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In This Issue

LISA LINDELL, a catalog librarian at Hilton M. Briggs Library at South Dakota State University, describes the pathbreaking work done by five women librarians who supervised the building and maintaining of libraries in the state institutions overseen by the Iowa Board of Control. The librarians brought to their work a set of shared convictions: books were essential, and everyone deserved access; books were powerful, and their use required careful guidance. As Lindell shows, however, as they carried out their mission, the librarians adapted their perspectives and practices to address the specific needs of each institution and its residents.

SZABOLCS LÁSZLÓ, a Ph.D. candidate at Indiana University, shows how the International Writing Program at the University of Iowa, under the guidance of Paul Engle and Hualing Nieh, implemented the ideals of U.S. cultural diplomacy during the Cold War.

Front Cover

During World War I, recuperating soldiers read in the Fort Des Moines hospital library, headed by Grace Shellenberger, one of the librarians profiled in Lisa Lindell's article in this issue. Photo courtesy of the American Library Association Archives.

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