

## **Governor's Advisory Council on Library Development**

### **Chair's Report**

Submitted by Mary Garm

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#### Council Member Submits Resignation

Longtime Council Member Bob Gallivan has submitted his resignation to Governor Wolf. Bob, who never misses a meeting, has served under a number of governors. His professional expertise was of great value during the time of the establishment of the State Library's Rare Book Room. He cites a desire to pull back on some of his activities as the reason for his resignation. Bob will serve until he is replaced by the Governor.

#### Leadership Recognition

Council Member and PSLA President Allison Mackley has been recognized by the American Association of School Librarians as a Leadership Luminary in the category of Social Media Superstars. Allison is a National Board Certified Teacher Librarian who works as the K-12 Department Coordinator at Hershey High School. Her citation says:

"Allison has an excellent grasp of how social media can reach different groups and influence change. Through her social media efforts in multiple formats, school librarians in Pennsylvania do not have to feel like they are marooned on an island in our profession. Allison has brought the rescue plane, and we can truly feel that we live in the same virtual community."

#### Focus on Workforce Development

The Governor's Advisory Council has established a special committee to address Governor Wolf's priority of workforce development. The GAC has held two working meetings to identify areas where Pennsylvania's libraries are contributing effectively to this priority and to focus efforts to enhance the knowledge and skills of frontline librarians as they assist patrons in finding jobs and improving work-related skills.

The committee has identified a preliminary area of focus. Working with the Office of Commonwealth Libraries, the committee proposes to give libraries the training and resources they need to serve as connectors between patrons and existing workforce development agencies, on both the state and local levels. The proposed training would take place in person, likely through District Library Centers, and online via customized online training resources.

#### Meeting Scheduled with Secretary Rivera

GAC leadership will meet with Secretary of Education Pedro Rivera in June. Regular meetings with the Secretary began last year and give the GAC an opportunity to bring attention to what libraries already do to advance education in the Commonwealth and to identify areas where libraries, properly leveraged, can do more.