Note From Iowa’s New State Librarian

Hello, I’m Michael Scott and I’m so excited to have recently become the State Librarian for Iowa. I started at Iowa Library Services/State Library on November 17, 2014. Prior to that, I was the Assistant Director from 2008–2013 for Southeastern Libraries Cooperating (SELCO), based in Rochester, Minnesota. SELCO is one of the 12 regional public library systems in Minnesota and it serves 11 counties in SE Minnesota. My work at SELCO was focused on services for all types of libraries, (public, school, academic, and special) with my particular focus on a number of areas, including continuing education and training, interlibrary loan and delivery, grant writing, library consultation, planning, and advocacy. By the way, this was my second time around working for SELCO.

I had worked previously at SELCO (and that was how I moved to Minnesota) from 1997–1999, providing technical support to member libraries for SELCO’s automation system (DRA) as well as technology training. I believe that I still hold the record for having the longest title ever at SELCO: Automation Support Specialist and Technology Trainer. Besides my work with a multi-type consortium, I’ve been a medical librarian in Minneapolis (1999–2006) and Orlando (2006–2007), worked for an automation vendor (EOS International’s Boston office) from 1995–1997, and worked for a special library at the University of Massachusetts-Lowell in 1995. One would think I set out to be a librarian.

Well, you’d be wrong. I initially set out to be a physical therapist, which accounts for my degree in Psychobiology from Hastings College in Nebraska. I do remember the moment where I actually paused and thought maybe librarianship was for me. In my last semester at Hastings College in 1992, I remember one of our librarians (I did my work-study for the college library) asking me if I’d thought of ever becoming a science librarian. Without hesitation, I said no, but it got me thinking about it. After being on the wait list for the physical therapy program at the University of Nebraska, I went to work as a library assistant at both the University of Nebraska Medical Center and Creighton University’s Health Sciences Library for about a year. Long story short, I applied to the Master’s program at the University of Missouri, and by December 1994, I had my Master’s in Library Science.
**Message From The ILA President**

I am very lucky to serve as ILAs president in 2015, the year we celebrate our 125th Anniversary. I want to thank my predecessor Sarah Willeford, the Executive Board, the Iowa Library Association Foundation, DMS staff, and all of you who volunteer for ILA and attend our events. We had a great conference in the new Cedar Rapids convention facility and are looking forward to our 2015 Conference in the refurbished Des Moines Airport Holiday Inn Convention Center, October 14-16.

The Urbandale Public Library hosted our November Planning Day again and our committees and subdivisions set to work planning for 2015 activities. Our 2015 conference theme **ILA: The Next Chapter** was also announced.

Our Governmental Affairs Committee and our lobbyists, Craig Patterson and Amy Campbell, are hard at work preparing for *Lobby from Home Day* on February 24th and the *ILA Legislative Day* on March 18th, in the Law Library at the State Capitol. The ILA Governmental Affairs Committee will be asking all of you to speak with your legislators about issues important to Iowa libraries. Craig and Amy will also be sending members their informative legislative newsletter.

Please don’t forget to renew your ILA membership for 2015. As members in ILA we all get to work together as library advocates, plan and attend ILA events, and renew the professional and personal relationships that make the Iowa Library Association strong.

I look forward to working with you in this special 125th Anniversary year!

*Duncan Stewart*
ILA President

---

**Note From Iowa’s New State Librarian continued from page 1.**

It’s an exciting time for Iowa libraries and I’m happy to be involved. At Iowa Library Services (LaLS), we have several initiatives underway to review and improve upon programs utilized by Iowa libraries, including the Enrich Iowa program, SILO, and the statewide eBook program. Discussions are happening within the Iowa academic library community to find ways to collaborate even more on a variety of things. With a new legislative session starting in January, there are opportunities to work together as a library community to ensure that Iowa legislators know the importance of libraries to their communities. I am pleased that ILA has put together a robust legislative platform. With my experience in Minnesota serving on the Library Association’s Legislative Committee, both as a member and as chair, I appreciate the time and effort that is needed to keep library issues in front of legislators.

The mission of Iowa Library Services is to provide leadership for Iowa libraries and to expand access to information for Iowans. I’m pleased to be playing a role alongside IaLS staff in fulfilling this mission. There are many challenges AND opportunities on the road ahead for Iowa libraries, and I’m happy to be along on the journey with you!

*Michael Scott*
State Librarian
Last Friday, the Executive Board had our first planning session for 2015. This is a very exciting time for ILA, as we celebrate 125 years of libraries enriching Iowa. ILA has gone through a lot of changes during the 20+ years that I’ve been a member, as has my career in libraries which has included special, academic, and public libraries. I began my service in ILA as an officer of the Government Documents Roundtable, in my early years as a librarian at Cornell College; and I later served on the Conference Planning Committee for several years, as well as on Executive Board. Over the years, I have been active in LLAMA and GAC, and also have served on ALA committees under LLAMA at the national level. As I’m an ‘old timer’ in the organization, many of you already know that! So, to avoid this “get to know” column being an exercise in redundancy, let me see if I can hone in on a few things that you may not know about me.

I moved to Iowa in 1985 to pursue a Ph.D. in musicology. In the two years before that, during my Master’s studies in musicology at Michigan State University, I had thoroughly enjoyed working in the music library—so picking up a Master’s degree in Library and Information Science during those Ph.D. studies was a logical course of action for me. My studies in musicology took me into feminist musicology, and during my years working as a librarian at Cornell College I also had the opportunity to teach in Women’s Studies there, and chair that program for a couple of years. Although I never completed my Ph.D. (I’ve since found out that I am one of many individuals who couldn’t quite finish the dissertation given the time constraints of full-time work and family!), those early academic pursuits shaped my life-long interests and my community service.

I have been actively involved with the Preucil School of Music for years as an accompanist, and currently serve on their Board of Trustees. In addition, I serve on the Board of Directors for the Iowa Women’s Foundation, and have actively supported its efforts for a number of years. Just as careers morph and grow with our interests over the years, organizations develop and change in response to the needs and professional cultures of their members. Judging from the energy and ideas that were shared at the January Executive Board planning session, we are embarking on a productive and interesting couple of years ahead for ILA. I look forward to working for, and with you all!

Alison Ames Galstad
ILA Vice President/President Elect

Calendar Of Events

February
January 30 – February 3 . . . . . . ALA Mid-Winter, Chicago, IL
February 13 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . ILA Executive Board Meeting
February 24 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . ILA Lobby From Home Day

March
March 10 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Catalyst deadline for March/April issue
March 18 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . ILA Legislative Day – Legislative Briefing at State Library, Legislative Reception in Law Library at the State Capitol
March 18 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . ILA Executive Board Meeting
March 20 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . ILA/ACRL Spring Conference – Drake University, Des Moines

April
April 12 – 13 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . IASL Spring Conference – Ramada Tropics Resort, Des Moines
ILA Encourages Library Advocacy

It's a new year, and you know what that means: a new legislative session. The ILA Governmental Affairs Committee (GAC) has some new members and a new committee chair, and we are ready to go! Here are important things for you to know:

• Check out the ILA Legislative Agenda, below. It is also available on the ILA website. Throughout the legislative session, GAC, as well as our ILA lobbyists, Amy Campbell and Craig Patterson, will keep you informed on legislative issues and give you talking points to use as you speak to your elected officials. Also, watch for the Advocacy Hotline newsletter from the ILA lobbyists in your inbox.

• ILA has a new website for coordinating our legislative advocacy: CQ Engage (CQ stands for Congressional Quarterly). From this site, you can easily send an email to your new representatives. Click the blue Take Action button near the top of the page. You'll fill out a simple form, for best results use your 9 digit ZIP code (ZIP + 4), and then a box will pop up with suggested language to send to your new legislators, which, handily enough, are supplied for you. It truly couldn't be any easier.

• Tuesday, February 24 is Lobby From Home Day. Look for an email soon with a bookmark to print out and give to your library staff, board, and users, asking them to also call upon their elected officials that day on your library's behalf. The collective voice of Iowa's librarians calling their legislators on the same day is a powerful one—but it's doubly powerful combined with the voices of our patrons describing how vital their public, school, and academic libraries are to their lives. When you call, remember to be specific—tell stories about your library and how legislative actions impact it. Save the date!

• Wednesday, March 18 is ILA Legislative Day. The legislative briefing starts at 2:30 p.m., where we will hear from ILA, GAC, and Iowa Library Services leaders, as well as our ILA lobbyists. You will get information on the legislative session, key legislative issues, and key points you'll want to discuss with your legislators. From 4:00-6:00, we will meet with legislators in the beautiful Law Library for the legislative reception. It's a great time for librarians, trustees, and legislators to discuss important library-related legislative issues. Even if you aren't able to come, make sure that you invite your legislators so they know they are welcome.

We are most effective at the Capitol when the legislators have personal relationships with a librarian in their district, so when a bill that affects our organizations is introduced, they have a real expert to go to, YOU! Contact your elected officials today!

Christine Sturgeon
Governmental Affairs Committee Chair

Literacy Resources For Families And Educators

The Iowa Reading Research Center (IRRC) provides an online collection of literacy resources available to the public for teaching and learning, at-home literacy support, and educator research.

The IRRC was established in 2012 to develop and promote best practices in literacy so that every child in Iowa can achieve reading proficiency. The Center works in collaboration with the Iowa Department of Education, Iowa’s Area Education Agencies, local school districts, and community partners, to bring high-quality resources and support to educators and families in Iowa. Included in that mission is a strong focus on facilitating effective school, parent, and community partnerships to improve student literacy.

The IRRC website offers a collection of high-quality web-based resources for families to support literacy development with children at home. The resources include videos, activities, parent guides, and easy-to-use articles that highlight important literacy concepts and strategies.

Literacy Resources For Families and Educators continued on page 5.
Iowa Library Association 2015 Legislative Agenda

Libraries enrich Iowa. Iowans are turning to their libraries in increasing numbers; more than 51,000 Iowans use a library each day. They depend on libraries for internet access, early literacy programming for young children, homework assistance, health care information and, especially now, resources for job searches, career development, and education. To support these vital services, the Iowa Library Association asks the General Assembly to meet the following goals in 2015:

- Continue to rebuild the support system for Iowa libraries by returning funding for Iowa Library Services to the pre-merger, 2009, funding level for the State Library and the Library Service Areas. Include an increase of at least $86,000 to allow Iowa Library Services to purchase library materials.

- Continue to increase funding for Enrich Iowa to support the vital role of libraries in Iowa communities. In the last two legislative sessions the Governor and Legislature restored a portion of the money going to local libraries. Adding back the rest strengthens library resource sharing and statewide interlibrary loan services, which makes Iowa’s library system an efficient network accessible to all Iowans.

- Continue funding for state-wide access to a career and work-force related database for Iowans.

- Recognize and stipulate in all official documents that teacher librarians are instructional staff as defined by the Department of Education and that teacher librarians play a vital role within the educational team in each Iowa school district.

- Preserve hometown governance in Iowa’s public libraries by maintaining support for the policy-making autonomy of public library boards of trustees.

The Iowa Library Association will continue to monitor and address other legislative issues as they affect the Iowa library Community. The Iowa Library Association, founded in 1890, is the organized voice of the Iowa library community. Its members come from every county of the state and sustain Iowa’s 1500 public, academic, school, and special libraries.

Literacy Resources For Families and Educators continued from page 4.

literacy skills to use with children from birth to sixth grade. The IRRC worked extensively with trained educators and parents who reviewed hundreds of resources. Only those resources receiving a high rating from three people, one a parent, are hosted on the IRRC website. The resources are free and no log-in is required.

In addition to online literacy resources, the IRRC website also offers tools for educators:

- Iowa’s Early Literacy Initiatives and Legislation
- Instructional Practice Guides for educators
- Assessment Administration Guides for educators
- Downloadable parent letters and parent checklists
- Research from the field of education
- Early childhood resources
- Links to other websites and literacy resources
- Much much more!

Iowa’s public libraries are uniquely positioned to help connect families with literacy resources that benefit all children. We hope you will help us spread the word about the Iowa Reading Research Center within your community and take a moment to visit our website, join our blog, and follow us on Facebook and Twitter. Together we can make a difference so that every child in Iowa achieves reading proficiency.

Iowa’s public libraries are uniquely positioned to help connect families with literacy resources that benefit all children. We hope you will help us spread the word about the IRRC within your community and take a moment to visit our website, join our blog, and follow us on Facebook and Twitter. Together we can make a difference so that every child in Iowa achieves reading proficiency.
ILA Call For Nominations

The ILA Nominating Committee invites your participation! We are seeking names of members who are qualified to run for the following ILA officer positions:

- **Vice President/President Elect** of the Iowa Library Association. One person will be elected. This year we are looking for candidates from an academic library.

- **Executive Board**. Two members-at-large will be elected from a slate of candidates to serve on the Executive Board. We especially encourage nominations of school and public librarians this year, but all nominations are welcome.

In accordance with the ILA Bylaws, the Nominating Committee's selection of nominees "should be made with a view to achieving balanced representation of geographical areas and kinds of libraries. Commitment to the Association and to librarianship in general should outweigh all other considerations. A nominee must be a personal member in good standing of the Association."

Please take a moment to reflect on those ILA colleagues who will make great leaders for the Association and send us their names. Self-nominations are welcome and encouraged. All nominations are confidential. Please forward any names and brief qualifications to me no later than **Monday, March 2, 2015**. Thank you for your continued support of the Iowa Library Association.

Mary Heinzman
ILA Nominating Committee

---

Iowa Commission Of Libraries Seeks Members

The Iowa Commission of Libraries, the governing body for Iowa Library Services/State Library (IaLS), will have three open positions at the end of April, 2015.

What does this mean for you? An opportunity to serve on the Iowa Commission of Libraries! The positions that are opening include an academic library member, a public library trustee member, and an at large member.

The application can be found on the Governor’s Boards and Commissions website.

A few highlights:

- The Commission is responsible for seeing that IaLS fulfills its mission to advocate for Iowa libraries and to promote excellence and innovation in library services in order to provide statewide access to information for all Iowans.
- Commissioners serve four-year terms; typically commissioners have served up to two terms (eight years).
- The Governor appoints commissioners.
- The Commission meets five times a year, generally in Des Moines.

If you are interested in state-wide leadership in your profession, consider applying for this opportunity. If you work in a public library, please let your trustees know.

For more information about the Iowa Commission of Libraries click here.
The new look.

**APOLLO™ ILS**

Simply better design.
Responsive.
Solely for public libraries.
Acquisitions too!

[Website Links]

www.biblionix.com
877-800-5625 | info@biblionix.com

January/February 2015 Catalyst - 7
Iowa Library Leadership Opportunity

The Iowa Library Association Foundation (ILAF) is looking for a few hard-working, fun-loving supporters of libraries to join our board! We have two vacant spots for board members representing public libraries in towns up to 2,499 in population. We also need one board member representing a school or special library to help ILAF support Iowa libraries and librarians.

To find out more about ILAF and to apply, please contact me:

Mike Wright
ILAF President
mwright@dbqco.org
563-582-0008

2015 ILA Foundation Board

Representing Small Public Libraries
Linda Adams, Fayette Public Library ‘15
Vacant
Vacant

Representing Medium Public Libraries
Sarah Clendineng, Fort Madison Public Library ‘16
Brandie Ledford, Carroll Public Library ‘15
Susan Macken, Oelwein Public Library ‘15
Wendy Street, Treasurer, Pella Public Library ‘15

Representing Large Public Libraries
Lois Blythe, Secretary, Burlington Public Library ‘15
Marlys Lien, Council Bluffs Public Library ‘14
Michael Wright, President, Dubuque County Library ‘16

Representing Academic Libraries
Karen Davidson, Northeast Iowa Comm College, Calmar ‘16
Susan Moore, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls ‘15

Representing School and Special Libraries
Vacant

At-Large
Barbara Corson, Iowa Library Services, Des Moines ‘14
Ken Jones, Jones Library Sales, Carlisle ‘16
Tim Jones, Cedar Falls ‘15
Kay Runge, Library Consultant, Des Moines ‘14

Representing Exhibitors
Rick Brammer, Book Farm ‘16

ILA Vice President, Ex Officio Member
Alison Ames Galstad, Coralville Public Library ‘15

ILA Office Manager, Ex Officio Member
Melissa Primus, Diversified Management Services

Save These Dates

2015 Lobby From Home Day
Tuesday, February 24
The ILA Governmental Affairs Committee encourages all Iowa Libraries to contact their legislators about issues that are important to Iowa libraries during Lobby from Home Day. This is our day to contact legislators via email or phone to encourage them to meet the goals set in the 2015 Legislative Agenda. We can make a great impact if we all contact our legislators on the same day.

2015 ILA Legislative Day
Wednesday, March 18
2:30 pm: Legislative Briefing at Iowa Library Services, Ola Babcock Miller Building
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm: Legislative Reception, Law Library, State Capitol

Don’t miss this important event. During the Legislative Briefing we will hear from ILA, Iowa Library Services, and the ILA lobbyists. They will provide us information on the legislative session, key legislative issues, and the key points we want to make sure we discuss with our legislators. After the briefing we will meet with legislators in the Law Library for the Legislative Reception. It is a great time for librarians, trustees, and legislators to discuss important library-related legislative issues.

8 - January/February 2015 Catalyst
Discover The Benefits Of ILA!

- Ever sit back and wonder what program to offer or what book to order for the eight-year-old boy who hates reading?
- Having trouble deciding what to read for the next book club or for personal enjoyment?
- Hate frantically trying to collect CEU’s for certification at the last minute?
- Do you wonder what exactly intellectual freedom is, and how to be an advocate for it?

If you answered yes to any or all of these questions, becoming an ILA member is for you!

ILA provides many benefits to Iowa librarians and great opportunities for getting to know other librarians in the state. People whom you meet and network with at the conference have a wealth of knowledge and experience that can be a valuable resource for both newbies and veterans. Whether it is for programming or collection development ideas, hearing diverse opinions and perspectives, or just having someone to bounce ideas off of, networking can be very helpful. Joining ILA can foster professional and personal friendships: librarians have many things in common and finding a kindred spirit is easier than you know. ILA also provides a mentoring program that can help new members navigate and answer questions about ILA and the conference. Talk to anyone on a committee or subdivision, whether you are an ILA member or not, and they will be more than happy to tell you why they are an ILA member and how it has benefited them. In ILA you encounter public, academic, and special librarians, support personnel, teacher/librarians, and librarians from Iowa libraries both large and small.

The ILA conference provides a variety of sessions covering topics from the legality of cameras in the library, to how graphic novels help reading literacy, to censorship issues. Sitting in on these sessions and having the opportunity to discuss these issues helps our profession stay current and authentic. ILA is a not only a group of people who like to have fun (and we do!) but also a support system for all Iowa librarians. And if none of these phenomenal reasons convinces you to join, the ILA conference provides CEUs toward certification; this alone makes giving us a chance worthwhile. It is easy to register online.

Please come join us!

ILA Membership Committee

Renew Your Membership

ILA’s membership year runs on the calendar year January 1 – December 31. That means we’re well into our renewal period. If you haven’t renewed your 2015 ILA Membership yet, you can still do so today! It is easy to register online, or you can print out a PDF form, and mail or fax it to the ILA office.

Your member benefits will run through February 28th, 2015. As of March 1st, if you haven’t renewed yet, you will no longer have access to the members only section of the website or member email list serve. So don’t wait! We hope you rejoin us as we advocate for quality library services for all Iowans and provide leadership, education and support for our members. Please renew! And recruit a new member to join with you!

2015 Iowa Private Academic Libraries Spring Conference
Thursday, March 19th – Drake University

We are once again partnering with IA/ACRL to hold our conferences back to back. We had an excellent turnout last year, and we are looking forward to another large and diverse attendance this year. Keep an eye on the IPAL website in February for registration information.

Paul Waechli
Cornell College
IPAL President

January/February 2015 Catalyst - 9
With the new year comes both great opportunities and renewed challenges for our libraries. Join us for the 2015 ILA/ACRL Spring Conference to highlight innovative academic library programs, partnerships, and services across our state. The day will feature a keynote presentation by Michael Scott, our new State Librarian, as well as breakout sessions showcasing ingenuity from across the state.

This year’s conference will again be held on Friday March 20th, the day after the annual IPAL conference. It will be centrally located at Drake University in Des Moines. Online registration, dine-around opportunities, and further conference information can be found at the ILA/ACRL conference website.

We look forward to seeing you there!

ILA/ACRL Spring Conference Committee

Mary Hammond Iber Iowa ACRL Spring Conference Scholarship

Mary Hammond Iber was an exceptional librarian, mentor, and friend. A librarian and archivist at Cornell College in Mount Vernon, Iowa, she died unexpectedly on January 2, 2014. Mary was known for her kind, creative, and helpful nature, and her vibrant approach to life. She taught as an adjunct instructor at the University of Iowa School of Library and Information Science and was involved with Iowa ACRL leadership, including serving as President in 2010 and chairing the Nominating, Awards, and Newsletter committees.

To honor her commitment to continuous learning and growth, Iowa ACRL makes available the Mary Hammond Iber Spring Conference Scholarship. The scholarship will help fund attendance at the Iowa ACRL Spring Conference, March 20th, 2015 at Drake University in Des Moines, and will cover the registration fee and up to $100 in travel, hotel, and meal expenses.

Applicants must be either:

1) Paid members of Iowa ACRL, working full-time in an Iowa academic or research library, and either: Attending their first Iowa ACRL Conference, or have worked in an Iowa academic or research library for fewer than three years.

OR

2) Library science students and/or support staff working in an Iowa academic or research library. Student and support staff applicants do not have to be paid members of Iowa ACRL.

Previous Iowa ACRL Spring Conference scholarship recipients are not eligible.

Please apply online or by contacting Dan Chibnall. Scholarship winners are selected by the Awards Committee on the quality of the essay submitted.

The deadline for applications is February 20th, 2015. The winner will be notified by March 6th, 2015.

Dan Chibnall
ILA/ACRL Awards Committee Chair
Iowa Small Libraries Online Conference, New Name, Same Great Event!
Innovative Libraries Online Conference

Mark your calendars now for ILOC—Innovative Libraries Online Conference—scheduled for April 1, 2015. Formerly known as ISLOC (Iowa Small Libraries Online Conference), the conference is donning a new name because Iowa Library Services/State Library (IaLS) wanted to convey the idea that the conference is for attendees from any size library, not just small libraries. And with the theme Public Libraries: Invest & Engage, the conference is sure to appeal to anyone associated with public libraries.

In 2008, the first ISLOC attracted 100 attendees. Back then, the idea of an all-online conference was relatively new, but the idea was so successful that ISLOC continued every year with an ever-growing audience; approximately 300 attended in 2013 and in 2014. The conference takes place in an Adobe Connect classroom which is readily accessible from any computer with Internet connection, with no special equipment or software needed.

Each year, the conference includes a nationally-known, opening keynote speaker. This year’s conference will feature Nancy Kranich. Nancy’s titles include Past President of ALA, current librarian/professor at Rutgers University School of Communications & Information, and founder and Chair of the ALA Center for Civic Life Advisory Committee. Throughout the day, various breakout sessions will be presented by Iowa librarians; a call for presenters has gone out to determine the topics and presenters. If you are interested in being a presenter, click here. The conference concludes in the evening with a special presentation designed especially for library trustees. This year’s evening session will feature Michael Scott, Iowa’s new State Librarian.

Additional information about ILOC can be found on IaSL’s website. Registration for the conference will be available soon via IaSL’s continuing education catalog. Address questions to the conference co-chairs, Alysia Peich and Becky Heil.

---

Did you know?
The Iowa Reading Research Center website offers high-quality literacy resources for families and children. Check it out and share the news!

✓ Videos
✓ Activities
✓ Articles
✓ Web Links
✓ And Much More!

Visit us at www.iowareadingresearch.org

Building Iowa’s Home for Literacy

---

Where Can I Find...

Financial Statements, Executive Board Minutes, And More Are Available On The ILA Website

To see the Executive Board’s meeting minutes go to ILA’s website at www.iowalibraryassociation.org, search Board Minutes and they’ll pop right up! Same for the search term Financial Statements – what could be easier?

Or go to the website and click on the Membership tab and choose Member Central. There you will find these documents and much more information about ILA, including a link to past issues of the Catalyst.

To access these resources you’ll be asked to log-in. If you have any problems, contact the ILA office at 515-282-8192, 800-452-5507, or admin@iowalibraryassociation.org.
Jennifer LaGarde (aka the library girl!) is a Librarian Ambassador and Education Road Warrior! As an Educator on Loan from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, she travels across the state working with school librarians, classroom teachers, principals, superintendents—literally ANYONE who needs help building or making the most of a 21st century school library. Jennifer also has many followers at her blog The Adventures of Library Girl.

This year the Iowa Association of School Librarians (IASL) Spring Conference will explore how teacher librarians create their own identities (or multiple identities) to serve students, teachers, and communities. Superheroes can seem larger than life, and so can our jobs. By uniting for the common good, we can help each other transform our strengths into superpowers and find ways to make our own personal “kryptonites”. And of course, every superpower has a support network: Let’s assemble ours at the conference!

**Make Your Library Epic: Be Your Own Superhero!**
April 12 and 13, 2015
Ramada Tropics Resort, Des Moines

For more information, go to the IASL’s website. Click here to register online.