Executive Board Conference Call Notes 
September 22, 2015

Present for the call: President Sari Feldman; President-elect Julie Todaro; Immediate Past President Courtney Young; Treasurer Mario Gonzalez; Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels; Sr. Associate Executive Director Mary Ghikas. Board Members: Loida Garcia-Febo, Peter Hepburn, Sara Kelly Johns, Mike Marlin, James Neal, and Gina Persichini; Director of the Office of ALA Governance JoAnne Kempf; and Executive Board Secretariat Kerri Price. Board Members Robert Banks and Julius C. Jefferson, Jr. were absent.

I. NOMINATION OF AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL LIBRARIANS (AASL) REPRESENTATIVE TO UNITED STATES BOARD ON BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE (USBBY)
AASL Executive Director Sylvia Norton presented the nomination of AASL/ALA member Susan Horton Polos for appointment to the USBBY Board of Directors as one of ALA’s two designated Board positions within the organization. The Executive Board approved the nomination.

II. AASL 2021 SITE RECOMMENDATION - SALT LAKE CITY, UT
Sylvia Norton presented the site recommendation of Salt Lake City, UT, for the 2021 AASL Conference. Salt Lake City meets all geographic, size, and accommodations criteria and is the most cost-effective proposal received. Due to conflicts with other conferences, the Board requested and AASL agreed to move the conference dates from September 29 - October 3, 2021, to October 17-24, 2021. The Executive Board approved the site selection.

III. BUDGET UPDATE – FIRST CLOSE
Mario Gonzalez and ALA Chief Financial Officer Mark Leon reported on the first close of the FY 2015 budget. The General Fund is $232,199 excess revenue over expenses. Some items still need to be entered, but the overall outlook is positive. The second close occurs this week, and the final close will occur prior to the Board’s Fall Meeting in October.

IV. LIBRARIES TRANSFORM CAMPAIGN
Sari Feldman and Keith Michael Fiels discussed plans for the public launch of ALA’s new public awareness campaign, Libraries Transform. An email announcement was recently sent to ALA membership. The purpose of the new campaign is to increase public awareness of the ways that libraries of all types transform people’s lives and our communities; shift perception of the library from “obsolete” or “nice to have” to essential; and energize library professionals and external advocates to influence local, state and national decision-makers and increase support for libraries of all types. On October 29, 2015, in Washington, DC, and across the nation, street teams, pop-up coffee shops, graphics, banners, designing tools, and a social media push will bring attention to and spark conversations about all types of libraries. Austin Community College, where Julie Todaro serves as Dean of Library Services, plans to feature Libraries Transform banners and graphics in conjunction with the unveiling of a new technology commons.

V. 2015 IFLA WORLD LIBRARY AND INFORMATION CONGRESS
Sari Feldman, Keith Michael Fiels, Courtney Young, Mario Gonzalez, and Loida Garcia-Febo noted the following highlights of the recent International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) World Library and Information Congress in Cape Town, South Africa (August 15-21, 2015):
• Due to IFLA’s advocacy efforts, the United Nations included language on literacy and access to information in its 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. While the inclusion of these items will have a major positive effect on developing nations, the challenge for developed nations, including the United States, is to incorporate these goals into public policy, agendas, and legislation. On September 29, 2015, and in conjunction with the United Nations & 2030 Agenda Summit, IREX (an international nonprofit organization providing thought leadership and innovative programs to promote positive lasting change globally), IFLA, and the New York Public Library will host “Connecting the Next 4 Billion: How can the post-2015 agenda make information work for everyone?” The purpose of this event is to discuss why inclusive access to information and technology is imperative to meet the new development agenda, and how community spaces like libraries are already implementing this vision.

• The right to be forgotten is a concept recently put into practice through European Union laws. It aims to delete potentially damaging information about individuals. The IFLA Board had been considering the implications of the laws; it is in conflict with First Amendment rights in the United States. After discussion with United States representatives, the IFLA Board discussed issuing a white paper on the topic.

VI. University of Missouri Accreditation Withdrawal Appeal
Mary Ghikas outlined the Board’s role in the accreditation appeal process. On June 28, 2015, the Committee on Accreditation (COA) informed the University of Missouri that it had voted to withdraw accreditation from the program leading to the degree of Master of Arts in Library Science, and the University has appealed the decision. In compliance with the ALA Appeal Process, the ALA President, with approval from the Executive Board, appointed an Appeal Review Committee (ARC) that will meet on September 24-25, 2015, to make one of two recommendations: 1) to uphold the COA decision, or 2) to remand the decision back to the COA with comment. Once the ARC submits its report, the Board has 14 days to review and respond to the report and make one of two determinations: 1) to uphold the COA’s decision, or 2) to remand the decision back to the COA with comment.

VII. Accreditation Task Forces
Mary Ghikas provided an update on the two accreditation task forces that were created as a result of a year-long dialogue between the Executive Board Accreditation Subcommittee and the Association for Library & Information Science Education (ALISE) and approved by the Executive Board at the 2015 Annual Conference. Past president Barbara Stripling will chair the Task Force on Accreditation Process and Communication, and Board member Peter Hepburn will chair the Task Force on Context of Future Accreditation. The membership of both task forces includes representatives from ALISE and the Canadian Library Association, as well as relevant ALA and Council committees, and ALA divisions. Both task forces will provide an update to the Executive Board at the 2016 Midwinter Meeting, and will submit their final reports at 2016 Annual Conference. The two task force rosters were presented to the Executive Board for approval. A motion was made by Sara Kelly Johns to approve the rosters and seconded by Courtney Young. The Executive Board approved the rosters.
VIII. **Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion**
Keith Michael Fiels and Julie Todaro reported on recent communication with the Task Force, which includes regular conference calls between Board representatives and the Task Force co-chairs.

- The Task Force voted to support the following events at the upcoming 2016 Midwinter Meeting: (1) Sari Feldman’s President’s Program, featuring United States Senator Cory Booker, and (2) a half-day Deep Dive Workshop focusing on diversity and inclusion.
- At the 2016 Annual Conference in Orlando, the Task Force is looking into giving away arm bands to promote diversity and inclusion.
- The Task Force will assess a list of approximately 30 projects and will determine which ALA groups to refer the projects to, once the Task Force disbands, following the 2016 Annual Conference.
- The Task Force is determining how to cull data from two surveys on diversity and inclusion, conducted during the past year.

IX. **ALA Staffing Update**
Mary Ghikas and Keith Michael Fiels gave an update on recent staffing changes at ALA.

- Jody Grey begins on November 2 as the Director of the Office for Diversity, Literacy and Outreach Services. The Office also plans to hire a half-time person to provide administrative support to the Spectrum Scholarship Program.
- The search committee for the Director of the Office for Intellectual Freedom will conduct phone interviews in the coming days for the first cut candidates. The final face-to-face interviews will be held in late November, with the hope of hiring a director prior to the 2016 Midwinter Meeting.
- The search committee for the Director of the Public Awareness Office also hopes to make a decision prior to the 2016 Midwinter Meeting.
- ALA continues the search for the Development Office Director, though a decision will probably not be made before the Midwinter Meeting.
- ALA hopes to hire a publisher of ALA Editions by January 1, 2016.

X. **2015 Fall Executive Board Meeting**
Courtney Young gave an update on plans for the Board Effectiveness Session at the 2015 Fall Executive Board Meeting. James Neal and Gina Persichini also serve on the planning team. The session will feature an in-depth discussion of effective board membership and will feature ALA Parliamentarian Eli Mina. An agenda will be sent to the Board in the coming weeks.

Keith Michael Fiels noted that the Executive Committee will approve the 2016 Fall Executive Board Meeting agenda on its October 6 conference call.

XI. **Executive Director’s Annual Evaluation**
Courtney Young is organizing the annual Executive Director evaluation that will take place during the 2015 Fall Executive Board meeting. Calls for comment have been sent to Board members and responses are due by September 28. Keith Michael Fiels will submit his self-assessment to Courtney on October 5.
XII. **ITTS External Review**
Keith Michael Fiels gave an update on the upcoming ITTS External Review. The plan evolved out of discussions held at the 2015 Spring Executive Board meeting and security issues ALA encountered over the spring and summer. ITTS recently conducted an in-depth security review, but the external review will provide a high-level look at the current technology environment and ALA’s place within that environment. The review will begin in October, with the aim that a progress report will be available at Midwinter, and a final review available in February. The report will help shape ALA’s FY 2017 plans and budget, and 2018 budget planning.