



# WALE: an interest group of WLA

## WALE... Washingt on Library Employees

### Our Purpose:

- To build a communication network among library employees
- To encourage continuing education for library personnel
- To improve library service through skill development

### We Promote:

- Better understanding and communication within individual communities and throughout the state
- Improved working relations in the library community
- Improved services to the library patron

**Need WALE info?**  
[www.wla.org/wale](http://www.wla.org/wale)

Remember to be a...  
**WALE Conference**  
Friend on Facebook

Winter 2015

WALE Newsletter

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## *A Note from our WALE Chair, Joe Olayvar*

Greetings...

Ahh...the cold, wet, and grey northwest winter is upon us making for short days and long nights. But no matter...the 2015 WALE Conference Committee is already hard at work preparing your conference. I say "your" conference because you, library staff from across the state, are why we do what we do and it's your counterparts that comprise the committee. Speaking of which, let me introduce this year's Committee Chairs: Warren Chin and Di Zhang from Seattle Public Library. Their eagerness has gone viral attracting team members that are already pushing forward with fresh ideas. So I'm thinking you might want to start making plans to attend.

Those who attended last year's conference know that the committee, led by Kristina Payne and Lisa Vos from Stevens County, put on a spectacular conference that was high on the career building and networking chart, as well as the fun chart. Lisa Vos, by the way, is continuing her Washington Library Employees (WALE) tenure as this year's Interest Group (IG) Vice-Chair. But no conference is complete without the dedicated work of volunteers who are the game day strength that pulls it all together. I'd like to sincerely thank last year's committee and volunteers for all their selfless efforts, often unnoticed, that made the conference a complete success.

For twenty three of the thirty one years that WALE has been an IG of the Washington Library Association (WLA), countless library staff from countless libraries have teamed up to bring valuable skill sets to their colleagues by way of the annual WALE Conference. It is a tradition that WALE has become synonymous with and hopes to continue for years to come.

As the current IG Chair, it's a great privilege to follow the footsteps of past IG Chairs, IG Members, and Conference Committee Members. WALE is not only a great resource to further your career, but a great place to move forward the library community as a whole. Consider being part of this *in motion* IG; you won't regret the feeling of accomplishment that comes with it.

Take care and have fun...

Joe Olayvar, 2015 WALE IG Chair



*Joe at Mount Rainier*

## Meet WALE Conference Scholarship Recipient Lois Holub

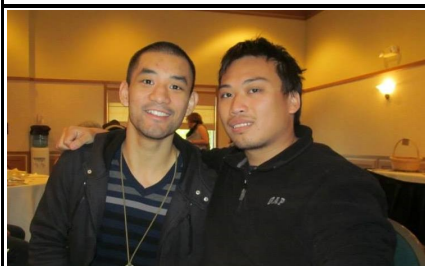
I'm a public services clerk at Deming Library (WCLS) and have worked here for 19 years. It seems like my second home! Some of my favorite things about working at Deming: Our community of staff and patrons alike for whom this library is a familiar & beloved space; working to create and maintain a Local History collection that includes our elder residents' personal stories; and, of course, books. Lots of books.



My favorite classic? Right now I'd say *Dandelion Wine* or *Tale of Two Cities* or *Poisonwood Bible* (my kind of classic!) Two faves (or my 2 "if you were trapped on a desert island" books:) Mary Oliver's *New and Selected Poems Volume One*, and *Good Omens* by Terry Pratchett & Neil Gaiman.

Chelan was my first WALE conference, and I'm so grateful for the scholarship which enabled me to attend! I enjoyed the lively & informative Storytime session (as a library employee AND a grandma!) and I took copious notes during the session "Illuminating the News" about getting those languishing archived collections into the light of day. And I especially liked Gene Ambaum's thought-provoking keynote speech; I brought back several salient points to keep things stirred up at WCLS whenever we discuss the future of libraries!

I highly recommend others take the opportunity to attend a WALE conference; it's the chance to learn specific things from others' experience, and to discover topics you may not have known would interest you. The conference is an extended, full and exciting time to share ideas and stories, food and laughter, information and wisdom with impassioned library advocates from around the state. What's not to love?



Thank you Di and Warren for stepping up to be the 2015 WALE Conference Co-Chairs!



The 2015 WALE Conference planning committee still needs volunteers. Contact [Warren](#) or [Di](#) for more information.

### Benefits of your WLA/WALE Membership:

- Legislative Advocacy
- Interest Group membership (1 free when you join WLA)
- WLA/WALE website and resources
- ALKI—WLA's journal with current & enduring issues & articles
- WLA & WALE Conferences for continuing education & networking (with special member registration rates)

### UPCOMING EVENTS & CONFERENCES:

- January 30, 2015  
**Library Legislative Day**
- Jan. 30-Feb. 3, 2015  
**ALA Midwinter Meeting**  
Chicago, IL
- April 15-17, 2015  
**WLA Conference**  
Tulalip Resort & Conference Center,  
Tulalip, WA
- June 25-30, 2015  
**ALA Conference**  
San Francisco, CA
- October 26-28, 2015  
**WALE Conference**  
Chelan, WA

## WALE Officers

### CHAIR:

Joe Olayvar  
Washington State Library

### VICE CHAIR:

Lisa Vos  
Libraries of Stevens County

### SECRETARY:

Carol Ellison  
Everett Public Library

### COMMUNICATIONS:

Beth Bermani  
Mount Vernon City Library

### WEB SITE:

Mary Wise  
James E. Brooks Library,  
Central Wash. University

## 2015 WALE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

### CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRS:

Warren Chin  
Di Zhang

### SPEAKERS & PROGRAMS:

Brian Hulse

### LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS:

Chi Saeteurn &  
Christy Karwoski

### PRIZES & PACKETS:

Open

### FACILITIES:

Jeffrey Weis

### VOLUNTEER

### COORDINATORS:

Danielle Marcy  
Grace Vanzandt &  
Beth Bermani

### PRINTING & SUPPLIES:

Darren Ng

### HISTORIANS:

Sophia Tsang &  
Joe Olayvar

# Meet WALE Conference Scholarship Recipient Brian Hulse



Brian has been a Public Service Assistant – Reference & Adult Programming with the Whatcom County Library System for just over a year; however, he has many years of experience in both academic and public libraries. Brian loves directing people to information they are seeking and empowering them to effectively search on their own and make informed decisions.

Heinlein's *Stranger in a Strange Land* is Brian's favorite classic book because of how it deals with the issues of religion, including a strong critique of religion as we know it. Brian says it presents socially progressive ideas about sex and relationships and relies upon a fundamentally humanist, individualist philosophy. A current favorite book is *White Girls* by Hilton Als. This book weaves together analyses of literature, art, and music with insights on race, gender, and history.

This was Brian's first WALE conference, and he is excited to say that it will not be his last, as he is serving on the 2015 conference planning committee.

Two things that stood out about the conference for Brian:

- Attending the preconference session, Illuminating the News, with Shawn Schollmeyer and Judy Pitchford from the Washington State Library. "This session helped tremendously with how I conduct genealogical research for image indexing for various projects in my system, one being the Nooksack Valley Heritage project."
- The keynote given by Rebecca Miller, the Editorial Director of Library Journals. "Her speech was so empowering that after leaving the keynote dinner I was energized to return to my system with many new ideas I'd gotten from her, like this one: 'You are the face of the library. You are the community connection!'"

Brian would recommend the WALE Conference to others because of the opportunity to network, reflect upon your own professional development, share resources with others from many different library types across the state, and attend some fantastic learning opportunities.

