

For almost 4 decades Malavika Muralidharan has worked in an ever-changing library environment, in state, public, academic and scientific libraries in leadership roles. At the State Library since 2001 she has worked on many state wide projects, like the OneBookAZ, Planning for Results - Strategic Planning for Libraries, State-wide Access to databases; as well as national projects, like WebJunction, a professional development portal for library staff.

As the Administrator of the State Library of Arizona, Mala helped focus on programs and services geared towards civic-engagement and serving the community-needs in the areas of business, entrepreneurship, law and intellectual property - convening meetings and arranging for talks and collaborations with stakeholders and partner institutions. Mala, played a major role in writing grants like the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation grants and Broadband Technology Opportunities Project grants for public libraries in Arizona for setting up Job Help Hubs and getting libraries more Public Access Computers and to help bridge the Digital Divide.

As the State Coordinator for E-rate, Mala increased participation in the program and assisted Arizona public libraries in receiving over \$25 million in reimbursements for their telecom and internet usage during the last 17 years.

As a member of the National E-rate Task Force, Mala has been instrumental in assisting the American Library Association in guiding the Federal Communication Commission's rule making for this complex Telecom and Broadband funding. She continues to play a key role in getting funding to establish Arizona's Broadband Network for AZ Public Libraries. Mala's interest lies in work related to bridging the digital divide and in encouraging digital inclusion.

Professional Associations:

- ALA's E-rate Task Force Member – since 2009, current Chair of the Task Force;
- Member AzLA (Arizona Library Association) – since 2002;
- Associate Board Member – ATIC – 10 years;
- Digital Arizona Council – on three of the Task Forces;
- Greater Arizona e-learning Association – Board of Directors since 2013.

Before joining the State Library of Arizona, Mala worked for 23 years in Libraries in India, touring several countries training library staff and setting up best practices. Mala played a significant role in establishing the first Library Automation System in India in 1986.

Mala has a Bachelors in Chemistry with a minor in Biology From the University of Bombay (Now Mumbai) and a Masters in Library and Information Science from the SNDT, Women's University and a 2nd MA in Library and Information Science from the Dominican University, Chicago.