

## Memorial Resolution Honoring Mary Jo Lynch

Whereas the American Library Association (ALA) and the library community lost a valued member, colleague, and leader on February 26, 2020, with the death of Mary Jo Lynch"

Whereas Mary Jo Lynch served as Director of the ALA Office for Research and Statistics from 2001 to 2019, during which time she was recognized as a national authority on library statistics"

Whereas former ALA Executive Director Michael Fiels said "Mary Jo's fingerprints are on almost every major piece of library statistical information produced in the last two decades. Her contributions have supported ALA's advocacy and media and educational efforts, as we have worked to communicate the value of libraries and librarians." The statistics she has provided have been quoted by millions and have helped to define and dramatize the issues facing libraries of all types";

Whereas she received Distinguished Alumna Awards from the University of Michigan School of Library Sciences, where she earned an M.L.S. degree, and Rutgers University where she earned a Ph.D. in Library Science in 1988"

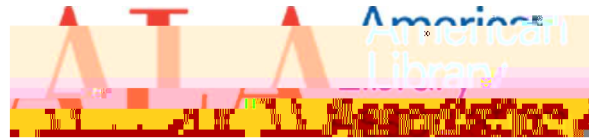
Whereas she served as a university reference librarian at the University of Massachusetts (Amherst) and the University of Detroit, and conducted seminal research evaluating the research interview process, including her doctoral dissertation"

Whereas she served as an Visiting Scholar from 2001 to 2019"

Whereas she was a leading collaborator (with Charles McClure, Amy Swen, Eleanor Rodgers, Nancy Ann House, and Douglas L. Buehig) in the development of the Public Library Association's Public Library Development Program, including co-authoring

and

(both 2001 and 2002) and designing the annual  
(from 2001 to 2019)"

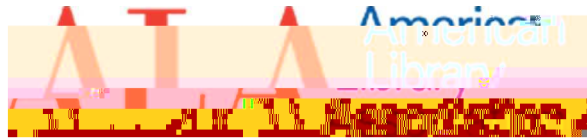


Whereas she was a major force in the establishment of the Federal State Cooperative System (F&S) for Public Library #ataDa collaboration of the National Center for Education Statistics and the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (today's Public Library Survey (PLS) Project at the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services) and served on its steering committee for 20 years"

Whereas she served on other committees of the National Center for Education Statistics, including those for the Academic Library Survey (ALS) and the State Library Agency (SLA) Survey"

Whereas she coordinated the biennial and frequently updated  
! " and directed and authored the annual  
(from ' (\*2)"

Whereas she authored or coauthored more than 100 articles and research reports relating to public and academic libraries, reference service, and research about libraries and library statistics, and appearing in  
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Whereas she saved her colleagues countless hours of restaurant bill parsing by teaching them the "rule of 2" (say according to the number of people at the table, not who ate or drank what) (it is the social cost of eating out in a large group, especially when it is holding up everyone's arrival at a much anticipated conference reception dinner, a personal networking opportunity) And

Whereas her leadership, common sense, humor, incisiveness, and indomitable good humor inspired several generations of library leaders, now, therefore, be it

Resolved that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members

1. recognize the significant contributions of Mary Jo Lynch over the course of her career and mourns her death; and

2. extend its sincerest condolences to her friends and family"

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association  
Saturday, June 2, 2020, ALA Virtual Council Meeting

Gracie Hall, Executive Director and Secretary of the ALA Council