Your Guide to the 2013 Elections
Voting is one of the most important things you can do as a member of the American Library Association. This is because the officers you elect will make a real difference:

The President of the Association will serve as the public voice of the Association, of libraries of all types and all across the nation, and of American libraries around the world. The president represents us as members and the library users we serve, doing hundreds of media interviews and speaking with dozens of groups each year.

The Treasurer helps chart the financial future of the Association, and makes sure that our dues dollars get the maximum “bang for the buck”. They work closely with member advisory groups and staff to guide the Association through financial ups and financial downs, and help support our work for libraries and the public by sustaining a strong Association.

The 186 Councilors are responsible for setting the broad policies that shape our Association’s public positions and direction. Whether we’re talking about intellectual freedom, the privatization of libraries or e-books, Councilors weigh all of the factors and make sure that the
Association takes stands that are important to libraries and to the public we serve.

All of these elected officers represent you and your interests. The good news—You get to pick them!

This year we are also asking members to vote on a proposed personal member dues adjustment that would link the dues to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the next five years.

So your vote is very, very important.

This Online Election “Booklet” is designed to provide:

- Some insights about the Presidency, Treasurer, and Council.
- Some Council “myth busters” and some examples of Council’s recent resolutions relating to libraries.
- Easy-to-find information about the candidates.
- Information about the proposed dues adjustment.
- Voting instructions and timeline.

Reviewing candidate information and voting does take some time, but we hope that you will join the members who understand that their vote really does shape the future.

So get out and vote!

Keith Michael Fiels
Executive Director
American Library Association
The ALA President

The individual elected to the position of ALA President serves three years on the ALA Executive Board: one year as President-elect, one year as President, and one year as Immediate Past President.

The role of the ALA President is to be the Association’s chief spokesperson and to work closely with the ALA’s Executive Director in identifying and promoting library issues nationwide and internationally. The ALA President is recognized as the Association’s leader by its members. He/she is also vital to the governance of the Association and serves as presiding officer at Executive Board, Council, and Membership meetings.

The ALA President is also a member, ex officio with vote, of the Board of Trustees of the Freedom to Read Foundation. They also serve as the President of the ALA-Allied Professional Association (ALA-APA).

Throughout this three-year term, the individual promotes ALA’s programs, priorities, and key messages through attendance at various state, national, and international library association meetings, as well as with the media. They lead the Association in planning for the future and work closely with members to ensure that their ideas and concerns help drive the overall direction of the Association.

Based on the experience of successful past ALA presidents, this position is equal to at least a half-time job.

During the year as President-elect, this individual serves as spokesperson for the Association in the absence of the president or when asked to do so. They also represent the Association at meetings, conferences, receptions, legislative hearings, and other events.

Presidential Initiatives

The President develops presidential initiatives in keeping with the prevailing ALA messages and Strategic Plan. Here are some recent presidential accomplishments:

2012–2013 President Maureen Sullivan continues the work begun by Immediate Past President Molly Raphael in the area of community engagement. Working with a grant from IMLS, Sullivan’s initiative “Promise of Libraries Transforming Communities” teams ALA with the Harvard Institute for Public Innovation to develop a multi-phased, iterative initiative that will provide the tools, techniques, skills, and training that libraries and librarians need to play a stronger role in their community.

Sullivan is also working with the Harvard Graduate School of Education to conduct a three-day symposium (March 21–23, 2013) called Library Leadership in the Digital Age to help administrators and managers in li-

Finally, Sullivan and various ALA staff are working to create the ALA Leadership Institute. This will be a unique four-day immersive leadership development program for future library leaders. The inaugural Leadership Institute will take place in Chicago August 12–15, 2013. [http://www.ala.org/transforminglibraries/ala-leadership-institute](http://www.ala.org/transforminglibraries/ala-leadership-institute)

2011–2012 President Molly Raphael’s initiatives centered on “Empowering Voices.” One component of these initiatives centered on “Empowering Diverse Voices.” In addition to the various activities that took place at the 2012 Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference, two Leadership Series webinars were presented and recorded for ongoing access: Library Leadership 2.0: The Intersection of Diversity and Leadership. [https://alapublishing.webex.com/alapublishing/lsr.php?AT=pb&SP=EC&rID=5238417&rKey=f53bfc4593e5cc42](https://alapublishing.webex.com/alapublishing/lsr.php?AT=pb&SP=EC&rID=5238417&rKey=f53bfc4593e5cc42)

And Perspectives on Leadership featuring five library leaders: [https://alapublishing.webex.com/alapublishing/lsr.php?AT=pb&SP=EC&rID=5359622&rKey=db27f4f969fd02b5](https://alapublishing.webex.com/alapublishing/lsr.php?AT=pb&SP=EC&rID=5359622&rKey=db27f4f969fd02b5).

The second component of Raphael’s initiative centered on “Empowering Voices, Transforming Communities” and focused on engaging on our communities to advocate for libraries and their value, based on factors that matter to communities and their leaders. A series of three webinars was created, each focused on engaging communities and the evolving role of libraries and strengthening the librarian’s voice to help shape community perception. [http://www.ala.org/advocacy/advleg/empoweringvoices](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/advleg/empoweringvoices)

2010–2011 President Roberta Stevens’ Frontline Fundraising initiative was designed to provide tools that can be used by everyone, regardless of the size or type of library, who need to supplement the budget from their jurisdiction or institution with additional support. With this goal in mind, an online toolkit was developed that covers the basics of annual funds, memorials and tributes, online giving and planned giving. It also teaches users how to deepen relationships with donors and move donors from being one-time givers to long-term library supporters. Check out the toolkit at [http://www.ala.org/advocacy/advleg/frontlinefundraising](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/advleg/frontlinefundraising).

2009–2010 President Camila Alire’s initiative “Libraries: The Heart of All Communities,” focused in part on Frontline Advocacy to get frontline librarians and other library staff engaged and empowered to articulate the value of their respective libraries. Advocacy Toolkits were created for each type of library: Academic, Public, School, and Special. An on-line tutorial for frontline library employees was developed and resides on ALA’s Advocacy University Website ([http://www.ala.org/advocacy/advleg/advocacyuniversity/frontline_advocacy](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/advleg/advocacyuniversity/frontline_advocacy)).
**This Year’s Candidates**

This year’s candidates for ALA President-elect are Barbara Froling Immroth and Courtney Louise Young.

Barbara Froling Immroth is professor at the University of Texas at Austin School of Information. She has been an ALA member since 1971. She was the president (1989–90) of the Association for Library Service to Children and was also on its board of directors (1982–90).

Her activities have also included serving as Councilor-at-large (1983–87, 1992–96, 2000–04); on the Intellectual Freedom Committee (1978–82) and the Committee on Appointments (1989–90).

She chaired the Committee on Research and Statistics (1991–95), the Nominating Committee (1997–98) and the American Libraries Editorial Advisory Board (2003–04), and was a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of Children & Libraries (2006–2010).

In addition, she served the Freedom to Read Foundation as a trustee (1991–95) and as vice-president and the Library Research Round Table on its Steering Committee (1986–89) and its chair (1987–88).

Immroth was president of the Texas Library Association (1997–98), which also bestowed upon her its lifetime achievement award in 2009.

Her honors include the American Library Association/Office for Intellectual Freedom and Freedom to Read Foundation Roll of Honor and the ALA Phi Beta Mu Award (2007).

She has co-authored several publications, such as “Health Information for Youth: The Public Library and School Library Media Center Role” (2007, Libraries Unlimited) and “Library Service to Youth of Hispanic Heritage” (2000, McFarland).

“I am humbled and honored to be nominated for leadership in the American Library Association, the largest, oldest library association in the world,” said Immroth.

“ALA promotes and protects values that are important in our rapidly changing world—equitable access, community engagement, diversity, intellectual freedom, international influence, and literacy. Advocating for libraries, physical and virtual that are central for communities and individuals as described in the current Strategic Plan, ALA speaks with a collective voice as a guide for the future. I am excited about working collectively to empower all of our members to change and thrive.”

Immroth holds an A.B. in Spanish from Brown University (1964); an M.A. in Librarianship from the University of Denver (1965); a school library certification from Duquesne University (1975); and a Ph.D. in Library and Information Science from the University of Pittsburgh (1980).

Courtney Louise Young, head librarian at the Penn State Greater Allegheny, has been an ALA member since 2002.

“Since joining ALA in 2002, I have been an active and contributing member of the association. I have committed myself to ALA and its members, developing a progressive understanding of our divisions, round tables, committees, and affiliates,” Young said. “ALA’s membership is a diverse group of librarians, library workers, library-related vendors, and library school students interested in maintain the values of the profession while at the same time moving the association forward.

“I would be honored to lead the association as ALA President by sustaining the initiatives we have in place, engaging all facets of our membership, and demonstrating the value of membership and of librarianship.”

Her activities have included serving as a member of the ALA Executive Board (2009–2012) and ALA Councilor-at-large (2008–11, 2012–15), as well as the Awards Committee (2012–14), the Finance and Audit Committee (2012–14) and the ALA-APA Fundraising Committee (2012–2013). She has also been a member of the ALA Resolutions Committee (2008–09) and the ALA Task Force on Electronic Member Participation (2007–09).

She has served as New Members Round Table (NMRT) president (2009–10), councilor (2005–08), Diversity Committee chair (2003–04) and Student Chapter of the Year Award chair (2004–05).

For ACRL, she was a member of the WSS Instruction Committee, Women’s Studies Section (2003–05); the AFAS Conference Program Planning Committee (2003–05, 2006–08); and the Scholarship Committee at the 2009 ACRL National Conference (2008–09).

She was a member of the Michigan Library Association Electronic Publishing Committee (1999–2002) and the chair of that committee (2001-02).

Her honors include a Certificate of Distinguished Service, ALA Executive Board (2012); Library Journal Mover & Shaker (2011); Plaque of Appreciation from the NMRT (2010); and a Staff Achievement Award, Libraries, Michigan State University (2002).


She received a B.A. in English from The College of Wooster (1996) and an MLS from Simmons College (1997).

Visit Young’s website at www.courtneyyoung.org.

Video of the Presidential and Treasurer Candidates’ Forum at the 2013 ALA Midwinter Meeting can be viewed at: http://www.youtube.com/ embed/1U23nHelnzI?list=UUPYD2rmKEiWxJ6DaKAtZn-w%20ALA%20Council.
The ALA Treasurer

The individual elected to the position of ALA Treasurer will serve three years on the ALA Executive Board (2013–2016). The role of the ALA Treasurer is to:

- Recommend ALA financial policy to the Executive Board
- Approve elements of financial plans
- Suggest measures to build financial resources
- Review annual budget performance and recommend budget changes to the Executive Board
- Review the audit process and monitors the audit findings and recommendations
- Provide the Executive Board with interpretation of financial data needed for decisions
- Recommend to Council the approval of the annual estimate of income
- Provide input and raise questions on the preliminary Annual Budget presented by the Budget Analysis and Review Committee
- Assist in the selection of financial goals
- Provide guidance in program planning and budget analysis.
- Create and provide financial reports to members and committees, etc. on ALA’s financial status
- Monitor the Operating Agreement for Council
- Advise units on fiscal matters
- Recommend financial planning for the Association
- Serve as a member of the ALA Endowment Trustees

Recent Activities of the ALA Treasurer

The past three years have seen some exciting developments for ALA in the financial arena. During his term as ALA Treasurer, Jim Neal has

- Worked with the ALA Board to establish a technology reserve fund to invest in major hardware and software purchases;
- Enabled a new endowment payout policy that produced increased and regular revenue for the work of the Association;
- Established a new multi-year process for determining the indirect cost rate to produce improved budget planning;
- Established a program of new business development to produce new products for new markets, with a focus on international and online continuing education.
- Maintained regular communication with members on the state of ALA finances through reports and articles in American Libraries.

This Year’s Candidates

This year’s candidates for ALA Treasurer are Clara Nalli Bohrer and Mario M. Gonzalez.
Clara Bohrer, director of the West Bloomfield Township Public Library in West Bloomfield, Mich., has been a member of ALA since 1978. She has been a member (2009–11) and chair (2011–13) of the ALA Budget Analysis and Review Committee and a member of ALA’s Finance and Audit Committee (2011–13). She has served as a member of ALA’s Sullivan Award Jury (2009–10), its Public Awareness Committee (2005–08), its Nominating Committee (2001–02) and its Grolier Award Jury (2000–01).

“I am honored to stand for election as Treasurer,” Bohrer said. “Our association continues to face difficult economic times and challenges. As Treasurer, I would work across the association to strengthen and maximize our financial resources to support ALA’s strategic priorities and initiatives.”


In 2009, she received the ALA Sullivan Award for Public Library Administrators Supporting Services to Children.

Bohrer was president of the Michigan Library Association (1987–88) and served as a trustee of the Oakland County Library Board (2011–16).

As director of the West Bloomfield Township Public Library (WBTPL), an independent entity with taxing authority, Bohrer led a successful $10.8 million dollar capital campaign referendum to renovate and expand library facilities. During her tenure she has also successfully sought voter approval for increased operating funds. In 2010, the WBTPL was a recipient of the National Medal For Museum and Library Services from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

Bohrer holds a BA (1973) and MA (1984) from the University of Michigan and an MLS from Wayne State University (1976).


An ALA member since 1985, Mario Gonzalez has served on the ALA Executive Board (2006-09), chair (2010-11) and member (2006-12) of the Budget Analysis and Review Committee (BARC), a member of the Finance & Audit Committee (2010-11) and has been a councilor-at-large since 1996.

Among his many responsibilities in ALA, he has been involved with the Planning and Budget Assembly (1997–99, 2006–12), the President’s Steering Committee (2009–11), the ALA President’s Task Force on Elections (2008–11), the ALA Campaign for America’s Libraries (2009–present), the ALA International Relations Committee (2004–06), the ALA Nominating Com-
mittee (2003-04), the ALA Committee on Committees (2002–03), the ALA Chapter Relations Committee (2001–03) and the ALA Literacy Assembly (1998–99).

“I am truly honored to be nominated as a candidate for the office of treasurer,” Gonzalez said. “I look forward to continuing to work hard for you by focusing our finances on member-driven priorities and to further strengthen our financial future.”

Gonzalez has been on the Public Library Association Board of Directors (2004–07) and the PLA’s Leadership Committee (2007–present) and its Nominating Committee (2006). In addition, he has been on the Executive Board of RUSA (1992–95) and the Board of ASCLA (2000–03). He served as president of EMIERT Executive Board.

He has also been involved and held offices in affiliates, state and regional associations including the New Jersey Library Association, New York Library Association, the Chinese-American Library Association, the Black Caucus of the American Library Association, the Asian Pacific Library Association and REFORMA, for which he served on the executive board 1990–1997 and as president in 1991–92. He also helped found REFORMA’s Puerto Rico Chapter.

He worked with two Boards of Trustees on monitoring and appropriating funds from the $37 million Peterson Foundation, one of the largest public library foundations in the country. As a current member of the Orangeburg (N.Y.) Public Library Board of Trustees, Mr. Gonzalez has been elected to serves as Treasurer for the past 7 years.

Gonzalez has also served as the Treasurer for the Passaic Club of Rotary International and is currently the President.

His honors include: two Librarians of the Year Awards for Outstanding Service to the Spanish Speaking in the Nation as well as the Northeastern U.S., Outstanding Service for Treasurer from REFORMA Northeast and the Eleanor Roosevelt Community Service Award for Service to the Homeless.

Gonzalez received a BA in Spanish & Psychology from the City College of New York. He holds an MLIS from the Graduate School of Library & Information Science at the Pratt Institute. He also completed the Executive Education Program at Harvard Business School.


Video of the Presidential and Treasurer Candidates’ Forum at the 2013 ALA Midwinter Meeting can be viewed at: http://www.youtube.com/embed/1U23nHelnzI?list=UUPYD2rmKEiWxJ6DaKAtZn-w.
ALA Council

What is Council?

The Council is the governing body of ALA. It delegates to the divisions of the Association authority to plan and carry out programs and activities with policy established by Council. Council determines all policies of the Association and its decisions are binding unless set aside by a majority vote in which one-fourth of the members of the Association have voted.

Council Composition

Council is comprised of 100 councilors-at-large who are elected by the Association membership as provided in Bylaw Article III, Sec. 1(c) and Bylaw Article IV, Sec. 2(e). The slate of councilor-at-large candidates is determined by the ALA Nominating Committee.

Each division of the Association is entitled to one councilor to be elected by members of the divisions as provided in Bylaw Article IV, Sec. 2(c).

Each state and territorial chapter is entitled to one councilor to be elected by members of the chapter as provided by Bylaw Article IV, Sec. 2(b). Chapter representation is through state chapters unless chapters in a region choose to take representation through that regional chapter. In such case, the regional chapter shall elect one representative from each state or provincial chapter within that regional association. There is no current regional chapter representation.

Round tables with personal membership equal to or greater than one percent of ALA’s total personal membership shall be entitled to elect one councilor each, and the remaining round tables jointly shall be entitled to one councilor to be elected for a term of three years by the members of the respective round tables. The membership of the round tables, for purposes of this section, shall be fixed as of August 31st of each year. A councilor elected under this Article shall continue to serve without prejudice to any change that might occur in the size of the membership of their round table as provided in Bylaw Article IV, Sec. 2(d).

Councilors serve three-year terms and may run for subsequent terms by filing a petition which must be signed by at least 25 ALA members in good standing. Petition candidates are placed on the ballot along with candidates selected by the Nominating Committee.
Council Responsibilities

The Council meets four times at both the ALA Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference. At these meetings, Council may perform any or all of the following duties (this is a partial list):

- Review actions of the ALA Executive Board;
- Receive reports from the ALA President, Executive Director, Treasurer, the Freedom to Read Foundation, the Endowment Trustees, and the Policy Monitoring Committee;
- Originate and act on all proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws before these are submitted to the membership for vote;
- Establish dues for chapter, organization and corporate ALA members upon recommendation of the Executive Board;
- Establish or discontinue divisions or round tables;
- Determine all Association policies;
- Authorize changes, additions, and deletions in the ALA Policy Manual upon recommendation of the Policy Monitoring Committee.

Council “Mythbusters”

**Myth:** Once you’re on Council, you’re on for life, so what’s the point of voting if the same people keep getting re-elected?

Actually, based on an unofficial census, approximately 26.9% of councilors have served more than four (4) years; and only 6.6% of all councilors between 1992 and the present have served more than nine (9) years. In fact, of the 33 councilors whose terms expire in 2013, only 17 are running for re-election.

**Myth:** You have to be an ALA member for many many years before you can be elected to Council.

In the past three elections, the average length of ALA membership of those elected to Council was 16 years, with the shortest being one year of membership and the longest being 40 years.

**Myth:** Councilors get a “free-ride” to Midwinter and Annual Conference.

Not true! ALA does not pay for councilors to attend conferences; in fact, many councilors receive no financial support from their home institutions and have to pay out-of-pocket to attend conferences and serve on the ALA Council.

**Myth:** Council does not address topics that are pertinent to libraries or the profession.

While it is true that the ALA Council occasionally discusses such matters as the war in Iraq or the crisis in Kenya, most Council actions relate directly to library issues. Following is a partial list of actions taken by ALA Council in recent years.

In 2010 Council took the following action:

- Resolution on Universal Access to Broadband, which read:

  “That the American Library Association (ALA) urges federal, state and local governments to recognize that universal access to broadband is essential to support the basic right of unfettered access to information in order for the public to participate in the digital world and the global information economy; and asks that federal,
state and local governments, as well as the public, supports libraries as essential providers of broadband access for communities across America.”

- Resolution on Rebuilding Libraries and Archives Damaged or Destroyed by the Earthquake in Haiti, as amended to read:

“That the American Library Association expresses its deepest sympathy to the National Library and Archives and the library community in Haiti; works in coordination with other U.S. Associations, IFLA and its members, and UNESCO on the international response to this disaster; publicizes and provides information to the international library community and the public on the importance of rebuilding damaged libraries and their collections; publicizes and provides information on how and where the library community and the public can contribute to these rebuilding efforts; urges the U.S. Government and Non Government Organizations (NGOs) to provide funding for the reconstruction and rebuilding of libraries and other cultural institutions in Haiti; acts as a conduit for the receipt of funds to assist in the rebuilding of libraries in Haiti; and urges libraries to provide up-to-date information about social and communication services available in the communities for the Haitian diaspora and links to donation and other relief services.”

- A Resolution to Ensure Equitable Access to Library Services for All People Regardless of Immigration Status, which read: “The American Library Association (ALA):
  1. Calls on Congress to quickly enact comprehensive immigration reform legislation. Such reform should result in ensuring equitable access to library services for all people regardless of their immigration status.
  2. Strongly encourages other library organizations to proactively engage their legislators at every level; local, state and federal, about the importance of equal and ready access to library services for all people regardless of their immigration status.

- Resolution Concerning the Proposed Closing of the School of Library and Information Science at Louisiana State University, which read: “That the American Library Association (ALA):
  1. Strongly opposes the elimination of the School of Library and Information Science at Louisiana State University.
  2. Urges the Louisiana State University Board of Supervisors and the Louisiana Board of Regents to continue to support the School of Library and Information Science at Louisiana State University.”

In 2011, Council passed:

- Prisoners’ Right to Read: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights.

The American Library Association asserts a compelling public interest in the preservation of intellectual freedom for individuals of any age held in jails, prisons, detention facilities, juvenile facilities, immigration facilities, prison work camps and segregated units within any facility. Those who cherish their full freedom and rights should work to guarantee that the right to intellectual freedom is extended to all incarcerated individuals.
Resolution to Continue Opposition to the Use of Section 215 of the USA PATRIOT Act and the Use of National Security Letters to Violate Reader Privacy, which read: “That the American Library Association (ALA):

- Continues to support reforms that protect reader privacy and civil liberties, especially the freedom to read without fear of government surveillance.
- Continues to oppose the use of Section 215 of the USA PATRIOT Act and the use of National Security Letters to violate reader privacy.
- Supports the passage of legislation which includes such reforms as heightened protections for library and bookseller records; judicial review of FISA orders, NSLs and their associated gag orders; and the sunset of the USA PATRIOT Act’s NSL authorities, as proposed in S. 1125, the USA PATRIOT Act Improvements Bill.
- Expresses its thanks and appreciation to the members of Congress who work to protect reader privacy.”

In 2012 ALA Council voted on:

- A resolution Opposing Restriction to Materials and Open Inquiry in Arizona Ethnic and Cultural Studies Programs,

  The American Library Association (ALA):

- Condemns the suppression of open inquiry and free expression caused by closure of ethnic and cultural studies programs on the basis of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.
- Condemns the restriction of access to educational materials associated with ethnic and cultural studies programs.
- Urges the Arizona legislature to pass HB 2654, “An Act Repealing Sections 15-111 and 15-112, Arizona Revised Statutes; Relating to School Curriculum.”

- A resolution on Publishers and Practices Which Discriminate Against Library Users,

  The American Library Association (ALA):

- Opposes any discriminatory policies of publishers and distributors which adversely impact access to content by library users.
- Directs that the Working Group on Digital Content in Libraries to review the situation and recommend appropriate action and/or appropriate parties who should be informed of this resolution.

- A Resolution that School Libraries and Librarians are Critical to Educational Success, as amended to read: “That the American Library Association (ALA): (1) directs the ALA Presidential Task Force on School Librarians to lead the Association in its continued mission to address the urgent need for advocacy for school libraries and school librarians; and to address the impact of the de-profes-
sionalization and curtailment of school library instructional programs on students and student achievement, continuing to engage librarians of all types from across the association to advocate for school libraries, which are imperative to the survival and success of all libraries; (2) encourages state associations and affiliates to influence legislation requiring adequate funding and appropriate staffing of school libraries in schools at all levels; (3) places a high priority on seeing that upcoming ESEA legislation recognizes and specifically supports the necessity for effective school library programs and credentialed school librarians; (4) works to encourage federal lobbying efforts to include school libraries in legislation and regulations, including areas such as digital literacy and broadband; and (5) actively seeks partnerships with national organizations to reach mutual goals of sustaining school libraries.”

And at the 2013 Midwinter Meeting, Council passed:

- A Resolution Supporting the Application of the First Sale Doctrine of the Copyright Law to All Materials in Library Collections,

The American Library Association (ALA) reaffirm the essential role of the first sale doctrine in ensuring that the education, research, and library communities continue to support the constitutional purpose of the copyright law by promoting the advancement and sharing of knowledge, innovation, and creativity, wherever made; and, two, urge the United States Congress to pass legislation to remedy any judicial decision that limits libraries’ ability to lend copies of foreign-made works under the first sale doctrine.

The 2013 Council Ballot

This year, 76 candidates are running to fill 33 vacant Councilor-at-Large seats. You may view candidate biographies at http://tinyurl.com/councillist.

To view the biographies in a searchable Excel spreadsheet format, go here: http://www.ala.org/aboutala/governance/alaelection.
Proposed Membership Dues Adjustment

On January 29 at its meeting in Seattle during the 2013 Midwinter Meeting, the ALA Council approved a dues adjustment proposal and directed that it be placed on the spring ALA ballot for membership approval.

If approved by the membership, a five-year dues adjustment mechanism would be established, directing the Executive Board to review personal member dues annually every September from 2013 to 2017 in consideration of a dues adjustment not to exceed the percentage change in the national average Consumer Price Index (CPI). Any increase proposed above the CPI would be subject to a mail vote of personal members, and any subsequent dues adjustment after 2017 would require approval by the ALA Executive Board, Council, and a mail vote of ALA personal members.

The actual resolution passed by Council reads:

Beginning in September 2013 and continuing annually through September 2017, personal member dues will be reviewed by the ALA Executive Board, which may approve a dues adjustment not to exceed the percentage change in the national average Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the previous calendar year, rounded to the nearest dollar. Any increase beyond the above provision proposed by the Executive Board will require approval by a vote of Council and a mail vote of ALA personal members.

This provision shall be formally evaluated by the Executive Board and Council in 2016 with input from ALA personal members. Any subsequent dues adjustment will require approval by a vote of the ALA Executive Board, Council and a mail vote of ALA personal members.

This dues adjustment mechanism will allow ALA to augment valuable work on its many ALA 2015 strategic initiatives including library advocacy, federal legislation, intellectual freedom, diversity, digital content, community engagement, online continuing education, and member engagement.

With an average CPI increase of 2.5% a year, this would translate into $1–$4 per year based on membership type. These small increases spread over thousands of member will provide ALA with consistent financial resources to continue work on the goals in the ALA strategic plan in an ongoing, sustainable manner.

A question and answer document about the dues proposal is available on the ALA Member blog: http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/ala-members-blog/ala-council-approves-dues-adjustment-proposal.
How Do I Vote?

To be eligible to vote, individuals must be members in good standing as of January 31, 2013. In mid-February, members received notification by email confirming their eligibility to vote.

In 2008, the American Library Association began holding its election exclusively online. The only exception is for members with disabilities and without Internet access. These individuals may obtain a paper ballot by contacting ALA customer service at 1-800-545-2433, ext. 5. Those without Internet access at home or at work can easily access the election site by visiting their local public (or in many instances, academic or school) libraries. The ballot can also be accessed on your Smartphone.

The polls will open at 9:00 a.m. CDT on Tuesday, March 19. Voters will be notified by email and will be provided with a unique passcode and information about how to vote.

The polls close on Friday, April 26 at 11:59 p.m. CDT. On May 3, the Election Committee will meet at the ALA offices to certify the election. Election results will be released following that meeting.
Interested in Running for Office?

The ALA Nominating Committee nominates candidates from among the general membership for the position of president-elect (annually), for the position of treasurer (every three years), and for members-at-large of Council (annually). ALA elections are held in the spring of each year with the results announced in early May.

About the Nominations Process

The 2014 Nominating Committee began its work of selecting potential candidates for the 2014 ALA elections for President-elect and Councilor-at-Large at the 2013 Midwinter Meeting. The members of the Nominating Committee for the 2014 ALA Election are:

- Stephen Matthews, Librarian, Foxcroft School Currier Library, Middleburg, VA, (540) 687-4422, e-mail: smatthews@foxcroft.org
- Nick Buron, Director, Community Library Services, Queens Library, Jamaica, NY, (718) 990-8545, e-mail: nickburon.ala@gmail.com
- John DeSantis, Cataloging & Metadata Services Librarian, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, (603) 646-0413, e-mail: john.c.desantis@dartmouth.edu
- Nancy Everhart, Associate Professor, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL, (850) 644-8122, e-mail: everhart@fsu.edu
- Adriene Lim, Dean, University Libraries, Oakland University, Rochester, MI, (248) 370-2486, e-mail: ailim@oakland.edu
- Andrew Pace, Executive Director, Networked Library Services, OCLC, Dublin, OH, (614) 764-6435, e-mail: pacea@oclc.org
- Eva Poole, Chief of Staff, District of Columbia Public Library, Washington, DC, (202) 727-4909, e-mail: eva.poole@dc.gov
- Karen Schneider, Director, Cushing Library, Holy Names University, Oakland, CA, (510) 436-1160, e-mail: schneider@hnu.edu
- Kendall Wiggin, State Librarian, Connecticut State Library, Hartford, CT, (860) 757-6510, e-mail: kendall.wiggin@ct.gov

You may contact any of the committee members if you are interested in being considered for candidacy in the 2014 election.
Petition Candidates

Individuals wishing to appear on the 2014 ballot as a petition candidate for the office of ALA President-Elect, ALA Treasurer, or ALA Councilor-at-Large must complete a petition form with the signatures of no fewer than 25 ALA current personal members. Petitions may be created online by going to: https://idp.ala.org/idp/Authn/UserPassword.

All candidates, whether nominated or running by petition, must complete a Candidate Biographical Information form. The information provided on this form provides the basis for the ballot.

Further Information

For further information about running for office, general election information, and links to press releases and various forms, please go to: http://www.ala.org/aboutala/governance/alaelection.