

2026 MHLS Committee Membership

System Services Advisory Committee

Columbia

- Matthew Pavloff - 2027
- Thea Schoep - 2029

Dutchess

- Tobi Farley - 2029
- Kristen Salierno - 2027

Greene

- Catherine Benson - 2027
- Christopher Leary - 2029

Putnam

- Michele Capozzella - 2027
- Stephanie Harrison - 2029

Ulster

- Darren Lansperry - 2027
- Margie Menard - 2029

Resource Sharing Advisory Committee

Columbia

- Hanna Bachrach - 2029
- Shea Wert - 2027

Dutchess

- Tom Lawrence - 2027
- Courtney Tsahalís - 2029

Greene

- Barbara Flach - 2027
- Jaki Elmo-Emel – 2029

Putnam

- Donna Perolli – 2027
- Johanna Reinhardt - 2029

Ulster

- Gabrielle Esposito – 2027
- Gisi Vella- 2029

Central Library / Collection Development Advisory Committee

Columbia

- Emily Chameides - 2029
- Rain Whittaker - 2027

Dutchess

- Alex Geller - 2029
- Daniela Pulice - 2027

Greene

- Jaki Elmo-Emel- 2027
- Corinne Tatavitto - 2029

Putnam

- Amina Chaudhri - 2027
- Dede Farabaugh - 2029

Ulster

- Ivy Gocker - 2029
- Jesse Chance - 2027

Ad Hoc OverDrive Committee

Columbia

- Tammy Gaskell
- Michelle Hoffman

Dutchess

- Carol Fortier
- Daniella Pulice

Greene

- Catherine Benson
- Christopher Leary

Putnam

- Stephanie Harrison
- Donna Perolli

Ulster

- Katie Scott-Childress
- Liz Potter

2026 Chairs of County Directors Groups

Columbia: Emily Chameides

Dutchess: Carol Bancroft

Greene: Catherine Benson

Putnam: Dede Farabaugh

Ulster: Katie Scott-Childress

“ARTICLE IV: COMMITTEES

Section 1. Advisory Committees: The Directors Association shall have three permanent advisory committees: System Services (SSAC), Resource Sharing, and Central Library and Collection Development. These committees shall develop recommendations for Directors Association consideration and action based on charges approved by the Directors Association, as modified from time-to-time.

Section 2. Composition and Officers: Each advisory committee will be composed of two members from each county, as chosen by each county’s directors association. A non-voting staff representative from MHLS will be assigned to each advisory committee by MHLS. Unless stated elsewhere in these by-laws, each committee shall select a Chair and Secretary from among its voting members with each office being held by directors from different counties.

Section 3. Terms: Terms for the three permanent advisory committees are four (4) years, staggered.

Section 4. System Services Advisory Committee: The Committee has more specific Directors Association management functions so its responsibilities are detailed here.

- A. **Charge:** The System Services Advisory Committee (SSAC) shall be responsible for conducting the affairs of and planning programs for the Directors Association between meetings of the membership and for chairing and recording the business proceedings of regular and special meetings.
- B. **MHLS Board of Trustees Liaison:** There shall be an SSAC representative at each meeting of the MHLS Board of Trustees. The representative will have the responsibility of providing a report of activities and concerns of the Directors Association, along with Directors Association meeting minutes, to the Board of Trustees and to provide a report back to the Directors Association of the activities and concerns of the Trustees.
- C. **Officers:** Committee officers and their duties are as follows:
 - a. **Terms of Office:** No Committee member shall hold any one office for more than two (2) full terms consecutively.
 - b. **Chair:** The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Directors Association. The Chair will have the agenda sent to member libraries at least one week prior to meeting of the Association.
 - c. **First Vice---Chair:** The First Vice---Chair shall preside at the meetings of the SSAC and shall have all the responsibilities and perform all the duties of the Chair in case of absence of the Chair.
 - d. **Second Vice---Chair:** The Second Vice---Chair shall have all the responsibilities and perform all the duties of the Chair in case of absence of the First Vice---Chair, or take minutes in the absence of the Secretary.
 - e. **Secretary:** The Secretary shall have charge of the records of the Directors Association and shall record and disseminate the minutes of all meetings of the Directors Association. The Secretary shall have the minutes sent to member libraries at least one week prior to meeting of the Association.
 - f. **Assistant Secretary:** The Assistant Secretary shall have charge of the records of the SSAC and shall record and disseminate the minutes of all meetings of the SSAC. The Assistant Secretary shall have the minutes sent to the members of the SSAC at least one week prior to the meeting of the Committee.
- D. **Election:** Annually prior to the Directors Association’s first meeting of the calendar year, the members of the SSAC shall choose officers.”