammers, Librarian at Central College, as my early mentors. They were both avid readers and classic librarians. Mr. Gillies was the ultimate bibliographer and world traveler. Wherever he went, he made a point of visiting the local library and meeting librarians. I have done the same in my life, visiting dozens of libraries in 8 countries. Alice had an eye for collection development based on students’ needs and the curriculum. She knew how to connect people to information. Like she, I have split the materials budget 50-50 between faculty departments and the library so that librarians can keep the collection current and responsive. When I became the Director at Central, Christopher McKee helped me enormously. He was there to listen and advise me about major decisions such as automation and facilities planning.

What have been the highlights in your career?

Initiating and growing our instruction program. Student learning is at the core of our library purpose. I am still uncomfortable with the labels for library instruction whether they are “BL” or “information literacy.” But through this program, we have built very strong relationships with our faculty colleagues and students. They have great respect for us and seek us out. We have centered the library — its technologies and collections — around our instruction program. All of us are involved in teaching at some level whether we are librarians, staff or student employees working with their peers.

Leading our automation project. It involved working with so many people in the library, on campus and in the industry. The system dramatically changed the way the library supported users and the way our staff worked together. Finally, the library and librarians were recognized as major technology players and leaders on campus. When the Internet came up, we were natural partners with computing services. We have continued implementing technology projects that help users.

Having the opportunity to learn and practice my leadership skills in our profession. Whether in IPAL, IREN or ILA I have been able to meet so many smart, interesting and caring people. I can’t tell you how proud I am to have gotten ILA’s highest recognition, the Member of the Year Award. For me it is a lifetime achievement.

What have been the hardest lessons you’ve had to learn throughout your career?

That library priorities are not always institutional priorities. Even when we make the best, smartest case for improved learning spaces, for personnel, for better facilities, or for increasing materials budgets, we do not always get the resources we need. It takes a good deal of energy and determination to stay positive and to move ahead in spite of these realities.

If you could design the perfect academic library, what would it look and feel like?

It would be a place of breathtaking beauty — full of people. There would be no barriers between “readers” in the broadest sense and the information they need.
It would be a place where the past meets the present, where learners engage with text, images, and ideas, and where students, faculty and staff interact as human beings in search of truth and wisdom.

What future do you envision for academic libraries?
A different and difficult one. Costs for an inspired, qualified library staff, for information, and for technological infrastructure are high. We are competing with a multitude of information venues on the Internet. People don’t have to come to the library whether we are in a physical or virtual space. Users’ information-seeking behaviors are changing faster than libraries. I think libraries in smaller institutions like Central College have a better chance of retaining our special place on campus because we have a tradition of building relationships and providing support personally and directly to learners. We don’t have to, and in fact, cannot continue to house “legacy” collections in precious user space. Large university libraries face the same competitive environment but with even greater challenges associated with their shear size. Academic librarians will have to prove to our funders and our users that we really are making a difference in students’ lives. Assessment is in its infancy. Fine libraries will go beyond simply proving that they give good “customer service.” We need to develop better ways of measuring our worth, integrating library outcomes for learners directly with those of academic programs and majors developed by our faculties.

It was noted that you are deeply concerned about the next generation of librarians. What words of wisdom do you have for librarians who are new to the profession?
Be confident that you have rightly chosen to be part of a great tradition. Librarians are just the smartest, most creative people I know! Seek ways to contribute your talents to our libraries and to the profession. Recognize that your quick intelligence, energy, sincerity and humor truly inspire those of us who have been around a bit longer. Speak up! And to my longtime colleagues, listen and reach out to our junior librarians. I consider it a privilege to have met and worked with so many young librarians at the ILA Leadership Institutes. The future of Iowa libraries is in good hands if we can continue to attract such fine people to careers in librarianship.
There is snow on the ground but no blizzard of email from the Governmental Affairs Committee yet. That doesn’t mean interesting things are not happening in Des Moines. Early in January GAC chair Duncan Stewart, lobbyist Amy Campbell, and State Librarian Mary Wegner met with Brian Jennings, a policy aide to Governor Culver. We piled library information and ILA publications on his desk and spent an hour talking about ILA’s Agenda—emphasizing the need to increase funding for the State Library, LSAs, and Enrich Iowa. We talked about how Iowa libraries fit into the Governor’s goals for economic development, education, and early childhood development.

Unfortunately, GAC Action Day on Feb. 14th was postponed by bad weather and an all day Democratic members’ caucus. Traditionally on Action Day GAC members, the ILA President, Vice President and Executive Board members meet with legislators to discuss ILA’s Agenda and any bills that concern us.

Action Day will take place on Feb. 28, the same date as Lobby From Home Day. Those named above will be lobbying in-person on the same day that Iowa library advocates like you are going to flood the capitol with emails and phone calls. GAC has posted talking points and lobbying suggestions to the Legislative Section of the ILA website. At the capitol, GAC will be pushing our Agenda to return funding for the State Library and the Library Service Areas to at least FY01 levels. In fact, we hope to work with the Governor and legislature to raise funding above those targets.

Lobbyists Amy Campbell and Craig Patterson have kept us up-to-date on a number of issues. Early on they sensed a real possibility to restore LSA employees to the state salary bill — dropped during the Branstad years. This DOES NOT mean that LSA employees would become state employees, only that their raises would mirror those of state workers. In addition, one of Governor Culver’s goals is to fully fund the salary bill this year. In earlier years the full cost of contracted raises was not provided by the state and each agency had to find part of those raises in its general budget.

The Governor’s study on business property taxes progresses. The legislature will also be looking at property taxes. ILA’s position remains that libraries must be taken into account in any proposed changes to property taxes; in particular, we believe that local governments are best able to make funding decisions.

As first written, Senate File 277, the Teacher Quality Bill, would have allowed school districts to apply for an annual waiver from the requirement that they hire at least one teacher librarian. However, our lobbyists, GAC, and particularly the Lobby from Home efforts ensured that the offending section of the bill was rewritten to restate the original two year time limit on districts applying for waivers. Around noon on Lobby from Home day, our lobbyists received a copy of the draft amendment language to HSB 113 & SF 277 (formerly SSB 1118) that fixes the teacher librarian waiver language so as to add only one more year before school districts must comply with the requirement to have a certified teacher librarian.

Campbell and Patterson registered ILA as opposing House File 277. Rep. Lisa Heddens from Story County killed this bill on February 15. This bill would have altered the terms of agreement between local governments about library service. It would have mandated that a local government that contracted and paid for library service from another government would have to have a seat on the second library’s board. There were all kinds of problems with this bill. At root it “fixed” a problem that did not exist.

In summary, ILA GAC will be talking with legislators and Governor Culver about increasing funding, speaking up for libraries if there are to be any changes in the property tax system, working with the Governor and legislators to emphasize the role of Iowa libraries in the Iowa economy, education, and recreation, and watching carefully for any unnecessary bills that affect Iowa libraries. GAC will be sending emails and posting Lobby From Home Day information on the Legislative section of the ILA website soon.

Duncan Stewart,
ILA Governmental Affairs Committee Chair
(report as of 2-16-07)

The Blue Band, one of Iowa’s most requested bands will be featured at the President’s Party at the Coralville Marriott immediately following the Thursday evening banquet. Under leader Bob Dorr, this 5-6 piece group performs original and cover blues, soul, rockabilly, and r&b grooves.
**SUPPORT PERSONNEL SPRING CONFERENCE**

*Libraries Working for and with the Latino Community and Others in Overcoming Cultural Myths* is the theme for the spring conference designed for support personnel in Iowa’s public, academic, and school libraries on May 4, 2007 at Waterloo Public Library.

The featured speaker, Alfred Ramirez, was recently recruited to lead Diversity Focus. This new organization will serve as a clearinghouse to leverage existing programs and create new programs and activities that celebrate, promote, and create better multi-cultural awareness and understanding in the Iowa City-Cedar Rapids corridor. It will serve as a national model of a genuine concern, response, and partnership between business, government, education and community. Mr. Ramirez is also the former president of the National Community for Latino Leadership, Inc. NCLL is a national leadership development think tank, clearinghouse and technical assistance provider for emerging and established leaders who promote the social, cultural, and economic advancement of the Latino community and the broader community.

Lunch will be provided in an atmosphere that fosters fun and networking.

Cost is $15.00 for members of the Support Personnel Subdivision, $20.00 for other ILA members, and $25.00 for non-ILA members.

Registration and details are available at www.grinnell.lib.ia.us/sps/index.htm.

Your attendance is what will make the conference a success!

**CONFERENCE LOGO DESIGNER**

This year’s conference logo was designed by Anne Craig. Anne is the daughter of ILA Past President Susan Craig. ILA President Sheryl Bissen shared her theme concepts with Anne and the result is shown on page one.

Anne is enjoying her first year in the “real world” after graduating with a BA in Studio Art from the University of Northern Iowa. Since May, the “real world” has included her job at The Old Creamery Theatre Company in Amana, volunteering with The James Gang, a community-building nonprofit out of Iowa City and doing various other freelance projects. She hopes to continue sharing her graphic design and photography talents with nonprofits, arts organizations and anyone else who serves their community. When she’s not working or volunteering she enjoys quilting, listening to books on tape, wandering the woods with her dogs and taking pictures of wildlife.

**IOWA-ACRL SPRING CONFERENCE**


The conference keynote speaker is Pamela Snelson, President of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) and College Librarian at Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Her talk is titled *What Do We Know About the Value of Academic Libraries? What Should We Know?*

Librarians from around Iowa will also give presentations about their work.

Registration information is available at the Iowa ACRL website: www.iren.net/acrl/conference/2007/index.html. PLEASE NOTE: Registrations will be accepted as late as the day of the conference (checks only), but lunch is not guaranteed for those registering after Friday, March 9. No refunds will be issued for cancellations after March 9.

Brett Cloyd is serving as conference chair with an able and energetic committee: Andi Beckendorf, Joyce Meldrem, Jan Dellinger, Katie Dunn, Cecilia Knight, Mary Iber, and Barb Kuttler.

Please join us!

**NEW ILA/ACRL AWARDS**

**Iowa-ACRL Research Award.** Iowa ACRL has instituted a new Research Award to recognize and celebrate an outstanding publication or professional presentation by a member of our subdivision. The application process will be launched at the ILA/ACRL Spring Conference. The Research Award will recognize research that has been published or presented after December 15, 2005 two years before the application deadline. The award will include a certificate of recognition and a $500 cash award. A call for applications will go out October 1 and the call will be announced again at the business meeting at the ILA Annual Fall Conference. Applications are due December 15 with decisions made by mid-January. Official announcements will be made at the ILA/ACRL Spring Conference.

**Iowa-ACRL Advocacy Grant.** Details for a new Advocacy grant to be announced at the ILA/ACRL Spring Conference. Grant applications will be solicited to support advocacy programs that show promise as models for increasing visibility of academic libraries and academic library activities. The grant program will offer the $500 grants in alternating years. A provision of the grant will be a spring conference presentation describing and assessing the success of the advocacy initiative. The deadline for our first round of submissions is July 31, 2007, and the winner of this grant will be announced at the ILA/ACRL business meeting at the ILA Annual Conference.
For the first time in many years ALA met in Seattle for its annual “business” meeting. This meeting traditionally avoids informational programming in favor of committee meetings and decision-making.

**Washington Office Report**

The hottest topic here was the closure of several major elements of the Environmental Protection Agency’s library network, first reported last year by an employee whistleblower organization. ALA’s Washington Office lobbied hard and got the attention of the Democratic Party leadership even before the November elections changed the political climate. As a result, EPA sent several high-ranking officials to Seattle to mend fences with librarians, and largely succeeded. Mike Flynn, Director of the Office of Information Analysis and Access to Environmental Information, stated emphatically that no materials were being lost, that much was being digitized and that the closures were based on library staff analysis of how best to meet challenges of delivering more information faster, increasing reliance on electronic resources and coping with limited resources and space. He invited input from stakeholders, and got an earful as audience members lined up to testify. An especially moving example was the loss of a popular fact sheet on toxic materials in the Chicago region. EPA has set up a special mailbox to receive comments: library_feedback@epa.gov. Questioners occasionally thanked Flynn and his staff members for being present to “take the heat.”

There was also discussion of the new political scene in the other Washington; bipartisan possibilities are tempered by the prospect of presidential vetoes.


**Advocacy**

“It’s time to set a bold and inspiring agenda for 21st century library service. An agenda that captures the imagination of those who fund libraries, fully meets the needs of all the constituencies we serve, and transforms the way in which people perceive our institutions” said Leslie Burger, President of ALA. President Burger is working on a National Agenda for Libraries to clarify and codify ALA’s positions on a wide variety of issues in discussions with policy makers and funders at national, state and local levels. A summit was held last month, and various related documents published at http://wikis.ala.org/nationallibraryagenda/index.php/Main_Page. She would like to review this material and send her comments at nationalagenda@princetonlibrary.org by February 15.

Meanwhile, ALA President-Elect Loriene Roy is gathering examples of library anniversary events that will occur during her presidential year, June 27, 2007 to July 2, 2008. These could include library openings, closings, renovations, foundings, first conferences, births or deaths of people important in library history, etc.

**Intellectual Freedom**

The Freedom to Read Foundation reported on continuing struggles with the government on National Security letters under the USA PATRIOT Act. In ACLU of Florida vs. Miami School Board, about children’s books about Cuba, the case was won at district level, but the school board appealed; a decision is pending. FTRF is monitoring Bradburn vs. North Central Regional Library District (Washington)—this is the first challenge to a library’s internet filtering policy under CIPA. The suit claims that NCRL goes beyond CIPA requirements in filtering, but the library denies the allegations. They also monitor Faith Center Church Evangelistic Ministries vs. Glover, which deals with religious services in library meeting rooms in Contra Costa County Calif.

Meanwhile, ALA has filed a Freedom of Information Act request to determine whether the federal government is surveilling it as an organization actively opposed to the USA PATRIOT Act. ALA is also planning a national conference on privacy, tentatively titled “Taking Back American Values.” Some of the Emerging Leaders (see below) will work on related projects.

**Diversity Counts**

ALA recently released a comprehensive study of gender, race and age in the profession, analyzing US Census data from 1990 and 2000 to provide a demographic picture of our profession. The study found that the nearly 110,000 credentialed librarians were predominantly ages 45-54, female and white. The number of racial and ethnic minorities receiving accredited master’s degrees grew from 9 percent to 13 percent, and the percentage of males decreased 4.6%. The Spectrum scholarship program had a strong effect, which President Burger hopes to build upon with the Emerging Leaders institute and other efforts.

**Emerging Leaders**

110 young library professionals enjoyed a day of leadership development and project planning, putting them on “the fast track to ALA and professional leadership.” Each was assigned to a problem-solving workgroup that will operate for six months and report at the ALA Annual Conference in Washington. They will then be expected to put their leadership skills to use by accepting a term of service on an ALA or chapter committee, task force, working group, or project team. The goal is to have 100 new librarians ready to participate in leadership in the Association, one of its divisions or state chapters. More information is available at http://wikis.ala.org/emergingleaders

**ALA Budget**

ALA took in almost $1 million more than projected, which allowed the staff to receive some long overdue
EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES
December 1, 2006 • Recorded by Marilyn Murphy

The ILA Executive Board met on December 1, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. at the ILA office in West Des Moines. Members present were: President Susan Craig; Past-President Kate Martin; Vice President/President-Elect Sheryl Bissen; Directors Lorraine Borowski, Jennie Garner, John Goodin, Mary Jo Langhorne, Betsy Thompson, and Dale Vande Haar; and ALA Councillor Dale Ross. Also present were State Librarian Mary Wegner, Executive Director Laurie Hews, Secretary Marilyn Murphy, Vice President-Elect Barbara Peterson, Director-Elect Becky Quinn, and Director-Elect Michael Wright.

CALL TO ORDER
Introductions were made.

AGENDA
The agenda was approved, as distributed.

MINUTES
Thompson moved that the September 22 minutes be approved, as distributed. Motion carried. Hews reported that the minutes of the June 9, 2006 Board meeting needed to be amended to say that the photo archive costs have gone up “at the University of Iowa Photo Lab” rather than at the Library. Vande Haar moved to amend the June 9 minutes to include this change. Motion carried. Borowski moved that the minutes of the 2006 Membership Business Meeting be accepted, as distributed. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR /TREASURER’S REPORT
FINANCIAL REPORT - The Balance Sheet for Nov. 29, 2006, the Budget vs. Actual sheet for January through November 2006, the Profit & Loss sheet for November 2006, and the Subdivision Fund Account sheet for Nov. 30, 2006 were distributed.

MEMBERSHIP COUNT – The membership count was distributed. Hews reported that there were 188 new members in 2006 and 257 members who did not renew. These names will be given to the Membership Committee for follow-up.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT
CORRESPONDENCE – None.

CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE – Bissen reported that the committee will meet on January 11, 2007 at the Coralville Convention Center. She is presently narrowing down the list of potential keynote speakers. The 2006 conference registration statistics were distributed. Attendance was only slightly below the anticipated number. Board members raised a question about the scheduled ILA conference at the Polk County Convention Center due to media reports of its possible sale or extensive renovation. This question will be placed on the agenda for the January meeting.

AD HOC LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – Craig reported that she is waiting on their final report and recommendation. She will follow up with the committee.

ALL-IOWA READS – Craig reported that the 2007 book will be announced in October; it is Splendid Solution by Jeffrey Kluger. There will be a website for sharing stories about polio. An ICN session with Dale Ross and Christie Vilsack has been scheduled for January 30, 2007.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
PORTICO – Craig signed a letter of understanding with Portico and Martin sent an email message to members announcing the agreement. Martin will continue to send information to members in digest form.

ELECTRONIC VOTING – Craig will continue to pursue this topic.

NEW BUSINESS
COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS – Bissen recommended the following committee appointments: Susan Knippel (Iowa State Univ.) to chair the Editorial Committee; Dawn Hayslett (Ames PL) to serve on Governmental Affairs; Kay Elliott to serve as Parliamentarian; Dawn Work-MaKinne (Des Moines PL) to serve as representative to the Iowa Freedom of Information Council; Duncan Stewart (Univ. of Iowa) to serve as ALA Federal Relations Coordinator and as representative to Library Advocacy Now; and Susan Craig (Iowa City PL) to serve as liaison to the Iowa Center for the Book. Borowski moved that these appointments be approved. Motion carried.

WEBSITE - AD HOC COMMITTEE – Bissen distributed a proposal to establish an Ad Hoc Website Review Committee which would serve as a subcommittee of the Editorial Committee for two years. Martin moved approval of the ad hoc committee as proposed. Motion carried. Bissen recommended that the membership of the Ad Hoc Website Review Committee include Susan Knippel (Iowa State Univ.) chair, Ryan Gjerde (Luther), Kim Kietzman (Southeastern Library Services), and Susan Craig (Iowa City PL) to serve as representative to the Iowa Center for the Book. Borowski moved that these appointments be approved. Motion carried.

ELECTION RESULTS – Election results for Vice/President Elect: Barbara Peterson 287 and Jerri Heid 273; Election results for Director: Becky Quinn 312, Michael Wright 292, Diane Brown 257, and Sheryl Taylor 215. Craig asked Board members to encourage those who were not elected to run for office in the future.

ELECTRONIC MAIL LISTS – The Board discussed the difficulty of keeping an up-to-date list of members’ email addresses. Hews will periodically send subdivision chairs a list of email addresses that have bounced back; it would be helpful if subdivision chairs would notify Hews in advance of critical mailings. An article will be placed in Catalyst reminding members to keep their email addresses up-to-date.

2007 CALENDAR – Bissen distributed a proposed 2007 ILA Calendar and moved its approval. Motion carried. Bissen mentioned that the January Board meeting would start at 9:00 a.m.

MEMBERSHIP FORM – The Board discussed two versions of the membership form. Vande Haar moved approval of version two with the following changes: (1) change “library sustaining membership” to “library institutional sustaining membership,” (2) add the new dues for the ILA/ACRL subdivision, and (3) add “Membership Renewal Form” on the front of the form. Motion carried.

Minutes continued on next page
The wording for the library institutional sustaining membership will need to be considered by the Bylaws Committee for future years.

ILAF CONTRACT – The contract between the Iowa Library Association Foundation and ILA for office services was distributed. Martin moved approval of the contract. Motion carried.

REVIEW COMMITTEE/SUBDIVISION FINANCE FORMS – Hews distributed committee/subdivision finance forms to their liaisons. Continuing Board members will have the same liaison assignments as in 2006. Quinn will serve as liaison for the Membership Committee, Strategic Planning Committee, and the Health Sciences Subdivision. Wright will serve as liaison for the Governmental Affairs Committee, the Storytellers Roundtable, and the Friends Association. Martin distributed reminders and questions from the Finance Committee to the subdivision liaisons.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT – Martin distributed the committee’s report via email. Ross moved approval of the committee’s salary/benefits recommendations. Motion carried. Martin moved that Hews be commended for her excellent service as Executive Director in 2006. Motion carried.

2007 BUDGET – The Finance Committee’s recommendation for a 2007 budget was distributed. The Board approved the budget, as distributed. Motion carried.

MOTION TO PAY LINE ITEMS AND VISA CHARGE AMOUNT – Vande Haar moved that Hews be authorized to write checks and pay routine bills without Board authorization, as long as expenses do not exceed the budget line. Motion carried. Vande Haar moved that the Board authorize Hews to use the credit card, as necessary, with a monthly spending limit of $10,000, as long as expenses do not exceed the budget line. Motion carried.

VICE-PRESIDENT’S REPORT

IOWA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION – Bissen reported that ILAF met on Nov. 17, 2006. They decided to increase the endowed speaker amount to $5500. They raised $2572 with the raffle at the conference and $6059 with the silent auction. The final installment of 115th anniversary pledges is now due. Dale Ross will continue to represent the Commission of Libraries on ILAF. Bissen stated that ILAF will entertain special requests for funding. Ross stated that ILAF could use more contacts in the corporate sector.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE – Bissen reported that they will be issuing a call for candidates in Catalyst. The Board discussed the nomination process. Bissen moved that the Board provide the Nominating Committee with guidelines suggesting that they seek candidates for vice president from the non-public library and non-LSA members and they seek candidates for directors from the public library/LSA members. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT OF BOARD LIAISONS – Discussed earlier.

PAST PRESIDENT’S REPORT

AWARDS COMMITTEE – The Board decided to ask the Awards Committee for a recommendation regarding the number of years an author must reside in the state to qualify for the Johnson Brigham Plaque. Ross moved that the Ernest Herzberg Award be retired. Motion carried.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – Minutes of the committee’s November 14, 2006 meeting were distributed.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – Their report was distributed by email and discussed earlier in the meeting.

ALA COUNCILOR’S REPORT

IOWA LIBRARY TRUSTEES ASSOCIATION – Ross reported that they are working on membership, hoping to get more libraries and more trustees involved.

INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM COMMITTEE – Ross reported that they are considering an award.

ALA – Ross reported that the ALA Mid-Winter meeting is approaching and that graduated dues will again be a topic of discussion.

STATE LIBRARY REPORT

Wegner reported that the teacher librarian committee is working on administrative rules and on standards, guidelines, and best practices for school libraries. The State Library is working on discounts from vendors.

EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORTS

ACRL – Goodin moved approval of their proposal for a spring meeting on March 23, 2007 at Grinnell College. They anticipate 120 attendees and plan to charge $50 for members, $65 for non-members, and $20 for students. Motion carried.

BYLAWS AND ORGANIZATION MANUAL COMMITTEE – Goodin reported that they will be meeting in March.

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS ROUNDTABLE – Goodin reported that they have completed their annual report.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE – Langhorne reported that they had a good meeting at the planning retreat. They are developing proposals for two Annual Conference sessions. Bissen will be asking them to attend an upcoming Board meeting.

IOWA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL LIBRARIANS – Langhorne reported that they intend to discontinue the subsidy of dues, so the separate account will no longer be needed. They hope to help with the new teacher librarian requirements.

LAMA –Langhorne reported that they had a good meeting at the planning retreat and have ideas for the Annual Conference.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES ROUNDTABLE – Langhorne reported that they are considering a tour of ACT or a speaker at the Annual Conference.

THEMATIC COMMITTEE – Thompson reported that the committee will be developing an action plan from the activity sheets generated at the planning retreat.

HEALTH SCIENCES SUBDIVISION – Thompson reported that they will be donating $100 to the Leadership Institute.

Craig thanked Thompson for her work on the Executive Board, particularly for her work on strategic planning.

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE – Vande Haar commended the committee chair, Duncan Stewart, for
his excellent work.

STORYTELLERS ROUNDTABLE – Vande Haar reported that they may have difficulty finding money for a particular speaker they’d like to have for Annual Conference.

IOWA LIBRARY FRIENDS ASSOCIATION – Vande Haar reported that their workshops were very successful. They hope to create a brochure and do a pre-conference.

Craig thanked Vande Haar for his work on the Executive Board.

PUBLIC LIBRARY FORUM – Borowski reported that they need to rework their budget and finish their annual report.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FORUM – Borowski reported that they are working on the next Annual Conference.

IOWA SMALL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION – Garner reported that they will be having a planning retreat in January. They hope to focus on library automation at their spring meeting.

SUPPORT PERSONNEL – Garner reported that they worked hard at the planning retreat. They hope to have a spring conference on serving Latino/a populations.

YOUTH SERVICES SUBDIVISION – Garner reported that they have submitted lots of ideas for the Annual Conference.

ADJOURNMENT – The Board acknowledged Craig’s excellent year as president. Craig distributed certificates to Martin, Thompson, and Vande Haar. The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

pay increases. Dues have increased but not enough to fully carry out the ambitious action goals identified last year. The task force studying graduated dues structure needs more time to operate, and was granted until Midwinter 2008. The Endowment Fund also did well. FY2006 projects include web 2.0 CE library, library advocates newsletter, publishing newswire, telecom reform Washington, member satisfaction survey, advertising, and division web development. 2007 projects include advocacy resources training, state revenue advocacy, school library advocacy, rural & tribal libraries. 2006 was a good year, but ALA must continue to grow revenue & membership.

AL-A-L-L I-E D PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION (APA)

In its fourth year of operation, APA’s projects are beginning to come to fruition. Two salary surveys have been taken. The survey of non-MLS positions went into three printings. Indicated range from Federal minimum wage to 142K. Librarian survey found that the median increased by more than 4% to 56,000, with a range of 22,000 to 253,000. The web-based database will launch this month.

National Library Workers Day is April 17.

The treasurer reported that, despite a deficit in 2006, the revenue in the first three months of Fiscal Year 2007 is positive: $21,757. Donations are dropping, so this means that APA will become self-sustaining this year! Future plans include strengthening the fundraising strategy, continuing to market the Certified Public Library Administrator certification program, continuing to market salary surveys, and investigating developing support staff and other certification programs.

International Relations

ALA continues to participate strongly in the International Federation of Library Associations, contributing to flood and tsunami relief and development efforts. ALA will appoint a representative to the US Committee of the Blue Shield, which tries to protect cultural property during armed conflict.

Nominating Committee

They stated that for each candidate who agreed to run, four turned down the idea. For President-Elect they chose: Nancy Davenport www.nancydavenport.info and James Rettig http://rettigforala.org, for Treasurer: Rod Hersberger http://rodhersberger.org and Joann Pinder www.joannpinder.info. Candidates could be nominated by petition until January 30. Polls open March 15 and close April 24, with results reported May 1.

Website Improvements

ALA staff and volunteer committee members are rapidly developing a staged plan for creating the next generation ALA web site. In the first quarter of 2007 they will pull together blogs, wikis, RSS feeds, podcasts and discussion lists in a new “Read Write Connect” page, add committee information to create a “get involved” page, increase the visibility of information library education and careers, and improve the Frequently Asked Question function. More information is available at http://wikis.ala.org/webplanning

Resolutions

• Supporting the rights of immigrants to use libraries. Adopted.
• Affirming the role of libraries in providing e-government and emergency services. Adopted.
• Ending funding for the Iraq War, introduced by SRRT. Called on ALA to support efforts in Congress to withhold funds for war. Defeated.
• Impeachment of President Bush—initially voted not germane, but many called for discussion so President reversed position and allowed debate. Defeated.
• Boy Scouts affiliation. ALSC doesn’t believe that they’re in conflict because they’re only providing information, unhappy with lack of advance notice. Referred to ALSC for more information.

Attendance

9222 registrants 12,196 total (including exhibitors, day visitors).

ALA next meets in Washington DC June 21-27, 2007, where the annual scholarship event will feature the political satirists “Capitol Steps.” The tenth annual Diversity and Outreach Fair will focus on bookmobiles and other innovative services to underserved communities. For more information: www.ala.org/divfair
ILA STRATEGIC PLANNING

Your Library Association’s Committees and Subdivisions have a full and purposeful slate of activities planned for 2007 to:

1) Advocate for all Iowa libraries and those who staff, support and use them,
2) Build membership and strengthen the Association through recruitment, education and active participation, and
3) Ensure an effective, flexible and efficient organization.

These are the three goals adopted as a Strategic Plan by the Association membership.

The Association’s leadership met for what was a very enthusiastic planning session at Grinnell College on November 11, 2006. ILA’s Strategic Planning Committee compiled the activities generated at that session into the 2007 Action Plan and edited the Plan, which was submitted to the Executive Board on January 26, 2007.

Forty-seven different activities are included in the Action Plan. You may have already heard that in advocating for Iowa libraries ILA’s Governmental Affairs Committee is hosting a legislative reception on March 28, 2007. But did you know that the Public Library Forum is investigating a “Blog your library program here” spot? Or that the Iowa Association of College and Research Libraries hopes to develop a program for mentoring new librarians in the state?

To provide quality professional and educational development, the Action Plan contains a list from $a$ to $y$ (next year let’s go for a list from $a$ to $z$!) of possible sessions for the Iowa Library Association’s Annual Conference. Topics on the list for conference planning range from empowering library staff, to baby sign language, to games in the library, to a humorous speaker on working relationships among different generations.

Thanks to the Iowa Library’s Association’s talented Committee and Subdivision leaders the year promises to be one full of action to further the Association strategic goals. Take a look at the Strategic Plan and 2007 Action Plan on the ILA Web site, www.iowalibraryassociation.org, and click on 2007 Action Plan.

Betsy Thompson
ILA Strategic Planning Committee Chair

ILA MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT CONTEST

You can win a free Thursday and Friday Annual Conference registration! Talk to your colleagues about the benefits of ILA membership and encourage them to join. Your name will be entered in the drawing for each new member you recruit to join ILA. Be sure that they include your name on the membership form on the “who referred you for membership” line. To qualify for the contest the new membership and payment must be received at the ILA office by June 30. Those already received in the office this year are also included in the drawing. The ILA President will draw the winning entry and the winner will be notified in July.

This contest sponsored by the Membership Committee supports item #2 in the ILA Strategic Plan.

The Catalyst
Iowa Library Association
3636 Westown Parkway #202
West Des Moines, Iowa 50266

Return Service Requested