American Library Association
Committee Information Update

Please note: ALA and Council committees are required to submit an update of their activities within one-month after each Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference. This form will be sent to the ALA Council and the ALA Committee on Organization.

Report for Midwinter 2011

Name of Committee: Committee on Education

Committee Chair: Ismail Abdullahi

Committee Members Present: Sharon Coatney, Lynn Silipigni Connaway, Karen E. Downing, Vicki M. Emery, Elizabeth L. Marcoux, Judi Repman, Ione Tara Damasco (Intern), Cal Shepard (LEARNRT), Susan Roman (ALISE), Ismail Abdullahi (chair) and Lorelle R. Swader (staff)

Committee Members Absent: Michael J. Miller, Andrea Tomlinson and Patricia Bradshaw McColeman

Others Present:

Accomplishments [at this meeting], a concise account:

The Friday, January 7, 2011. 4:00 pm – 5:15 pm COE – ALISE Discussion Group Program “LIS Faculty and Practitioners Surviving and Thriving Together” was well attended. About 56 participants from ALA and ALISE attended the meeting. ALISE President Dr. Lorna Petersen opened the program. The participants were divided into break-out-session and were pre-assigned five discussion topics in the following areas: (1) Role of adjunct faculty members; (2) Engaging alumni and employers in LIS education; (3) Ethics in library education; (4) The role of practitioners/employers in accreditation; and (5) Library school closing. Each table was assigned a facilitator and a reporter. At the same time, each table was asked to brainstorm ideas for increased engagement between library education and practitioners focusing on the topics assigned at each table. At the end of the discussion, each table reported back to the larger group. The participants were also asked to complete a session evaluation that included suggested topics. The following topics were suggested for the next-years program: Best practices, Student involvement in professional associations, Ethics for LIS
Educators, Curriculum, Engaging with students about life after graduation, connecting research with practice, and diversity.

At the COE meeting on Saturday, January 8, 2011 there was a discussion about identifying a topic for next years program for the discussion Group. The Chair provided some background information related to previous ALISE programs on Diversity and LIS Education 1992 workshop on Diversity and 2011 Presidential Program on Re-considering Diversity as well as ALISE 2011 Conference Keynote presentation on Changing population demography in the country and its effect on LIS education. He asked the committee to consider diversity in LIS education as a topic for next-years program of the Discussion Group based on these four key areas:

a. Multicultural Curriculum  
b. Recruitment and Mentoring of Minority Students  
c. Recruitment and Retention of Minority Faculty  
d. Administrative Support

The Committee decided to organize a two-part program and use the time allotted for the Education Assembly at Annual to co-host a kick-off event featuring a keynote speaker who could talk about Diversity in Higher Education. Also, the committee identified several key partners for the kick-off summit. They are: ALA Divisions, Office of Literacy and Outreach, Office of Diversity, and Office of International Relations (IRC)

Other comments/information you believe will help the Association in its work:

Submitted by: Ismail Abdullahi

Date Submitted: February 8, 2011

Please return the completed form to Delores Yates, Executive Board Secretariat, American Library Association, 50 E. Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611, dyates@ala.org.