

With the September 14th swearing-

information to foster innovation, education and creativity of all kinds.” In November, OGR briefed ALA President Todaro for an interview with the Washington Post on issues raised by Pallante’s resignation.

Subsequently, on December 8, the bipartisan leadership of the House Judiciary Committee issued a [press release](#) announcing [initial proposals for changes in copyright law](#) they intend to pursue in the next Congress. These included making the Copyright Office an independent Legislative Branch office entity outside the Library of Congress and making the Register’s position subject to Presidential appointment for a term of 10 years, thus removing that power and oversight of the Office from the Librarian of Congress’ legal responsibilities. OGR also briefed President-elect Jim Neal on these developments and provided him, pursuant to Julie Todaro’s delegation, with detailed background information and materials. OGR also led an effort to craft, immediately release and [post to District Dispatch](#) a statement by the [Library Copyright Alliance](#) (comprised of ALA, ARL and ACRL) on the proposals.

Finally, OGR set up separate meetings with Dr. Hayden for both the Library Copyright Alliance and the non-profit members of the Re:Create Coalition (on November 22 and December 1, respectively) to discuss Copyright Office reform broadly and both groups’ consonant views concerning the most appropriate qualifications for and role of the next Register of Copyrights. Both groups were warmly received by the Librarian.

At the beginning of the summer, bipartisan staff to both the Senate Judiciary and Foreign Relations Committees summoned representatives of print disabled groups, the library community and the publishers to a private meeting on the Hill. They did so for the express purpose of explaining that: 1) the Association of American Publishers was demanding changes to the Administration’s proposed texts of Treaty implementing legislation and associated legislative history; 2) the Judiciary Committee would not consider such language unless and until a compromise supportable by all stakeholders had been reached; and 3) the Treaty would not be considered by the Foreign Relations Committee or full Senate absent such a compromise on implementing and legislative history text. Staff thus tasked the stakeholders present with meeting and otherwise coordinating over the summer to attempt to reach an accord.

The Association of American Publishers (AAP) was demanding fairly extensive record keeping requirements of the kind considered in Marrakesh but not ultimately required by the Treaty. Unified library groups opposed the AAP’s language because it would be burdensome and was not mandated by the Treaty. However, during the ensuing meetings, libraries have made several proposals moving in AAP’s direction in an effort to bring the Treaty and its implementing legislation to votes in the Senate as rapidly as possible.

Regrettably, notwithstanding libraries’ willingness to endorse suboptimal language a

public meeting. Such a clause, present elsewhere in U.S. copyright law, simply would state that nothing in Section 121 of the Copyright Act (the "Chaffee Amendment") limits the availability of

recognition for our role in Congress' passage of the USA FREEDOM Act to curtail mass surveillance in [Top Lobbying Victories of 2015](#). The honor was accorded to ALA and a small number of our coalition partners for success in a decade-long effort to secure comprehensive reform of the Freedom of Information Act. As reported last quarter, the [FOIA Improvement Act](#) was signed into law on June 30 just days before its 50th anniversary.

For the past year, OGR—in active collaboration with COL's Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Subcommittee—has worked extremely closely with long-time library champion Senator Jack Reed (D-

OGR and Senator Reed thus took special care and additional time to assure not only that S. 3391 would be a clearly bipartisan bill, but that three of its four cosponsors sit on the Senate Appropriations Committee, including its Chairman, Sen. Cochran. This important preparatory

Funded by Google and targeted at new and young advocates in the age 13 to 22 demographic, **SPARK** designed to demystify the advocacy process and inspire young viewers to take action on the national issues about which they care most. Over the course of the series, advocates are taught how to contact their legislators, request meetings, use library resources, write press releases, and stage campaigns and plan events to gain support for their cause. The series also includes interviews with a number of special guests, including [U.S. Senator Jack Reed](#) of Rhode Island and his staff, noted YA author [Maureen Johnson](#) and research librarian [Jason Baumann](#). To date, **SPARK** has been well received by young viewers, librarians and educators alike, and continues to gain views. Now that the [entire series is online](#), OGR has promoted **SPARK** as a unified resource package with an eye toward increasing its visibility among librarians and educators,

In late November, ALA joined many coalition partners in [calling on the leadership of Congress](#) in both chambers to schedule an immediate vote to block implementation before December 1 of "Rule 41," an obscure and technical but vital new provision in the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure. One week later, OGR launched an appeal to ALA's grassroots to reinforce that message. Despite many other groups' similar outreach efforts among their constituencies, Congress was unresponsive. Consequently, Rule 41 went into effect and, as

Shortly after the conference call and many subsequent emails, there were changes in the group membership. With both movers no longer members of the Working Group and the Working Group feeling as though there was a need for in-depth research and discussion among the library and deaf and hard of hearing communities before progressing with a resolution, the members decided that the resolution was premature at this time and that they could not support it as written. The members have shared a response with both COL and ASCLA that both groups will respond to during the Midwinter conference.

Upon extensive discussion at the 2016 Annual Meeting, Resolution 45: "[Resolution on Gun Violence Affecting Libraries, Library Workers, and Library Patrons](#)" was referred by Council for revision to a working group co-chaired, respectively, by IFC and COL Chairs Pam Klipsch and Ann Ewbank. The Working Group for the Resolution on Gun Violence is comprised of

The FCC solicits comments for its annual Broadband Progress Report. The basic question is whether “advanced telecommunications capability is being deployed to all Americans in a reasonable and timely fashion.” ALA provided comments focused on the [E-rate program](#). In addition, the FCC is developing a [digital inclusion plan](#), and ALA was asked to provide input. Our comments focused on non-price barriers to broadband adoption.

During the summer, the Washington Office received two delegations under the auspices of the International Visitor

bit about the policy positions of the respective campaigns and extol the contributions and value of libraries.

OITP hosted a major [policy session](#) at the Google DC office in partnership with the Internet Association. Held on November 17, the session emphasized how the internet industry and libraries can advance economic opportunity in the U.S. The session was chaired by ALA President Julie Todaro with a co-host from Google. The panel comprised speakers from Yelp and the Internet Association, as well as our ALA President-elect [Jim Neal](#), moderated by a reporter from **TheHill**. The session concluded with a policy hackathon at which attendees each offered their ideas in a maximum of two minutes, with a prize awarded for the best idea.

Also on November 17, OITP organized a meeting with D.C.-based library leaders. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the current policy environment and strategic directions for the national library community. The meeting, chaired by ALA President Julie Todaro, included the leaders of the Library of Congress, National Archives and National Library of Medicine, as well as additional federal participants and representation from allies such as ARL, CNI, AALL and COSLA.

The latest installment of CopyTalk was held on [September 1, 2016](#). Melissa Levine, Lead Copyright Officer, University of Michigan Library, and Kristina Eden, Copyright Review Project Manager, Hath

ALA, as a member of the Library Copyright Alliance (LCA), submitted [comments](#) to the U.S. Copyright Office (CO) regarding "Mandatory Deposit of Electronic Books and Sound Recordings Available Only Online." The comments describe the importance of deposit in ensuring that the Library of Congress continues to build and preserve a national collection of works.

OITP Deputy Director Larra Clark relocated to ALA headquarters and is now a half-time deputy director for both OITP and PLA. Much of Larra's telecommunications portfolio will now be managed by [Ellen Satterwhite](#)

In response to a [request](#) from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) and the National Science Foundation, OITP along with our coalition partners at the Benton Foundation, filed [comments](#) on the National Broadband Research [Agenda](#). The NTIA's Request for Comment (RFC) asked for help identifying the data and research needs in the areas of broadband technology and innovation and prioritizing research proposals can foster access and adoption of broadband across unserved and underserved groups of people.

At the [2016 European Conference on Information Literacy](#) (ECIL) in Prague, OITP Associate Director Marijke Visser presented with our grant sponsor from Google, Hai Hong, of our