

7-1-2020

Georgia Library Association - GLA Executive Board Officer Candidates for 2021

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Recommended Citation

Long, C. M. (2020). Georgia Library Association - GLA Executive Board Officer Candidates for 2021. *Georgia Library Quarterly*, 57(3). Retrieved from <https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/glq/vol57/iss3/12>

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Cover Page Footnote

Members of the Nominations & Elections Committee: Wendy Cornelisen, Amy Eklund, and Casey Long

*People, Libraries
and Agencies* **IN THE NEWS**

Georgia Library Association GLA Officer Candidates for 2021

First Vice-president / President Elect

Virginia Feher, University of North Georgia

Virginia (Ginny) Feher would be honored to have the opportunity to serve the association, its members, and Georgia librarians across the state as the Georgia Library Association's (GLA) vice-president/president elect in 2021 and then president in 2022. Her goals for the association include establishing additional mechanisms to better support inclusivity within GLA through concrete actions and policies, striving to make the association a more welcoming organization for diverse groups. She would also continue to support and expand the work of GLA's past presidents, such as ensuring that the Georgia Libraries Conference remains a premier event for Georgia and Southeastern library employees and affiliates.



Ginny has been involved in GLA since 2010, getting her start as the secretary of the Interlibrary Loan Interest Group. Since then, she has served on various interest groups and committees as a member or officer, including 2011/12 co-chair, Atlanta Emerging Librarians Planning Committee; 2012 chair, New Members Round Table; 2012 chair, Interlibrary Loan Interest Group; 2013 secretary, Government Information Interest Group; and 2013 chair, Interest Group Council. She has also been a member of the Academic Library Division and various interest groups. As both a voting and non-voting member of the GLA Executive Board since 2012, Ginny has actively participated in board discussions and decisions.

In 2012, Ginny joined the editorial board of GLA's journal, the *Georgia Library Quarterly (GLQ)*, as the associate editor and peer-review coordinator. In 2013, she moved into the editor position, leading a team of editors in publishing a vital resource for the field of library science and providing guidance to authors to help them publish high quality articles that inform and educate our readers. In addition, Ginny has contributed to the annual conference in multiple ways, serving on this year's Conference Committee and in the past serving on the Programming Committee, acting as an Academic Library Division (ALD) papers presentation judge, as well as presenting at the annual conference regularly since 2009.

Ginny Feher has worked in academic libraries since 1987. She was the interlibrary loan borrowing supervisor at the University of Georgia until September 2012, when she accepted the government information librarian position at Augusta University after earning an MLIS in 2011 from Valdosta State University. In 2014, she joined the University of North Georgia (UNG) as a reference services librarian at

the Gainesville campus, and in 2015 she moved to the Oconee campus as its head librarian. As a unit head, department head, and then head librarian, Ginny has extensive management and leadership experience, which she can apply to successfully lead the Georgia Library Association.

Ginny has lived in Athens, Georgia since moving there in 1982 to earn an MFA in painting. Her main guilty pleasure is binge-watching K-Drama (South Korean drama series), for which she would be happy to provide recommendations to anyone thinking of exploring the genre.

Karen Manning, Georgia Institute of Technology

Karen is a metadata specialist working with technology and curating digital collections and scholarship at Georgia Tech. In this role, Karen develops strategies and policies for building and maintaining digital collections to support instruction and new research streams. She began her library work at the Library of Congress and is knowledgeable about many facets of library work. This breadth of knowledge is demonstrated by the multidimensional roles that she has held in public and technical services and her current role in archives. Karen's expertise and interests are in digital technologies, archival management, and rights management (copyright and other intellectual property). She holds an MLIS with a concentration in management and a BA in organizational leadership. Karen also received certification in Copyright for Educators and Librarians.



Karen's leadership skills are exhibited in her service on various professional and library committees and project teams. She is a member of the Georgia Library Association (GLA), American Library Association (ALA), Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL), and Society of American Archivists (SAA). Karen has been actively involved in GLA since 2005 and has held leadership positions as second vice president/membership chair, Black Caucus chair, and the Paraprofessional Division chair. She has led efforts in the establishment of two GLA interest groups. Additionally, Karen chaired Georgia Tech Library's mentoring and employee activities committees that fostered communication, teamwork, and increased morale among library employees. Together with the committee members, Karen planned, coordinated, and executed internal workshops and social activities.

Karen was the recipient of a GLA Paraprofessional Grant, the Nora Symmers Paraprofessional Award, and a Beard Scholarship. She twice received the Price's Pride annual award that recognizes Georgia Tech Library employees. Karen also received an ACRL scholarship that provided professional development and interaction with other librarians.

Karen enjoys volunteering in school libraries as a book reader and providing general library assistance. Her outreach to children and youth promotes how libraries can contribute to achieving their aspirations, as well as providing continuing lifelong learning. She also loves to travel, visit museums, and the beach.

The Georgia Library Association is where collaborations, learning, and professional networking occur. Karen believes that the spirit of partnerships, possibilities, and participation can produce pathways towards innovation and progress. Karen understands the importance of having a clear direction in

navigating the future of GLA. Her leadership philosophy includes being open-minded, obtaining expertise, and facilitating individual and collective efforts to accomplish shared objectives. Karen is inspired by the opportunity to serve as GLA's vice president/president elect and looks forward to facilitating continuous enrichment of the library community.

Vice-President for Marketing and Branding

Marquita Gooch, Clayton County Library System

Marquita Gooch is a graduate of Florida State University, receiving her master's in library and information science in 2011 with *cum laude* honors. A native of Atlanta, she began her career as a part-time library assistant senior for the Fulton County Library System (FCLS). She ended her tenure at FCLS as the social media and web page coordinator for the Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture and History (AARL).



She continued her library career by joining the DC Public Schools as a teacher librarian, where she developed community relationships and marketing campaigns to engage students and their parents. Those campaigns led to partnerships with DC Public Libraries, Howard University, the non-profit organization Critical Exposure, and several local bookstores and authors.

Currently, Marquita serves as the assistant director for technology and training for the Clayton County Library System (CCLS). In addition to her duties as an assistant director, Marquita also handles marketing for CCLS, including the website, all social media accounts, e-mail newsletters, and live-streamed events. She has created many virtual programs and marketing campaigns for CCLS, resulting in a 60% increase in engagement from patrons across the board.



Micki Waldrop, Brenau University

Micki Waldrop is a research and instruction librarian at Brenau's Trustee Library in Gainesville, Georgia. She has over 12 years of experience in social media marketing, branded content creation, and outreach. Micki is part of a two-person marketing and outreach team that seeks to make the library a welcoming place for students, staff, and faculty.

Micki has been a member of the Georgia Library Association since 2014 for which she has been a member of the Social Media Committee in 2015, has served on the Georgia Library Conference Planning Committee as the chair of Local Arrangements for the 2016 COMO Conference, and she has served as chair of Catering since 2016. You may also remember her as the murder victim at the Georgia Libraries Conference Murder Mystery event in 2017.

Micki loves libraries and she wants everybody to love them as much as she does. Part of this love includes working to market library services, events, and opportunities in a way that connects with patrons. She believes a sure way to engage an audience is with a laugh, so she works to deliver the message of libraries with a good dose of humor.

Micki earned a bachelor of arts in history from Kennesaw State University, a master of arts in history from the University of Georgia, and a master's in library and information science from Valdosta State University. Outside of the library, Micki can be found (literally) hanging around a trapeze studio, thinking about her next meal, or buying furniture to rehab.

Secretary

Kelly Williams, Gwinnett County Public Library

Kelly Williams is a library student and employee, and she is actively involved in the Georgia Library Association. She is currently finishing her MLIS at Valdosta State University. She works as a library associate for Gwinnett County Public Library, where she plans and runs programs, helps with staff training, and provides customer service with a smile.

Kelly is currently secretary of GLA's New Member Round Table and plans to use her experience from that position to be an excellent secretary for GLA in 2021 if chosen. She's detail-oriented, always looking for exciting things for libraries to do, and always volunteering to help out. Her goal with the position of secretary is to serve the library community.



Jean Mead, Athens Regional Library System



Having worked in public libraries for 10 years, Jean is experienced in multiple areas such as cataloging, multigenerational programming, collection development for children and young adults, administration, and outreach. Currently an assistant director at the Athens Regional Library System, she works as the liaison between the main library and 11 branches located in five counties. These very different tasks have honed her organizational skills, record keeping, and multitasking to a new level, as well as given her an appreciation of the multiple facets of librarianship.

Jean was a 2016 graduate of Georgia's Pinnacle Leadership training, a participant of the Public Library Association (PLA) Leadership Academy in 2019, and the 2018–2019 vice chair/chair-elect for PACE, a GLA special interest group for professional and continuing education. She is a member of ALA, PLA, and GLA. Jean shows care, consideration, and loyalty to her colleagues. She is committed to making sure the board operates efficiently and is dedicated to empowering fellow librarians by being a force for ongoing improvement and innovation in the ever-changing field.

American Library Association (ALA) Councilor

Angela Glowcheski, Sequoyah Regional Library System

Angela Glowcheski is dedicated to leadership and creating results and is ready to serve as the GLA ALA Councilor. As Councilor, Angela will represent GLA's interests and goals at the ALA Council and communicate regularly with the Executive Board and membership. Angela is currently the deputy director of the Sequoyah Regional Library System. She has been employed at Sequoyah for five years overseeing patron services and staff development and has worked in public libraries since 2008. In GLA, Angela currently serves as the Advocacy Committee chair as well as the Professional and Continuing Education chair. In ALA, Angela is an active member of the Learning Round Table (LearnRT) and is currently serving as the LearnRT immediate past chair.



Ashley Hoffman, Kennesaw State University



Ashley Hoffman is the elearning librarian at Kennesaw State University and has been an active member of GLA since 2013. She would be honored to serve as GLA's representative to the ALA Council because she strongly believes in the value of our professional library associations and in the power of organizational governance. She has experience with elected representative positions, including serving as division chair of GLA's NMRT and more recently as chair of her university's Library Faculty Assembly. She is active in ACRL, where she has presented at the past two conferences and is currently serving on a committee in the Distance Learning Section. If elected to be your ALA Councilor, she is eager to represent your interests and concerns as ALA faces some serious organizational and fiscal challenges in the coming years.