



STATE LIBRARY OF IOWA

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Today in EYE-OPENER July 18, 2016

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1) Michael Scott With State Library Update: Fiscal year 2016 closed with considerable changes at the State Library, both in terms of office space and staffing positions. With the start of this new fiscal year, State Librarian Michael Scott writes this recap to explain tough decisions needed to respond to serious budget cuts.

"...the State Library received level funding for FY2017 in both our operating budget as well as in the Enrich Iowa program. While we've been able to make budget adjustments in the past few years to meet our financial obligations and continue support Iowa libraries, we have found ourselves going into FY2017 with some significant financial challenges. With continued cost increases to the two largest portions of our state budget—salaries and rental costs for our space on the Capitol

Complex (we pay for space in the Miller Building and in the Law Library at the Capitol) we needed to make tough decisions regarding our budget.

First, we downsized space inside the Miller Building, condensing offices onto Ground and First Floors. We also reduced the public space on the First Floor (i.e. the Main Library) to accommodate more staff offices there.

Second, we moved forward with a reduction in staff at the State Library by eliminating our one remaining secretary position (most recently held by Betty McAllister) as well as Specialized Services Program Manager Barb Corson. I want to thank Barb and Betty for all of the good work and dedication they've provided to the State Library and the Iowa library community. This was not an easy decision, but one that was necessary in order for our agency to remain within budget and continue to serve Iowa libraries. I do not anticipate any further staff reductions will be necessary for the foreseeable future.

As we move into the new fiscal year, despite these challenges, we are hopeful about the future of both the State Library and all local libraries across the state. We will continue to look for ways to improve our financial outlook and as we enter into the last year of our 5-year strategic plan, we look forward to evaluating where we've been and plan for the next 5-year cycle. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me!

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2) Town Meetings 2016: The State Library's annual **Town Meetings** are scheduled for September and open for registration in the c.e. catalog <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/cgi-bin/cecat/Northwest's> date is **September 8** at **Buena Vista University in Storm Lake**; this year's theme is "**Raising Our Standards, Planning For Success.**"

From the c.e. catalog: "... *The focus of Town Meetings 2016 is planning for library excellence. In the morning, State Librarian Michael Scott will speak about current and future statewide library initiatives. The morning segment also includes an explanation of changes to Iowa's public library standards, previewing a revised edition of In Service to Iowa (new 6th edition, c2016) The morning concludes with a look at common elements of a good planning process...*"

Two afternoon breakout sessions are planned:

a) overview of national trends, including a look at ***Libraries Transform***, ALA's newest initiative to bring greater awareness to how public libraries contribute to healthy communities by aligning with social trends and responding to community needs.

b) overview of planning tools, including surveys, focus groups, and using census information. Participants will learn how to write effective survey questions, facilitate effective focus groups, and search for demographic data about their communities.

The day's schedule looks like this:

9:30—Welcome and State Library Updates	11:30—Lunch On Your Own
10:00—Revised Standards for Iowa Public Libraries—Overview	12:30—Concurrent Session
11:10—What's in Your Plan? Common Ground	1:55--Break
	2:05—Concurrent Session
	3:30—Adjourn

Note: there is no registration fee for **2016 Town Meetings** because the State Library can no longer provide food / refreshments. Lunch is on your own, either at the BVU cafeteria or elsewhere in Storm Lake. Plus...consider bringing your own AM coffee or PM beverages.



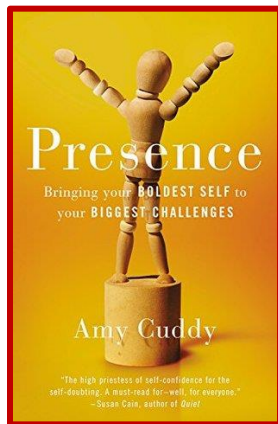
3) Omaha Region Early Literacy Conference:

Thanks to Sue Gruber with Southwest District for this story. The **2016 Omaha Region Early Literacy Conference** is next month **August 26-27** at the **Joslyn Art Museum** in **Omaha** (2200 Dodge Street) The conference theme is **“Celebrating Arts & Literacy,”** running from 8:15-4:00 each day

This description from the conference website: *“In early learning programs, the arts are all around us*

- acting out stories, drawing and painting, singing songs and reciting rhymes, role playing, creative expression through music and movement. The arts are an outstanding tool for learning. Surrounded by the beautiful setting of Joslyn Art Museum, the 2016 ELC Omaha Region Early Literacy Conference will celebrate and appreciate the relationship between arts and early literacy learning.”

Early-bird registration is \$75.00 before July 31; after that date, registration cost is \$100.00. Deadline to register is August 17—note that registration is limited to 75 people each day. For more information visit this website <http://www.elcomaharegion.org/elcomaha/> and click **Upcoming Events**.



4) Big Ideas Book Discussion in August: Next in the **Big Ideas Book Discussion** series on **August 26** (9:30-11:00AM) is **Presence: Bringing Your Boldest Self to Your Biggest Challenges** by Amy Cuddy.

From GoodReads: *"...Have you ever left a nerve-racking challenge and immediately wished for a do over? Maybe after a job interview, a job performance review, or a difficult conversation? The very moments that require us to be commanding can instead cause us to feel powerless..."*

In her book **Presence**, Amy Cuddy—author, Harvard professor, and TED Talk favorite—explains research underlying important mind-body connections. And she offers techniques that can nudge us from emotional, stressful episodes to confident postures and positive outcomes. *"...this book is filled with stories of people who learned how to flourish during stressful moments...we need to nudge ourselves by tweaking our body language, behavior, and mind-set in our day-to-day lives. Every reader will learn how to approach their biggest challenges with confidence instead of dread, with satisfaction instead of regret..."*

In "**Big Ideas Book Discussions**," State Library staff and guest stars facilitate discussions using books outside of library management, but with plenty of application to library management. Choosing books on leadership, civic engagement, presentation skills, etc. we'll connect those ideas with public library service.

In addition to a great assortment of non-fiction titles, there are other spin-off benefits of "**Big Ideas**:"

- ✓ titles help with collection development for participating libraries
- ✓ titles are good choices for local book discussion groups
- ✓ this program serves as another model for how to facilitate local book discussions

We encourage participants to purchase books used throughout the "**Big Ideas**" series for your own collections. Join us for the next good read **Presence: Bringing Your Boldest Self to Your Biggest Challenges**. Registration is open in the c.e. catalog <http://www.statelibraryofiaowa.org/cgi-bin/cecat/index.cgi>

5) Meetings / Events This Week: Catch some national webinars this month at this link—registration information there too <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/c-d/continuing-ed/other-conted>

July 19. 11:00AM-12:00PM. *Collection Development: Children's and Young Adult Books About Native Americans* sponsored by ALSC <http://www.ala.org/alsc/collection-development-childrens-and-young-adult-books-about-native-americans>

July 19. 1:00-2:00PM. *Best Bets for Book Groups* sponsored by Booklist <http://www.booklistonline.com/webinars>

July 19. 2:00-2:30PM. *Amazing Digital Projects for All Students with Google Tools* sponsored by SimpleK12 <http://www.simplek12.com/upcoming-webinars/>

July 21. 1:00-2:00PM. *We Need To Talk: Overcoming the Fear of Having a Difficult Conversation* sponsored by Colorado State Library <http://cslinsession.cvlites.org/>



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