

**DEVELOPMENTS IN POST MASTERS EDUCATION  
FOR PUBLIC LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION IN NORTH  
AMERICA;**

**WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
ADMINISTRATORS' CERTIFICATE PROGRAM AT THE  
PALMER SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE**

***The 6th World Conference on Continuing  
Professional Development and Workplace Learning  
for the Library and Information Professions***

*Oslo Norway, August 2005*

## Presenters:

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# BACKGROUND: THE PUSH FOR POST MASTERS EDUCATION

- 1996 - PLA & LAMA approve “in concept” the establishment of a “Certified Public Library Administrator” “program.
- 1998 - ALA Executive Board approves the proposal “in concept”.
- 2001 - ALA creates APA, the Allied Professional Association, in order to provide the capability to “certify” individuals.
- 2005 - ALA-APA approves Certification Guidelines.  
The first program to be launched will be the CPLA, Certified Public Library Administrator, program.

( [www.ala-apa.org](http://www.ala-apa.org) )

# Overview of the Certificate Program

The Public Library Director's Certificate Program consists of five courses, which carry graduate academic credit and culminate in a *Certificate in Public Library Administration*. The five course content areas are:

- Principles of Public Library Organization & Management
- Financial Management of Public Libraries
- Human Resource Administration in the Public Library
- Legal Issues & the Regulatory/Governance Environment of the Public Library
- Public Library Facilities, Automated Systems and Telecommunications

# LESSONS LEARNED

- TANGIBLE REWARD
- REALISTIC COST
- COMMITTED HOST