

# Pacific Libraries Partnership Staff Development Committee

## 2013-2014 Annual Report

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### Purpose

The Pacific Libraries Partnership Staff Development Committee (PLPSDC) identifies areas of interest to stimulate ideas and discussion regarding library training and development needs with an emphasis on building staff knowledge and skills in new and emerging areas.

### Goals

1. The PLPSDC will promote, publicize, and share information about staff development events to member libraries.
2. The PLPSDC will identify and creatively respond to the unmet staff development needs of participating member libraries in an effective, efficient, and timely manner.
3. The PLPSDC will plan and implement workshops based on the identified staff development needs and interests of participating member libraries, which will be open to all interested persons.
4. The PLPSDC will recruit new members as needed, who will attend meetings regularly and participate actively on the committee.
5. The PLPSDC will serve in a mentoring capacity providing opportunities for support and guidance to new library staff developers.

### Objectives

- To present no fewer than two programs on topics of general interest to library staff members including one appropriate for all levels of library staff.

*The Future of Libraries 9.0: Libraries Re-Imagined* was held at the San Francisco Public Library on October 9, 2013. The 1-day conference offered 4 sessions which focused on innovative library initiatives. The program included presentations by staff from a number of regional libraries:

- *The Digital Public Library of America: how DPLA “brings together the riches of America’s libraries, archives, and museums, and makes them freely available to the world”.*  
Presenter: Luis Herrera, DPLA board member and San Francisco City Librarian
- *Minimally Staffed Libraries: Livermore’s Easy Access Library and Alameda County’s REACH Ashland Youth Center library.*  
Presenters: Nathan Brumley, Livermore Public Library  
Gary Morrison & Tiffany Yang, Alameda County Library
- *A Library-Developed eBook Platform: Enki, one year later: A progress report on the new Enki eBook platform.*  
Presenters: Paula MacKinnon and Elliot Warren, Contra Costa County Library
- *Maker Spaces in Libraries: exciting new projects at the Mountain View and Sunnyvale libraries.*  
Presenters: Ann Awakuni and Paul Sims, Mountain View Public Library  
Rachel Collier and Kate Gaidos, Sunnyvale Public Library

Evaluations reflected that the event met expectations at an excellent level, and that the overall conference presentation was considered to be excellent by the attendees.

Future of Libraries: Registration Count: 196      Revenue: \$6114      Expended: \$611

- To sponsor and organize an annual workshop for library paraprofessionals.

The Black Belt Librarian, a spring workshop for all levels of library staff, was a topic which garnered sufficient interest to offer it at two locations during the same week. The first was held at the Castro Valley Library in Alameda County on April 22, 2014; it was repeated on April 23 at the Martin Luther King Jr. Library in San Jose. Warren Graham presented a 3-hour workshop which focused on approaches and techniques to improve staff safety when approaching library patrons.

The workshop and the presenter were well received, and multiple participants expressed interest in seeing the presenter return in the future to share additional material or to offer a full-day version of the workshop. The survey responses indicated a rating of “excellent” for the event, showed the workshop content met participants’ expectations, and that they expected it to be useful at an excellent level in their jobs.

Black Belt Librarian: Registration Count: 208      Revenue: \$4020      Expended: \$4661

- To use the PLPSDC listserv as a means of publicizing library oriented activities, forums, conference, and training opportunities which have a non-profit library focus.
- Staff development and training opportunities are announced on the listserv whenever possible.
- To hold ongoing discussions about the future of library services and related staff development and training needs.

The committee considers workshop themes and formats encompassing a variety of in-person and electronic meeting options, and continually seeks input from personnel at all levels of the library about the greatest challenges they face in the library workplace.