

LAC Meeting August 2022 Survey

1. The high turnover occurring in libraries across the WVLS area has impacted the depth and breadth of experiences, decision making, leadership and advocacy. WVLS provides mentors for new staff and offers scholarships and consultation services. What more can we do to help?

- Make getting a degree more accessible for people in this area and more affordable. Pay a higher living wage/benefits
- Public Librarianship 101, covering reference/readers' advisory, collections, and programming/outreach. It would cover things like: what is a good collection, and why do we weed? Who are some authors to know in the major genres? In an era when most people have the whole internet in their pockets, what does reference service look like? What goes into a catalog record?
- What the format would be, I don't know. Handbook? Biannual workshop?
- Random check in phone calls with directors. The staying together conversations were good, maybe quarterly?
- A list of contacts within our county who are on the different VCat committees-new staff could go to them in the event of questions. Tips on material buying resources. Tips on handling/hiring/keeping staff.
- Every new manager feels completely alone at times. Maybe a reminder that this is completely normal?

2. Library staff have opportunities to network by attending workshops, conferences, and meetings. What can WVLS do to enhance/improve the value of these interactions? What networking prospects might we want to consider?

- More inclusion of school libraries & their organizations.
- Organic opportunities are much more effective, for me anyway. In other conferences, my best networking has happened when vendors have hosted lunches or coffee.
- I think these are good, just difficult to fit in. I prefer in person meetings but travel takes a large part of the day.
- After meeting camaraderie chances have been valuable. Making sure we know who the directors are in our county.
- Have attendees visit V-Cat or LAC in person or virtually to present on their experiences.