Evolving Institutional Repository Landscape,” offers a look into the current state of and future prospects for institutional repositories (IR).

Researched and written by Judy Luther, president of Informed Strategies, the white paper provides an overview of IRs based on interviews with industry leaders supplemented by an open survey that gathered data from more than 150 North American universities. The work explores current usage patterns and practices, where IRs fit in an evolving scholarly and academic ecosystem, and realistic paths for future development.

“The Evolving Institutional Repository Landscape” is available at choice360.org/librarianship/whitepaper.

Barnes, Chen, Garcia, and McCauley Join Executive Board
Tamika Barnes, Diane R. Chen, Edward A. Garcia, and Maria Taesil Hudson McCauley have been elected to serve on the ALA Executive Board. The new board members were elected by the ALA Council in a vote taken at the 2018 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver.

Barnes, Garcia, and McCauley will each serve three-year terms beginning in July 2018 and concluding in June 2021. Chen was elected to complete the unexpired term of Loida Garcia-Febo, who was elected ALA president-elect in April 2017. Her term began immediately and will conclude at the close of the 2018 Annual Conference in New Orleans.

Ethiopian Library Wins IRRT Mission Enhancement Grant
The Axumite Heritage Foundation Library in Ethiopia is the first recipient of the ALA International Relations Round Table (IRRT) Mission Enhancement Grant.

The Axumite Heritage Foundation will receive a $1,000 grant to support a new Chromebook lab in the Foundation Library in Axum. In October 2017, 30 Chromeboks and a portable plug-and-play RACHEL server loaded with the entire Ethiopian secondary school curriculum, were sent to the Foundation Library. The server also includes content from a variety of other organizations, including Khan Academy, the African Storybook project, TED talks, and MedlinePlus Medical Encyclopedia.

Funds from the grant will support the purchase of an uninterrupted power supply and other supplies, and local meetings and translation services during the coming year.

Information about the grant is available at ala.org/rt/irrt-mission-enhancement-grant.

ASCLA Library Accessibility Toolkits Updated
The Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA) has updated 15 of its Library Accessibility Toolkits to better serve patrons.

The toolkits help library professionals understand the challenges and opportunities presented by issues of equitable access for library users who have cognitive, mental, or emotional illnesses; users with learning and/or developmental disabilities; users with sensory disabilities; users with service animals; users who need assistive technology; and users with physical disabilities. Each guide provides an overview, recommended hardware and software solutions, tips, and resources.

The toolkits are available at ascladirect.org/resources.

Treshani Perera Awarded First Lois Mai Chan Grant
The inaugural 2018 Lois Mai Chan Professional Development Grant has been awarded to Treshani Perera, a recent graduate of the School of Information Studies at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee.

The grant was established in 2017 by the Cataloging and Metadata Management Section (CaMMS) of the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS) to support travel to the ALA Annual Conference and Exhibition for librarians and paraprofessionals from traditionally underrepresented groups.

ALA members have an online forum where they can be heard: Virtual Membership Meetings (VMMs). VMMs are part of ALA’s ongoing efforts to reach out to members and get their input on strategic direction, budget priorities, and topics of interest. The 2018 Virtual Membership Meeting (VMM18) will take place May 17, from 1:30–2:30 p.m. Central time. It will be a fast-paced session to allow for member interaction. All ALA personal members may register and participate. Live captioning will be provided.

To allow members to share what’s happening at their libraries, VMM18 will incorporate images and video links submitted by members that show either a library’s community involvement and outreach or unique and interesting things that make the library a 21st-century facility.

Many members gather together to view the VMM. It is a chance to share the experience with colleagues from your community and across the world. For complete details, visit ala.org/membership/vmm.
who are new to the metadata field. The recipient will work with a member of the grant jury or the CaMMS Executive Committee to identify relevant programs and interest group sessions to attend; attend at least one CaMMS program, committee meeting, or interest group meeting; and record her conference experience for ALCTS News.

Perera has worked as an intern at the Southeastern Wisconsin Information Technology Exchange Library Consortium in Milwaukee, the Ward Irish Music Archives in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, and in several areas at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee Libraries.

**AASL Seeks Bloggers for Knowledge Quest**

AASL seeks bloggers for its Knowledge Quest website (knowledgequest.aasl.org). Applicants should demonstrate the ability to write a blog post of 500–700 words on a topic of interest to school library and education professionals on a monthly basis. The position is a minimum one-year commitment, and applicants must be a current, personal member of AASL to be considered.

Apply at knowledgequest.aasl.org/bloggers by May 23.

Applications will be reviewed by the Knowledge Quest editorial board, and notifications will be made in late June.

**K–8 Libraries Invited to Apply for 2018 Sara Jaffarian Award**

School libraries are invited to apply for the 2018 Sara Jaffarian School Library Program Award for Exemplary Humanities Programming, a $5,000 award recognizing outstanding humanities programming in kindergarten through 8th grade.

School libraries, public or private, that serve K–8 students are eligible. Nominated programs must have taken place during the current school year. Programs that are still in progress as of the award deadline are eligible, and libraries are encouraged to self-nominate. Eligible humanities programs may be focused in subject areas including social studies, drama, art, music, foreign language, and culture. Programs should focus on broadening perspectives and helping students understand the world and their place in it. They should be initiated and coordinated by the school librarian and exemplify the role of the library program.