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From the President

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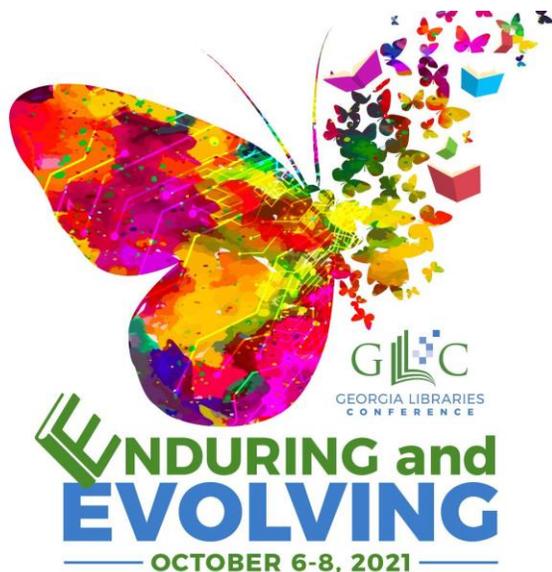
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From the PRESIDENT

As the summer persists, it is time to think about next year's officers and get ready to vote! Be sure to review the candidate bios for the 2022 Georgia Library Association (GLA) officers. Ballots for officers and divisions will be arriving via email in time for voting in September.

Conference planning continues, and registration for "GLC 2021: Enduring and Evolving" will open in August. I hope you will join in for the sessions, exhibit hall, social events, and networking opportunities. Block off October 6–8, 2021 on your work calendars, because there will be many hard choices to make, with several sessions happening simultaneously. The benefit of having a virtual conference means you can re-watch anything you missed the first time!



I'm also humbled to work with the newly formed strategic planning committee, a mix of public and academic librarians who have stepped up to the challenge: Vice President/President Elect Karen Manning, Past

President Elizabeth McKinney, Amanda Sexton of Kennesaw State University, Angela Glowcheski of Sequoyah Regional Public Library, Jolene Cole of Georgia College State University, Angela Megaw of the University of North Georgia, Sofia Slutskaia of Emory University, Sharon Bradley of the Mercer Law Library, and Kelly Williams of Gwinnett County Public Library. Several committee members have years of experience in GLA and also helped craft earlier strategic plans for the association, and I am thrilled they have decided to lend their expertise to this endeavor.

The committee has decided to utilize the Rapid Results Planning (RRP) method this time, which will allow for input from a broad range of stakeholders: members of all types, representatives from sister organizations, and even non-members. Be on the lookout for a survey in the coming months! As we work on the plan to grow GLA into the future, your perspective will be invaluable.

Stephen Houser, director of the West Georgia Regional Library, will be serving as the RRP consultant for GLA. He brings a wealth of experience, having completed strategic plans using the RRP method at several public libraries across the state, and for the Society of Georgia Archivists in 2020. While a long-time GLA member, he is not actively involved in the association's current work, which we hope will bring a fresh perspective.

Rapid Results Planning is not an instant process. In addition to the survey, the committee is striving for a fall 2021 in-person gathering of stakeholders, after the Georgia Libraries Conference. Vice President Karen Manning and I

hope to have an initial draft of the strategic plan to share in early 2022.

At the end of this process, GLA will have a focus on three or four main strategies, as well as an implementation plan with a timetable for achievable goals and objectives. This will ensure

that the association continues to meet its purpose into the coming years.

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