

Memorial Resolution Honoring Dr. George P. D'Elia

Whereas, Dr. George P. D'Elia dedicated his life's work to the advancement of library services through research and the education of librarians and library and information studies faculty;

Whereas, Dr. George P. D'Elia earned his AB in history, his MLS, and his PhD in LIS at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey and his MS in statistics from Syracuse University;

Whereas, Dr. George P. D'Elia began his academic career in the School of Information Studies at Syracuse University, then moved to the Library School at the University of Minnesota, where he served as director from 1982-1985, then taught in the Information and Decision Sciences Department of the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota until he moved to the School of Library and Information Studies at the University at Buffalo, State University of New York, as professor and director of CARLIS, the Center for Research in Library and Information Studies;

Whereas, Dr. George P. D'Elia made many contributions to library education, particularly by teaching courses in research methods, public libraries, and management, by mentoring numerous doctoral students and faculty colleagues, by conducting valuable research in the identification and understanding of the information needs of library users and the design of information systems and services to meet those needs, and by serving as director of the Library School at the University of Minnesota;

Whereas, Dr. George P. D'Elia was a true scholar and expert researcher having written over 80 papers and reports, including work that won the research paper competition of the Association for Library and Information Science Education in 1990, 1995, and 2001 and the research paper competition of the Library Research Round Table of the American Library Association in 1980, 1982, 1984, and most notably in 2003 with Joseph Woelfel and Corinne Jorgensen for the study of "The Impact of the Internet on Public Library Use" which won the Jesse H. Shera Award for Distinguished Published Research; and

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Whereas, Dr. George P. D'Elia promoted and advocated for libraries with research conducted for the U.S. Department of Education, the Council on Library Resources, the New York State Board of Regents' Commission on Library Services for the 21st Century, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services;

Whereas, Dr. George P. D'Elia was much loved and respected as a kind, thoughtful man of great integrity by his many students, particularly his doctoral students, his academic colleagues and co-workers, and his family and friends, now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the American Library Association (ALA):

- (1) honors Dr. George P. D'Elia for his lifetime of contribution to the library and information science profession, his significant work as a library educator and researcher, and his gentle mentoring of newer generations of LIS researchers to meet the standard of truly excellent research to which he held himself; and
- (2) sends copies of this resolution to Dr. D'Elia's beloved wife, Bette Holtzman, and the daughters he adored, Hannah and Elizabeth D'Elia.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association



Keith Michael Fiels

ALA Executive Director and Secretary of the ALA Council

Tuesday, January 11, 2011

In San Diego, California