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The President's Column

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The President's Column

It's fall, y'all, and it feels like it! This time of year brings out all of our librarian cardigans and other fun sweaters in full effect. Our joint conference with North Carolina was a great success because YOU were there and participated. I want to especially thank our wonderful NCLA planning committee, Lorrie (NCLA President) and Libby (NCLA Vice President), and all of our SELA presenters and volunteers. Great job everyone! I enjoyed using the Whova app to connect with you and while I am getting used to these virtual conferences, I'm really looking forward to an in-person conference experience in 2022 in my home state of Mississippi! It's never too early to start planning for the next conference, so please let me know if you have interest in being involved with the 2022 conference. The conference will be held in Meridian, MS at the Riley Center on October 11-14, 2022.

Inclusion efforts are as important now as they have ever been in academia and public librarianship. Our organization was created in order to support each other and lift up libraries that struggle in communities where injustice is prevalent. We are an inclusive organization and I want all of our members to feel included. I want you to know that when you are in a SELA meeting, your voice is being heard and you matter. If you strip down the missions and visions and political red tape that comes with all of our libraries, you are reminded that we all want to have a library that is inclusive for everyone, to encourage learning for a lifetime without class, sex, race, gender, political, or religious barriers.

Please email me if you want to be more involved in SELA. I will gladly connect you to a team where you will feel included. Your work with SELA is what makes us

strong. Say it with me: if we don't work together, we don't work at all.



Melissa Dennis
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