Chapter Relations Committee  
Midwinter Meeting 2015 Report

Committee Charge:

To develop and recognize chapters as integral components of ALA. To encourage discussion, activities and programs that support the mutual interests of ALA and the chapters. To advise when requested on proposals and actions of other ALA units that may affect chapters. To provide a forum wherein chapters can share ideas and concerns of common interest and identify common needs and goals. To communicate these chapter needs and goals to ALA and ALA goals, programs and priorities to the chapters. To encourage and maintain a cooperative and supportive relationship among ALA, its units, and the chapters. To formulate and review periodically requirements for chapter status. To serve as an advisory committee to the Chapter Relations Office.

Committee Members:

Ann H. Hamilton, Chair; Carey D. Hartmann; Ben Allen Hunter; Alan A. Kornblau; Rodney E. Lippard; Donald L. Roalkvam; Kelly M. Robinson; Suzanne L. Sager; Eric C. Shoaf; Elaine E. Steinberg; Cathy Wolford; Melissa M. Brooks (Intern); Mr. Louis Munoz, Jr (Intern); James Neal (Executive Board Liaison); Michael Dowling (Staff Liaison); Don Wood (Staff Liaison)

Division Representatives to CRC:  Caroline Fuchs (ACRL), Regina Beach-Bertin (LITA), Dana Lucile Jemison (ALCTS), Carolyn Larson (RUSA), Felton Thomas, Jr. (PLA)

CRC Member Liaisons to Other Groups:  ALA Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion—Majed Khader; Freedom to Read Foundation—Alan A. Kornblau; Literacy Assembly—Ann Hamilton, CRC Chair; Education Assembly—Ben Allen Hunter; Legislation Assembly—Carey D. Hartmann; Recruitment Assembly—Rodney Lippard; Planning and Budget Assembly—Don Roalkvam; Advocacy Group—Ann Hamilton, CRC Chair

Chapter Relations Committee at Midwinter Meeting

Documents and reports related to this report are located in the Chapter Relations Committee ALA Connect community at http://connect.ala.org/node/233685.

Current

- The CRC held two meetings (Sat and Mon) in Chicago. Attendees (apprx. 30 each mtg.) included Chapter Presidents, Executive Directors, Chapter Councilors

- The CRC organized, with the Chapter Relations Office (CRO), another successful full-day Chapter Leaders Forum. The Forums, which have been held at each Midwinter and Annual for over twenty years help prepare incoming Chapter Leaders (President-elects, treasurers, Chapter Councilors, Ex. Directors, etc.) for their roles guiding their associations. Thirty-five participants from 27 Chapters attended. Topics covered included New Members- Recruitment and Engagement, Advocacy from the Other Side, Kitchen Table Conversation- ALA and Chapters, and Associations Online- Social Media, Management, and More.

- Michael Dowling discussed the next steps to take to prepare for the migration from Capwiz to Engage. The following groups have Engage sites now:
  - American Library Association
  - Arkansas Library Association
  - California Library Association
  - Florida Library Association
  - Iowa Library Association
  - Kentucky Library Association
  - Maryland Library Association
  - New Jersey Library Association
  - Ohio Library Council
These associations have shown immediate interest:

- Arizona Library Association
- Louisiana Library Association
- Massachusetts Library Association
- Michigan Library Association
- Nevada Library Association
- New York Library Association
- Tennessee Library Association
- Washington Library Association
- Wyoming Library Association

Michael Dowling discussed the “State of the Chapter Annual Report,” which began in 2012 on the Chapter Relations Committee’s recommendation that all Chapters complete the “State of the Chapter Annual Report.” These snapshots help Chapters and ALA assess the health and vitality of state and regional library associations. They also help highlight notable activities and achievements that can be modeled, and identify challenges and needs that may be addressed collectively.

- All the Chapters’ data obtained through the latest recorded surveys are posted online and can be downloaded.
- Chapter Councilors are tasked with responsibility for their Chapter’s completion and submission of the “State of the Chapter Annual Report.” Regional Chapter Presidents are asked to oversee the submission of their regional report.
- CRO will send the 2016 State of the Chapter Report to the Chapter Councilors after the 2015 Annual Conference. The deadline to complete the survey will be at the end of September.
- CRC members will be asked to review the survey and offer suggestions.

Michael Dowling discussed Money Smart Week @ Your Library, April 19-25, 2015. In 2014, over 700 public, academic, school, and even prison libraries in 48 states participated. Learn more about Money Smart Week at http://www.ala.org/offices/money-smart-week and @ALA_CRO #MoneySmartWeek.

Don Wood reported on the 2015 Student-to-Staff Program (http://tinyurl.com/k2d8tqg). Every year Chapter Relations Office with support from Conference Services coordinates the Student-to-Staff Program (S2S), which was established in 1973. S2S is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for 40 qualifying students engaged in ALA student chapters to attend an Annual Conference and enrich their studies. This year’s students will be working with 25 ALA units.

The CRC was told that there is now only one category of joint membership offered by ALA to the Chapters: Joint Student Membership. Neither the Joint Library Support Staff Membership nor the Joint Trustee Membership yielded a sustainable level of interest and were ended in May and June of this year, respectively. Twenty-eight Chapters (state library associations) allow students to join them and ALA for one low price of $38, from now through August 31, 2015. In FY2015, dues will be $38. It is anticipated dues will remain $38 in FY2016.

Ann Hamilton discussed the Strategic Plan focusing on Advocacy, Information policy, and Professional and Leadership Development. She encouraged members and audience to fill out the ALA Strategic Planning Forum Feedback Form (http://www.ala.org/aboutala/strategicform). On this online form, there is an opportunity to comment on Advocacy, Information Policy, and Professional and Leadership Development. One form per topic is to be submitted.

Emily Sheketoff presented a brief report on the lobbying efforts of the Washington Office. She thanked the Chapters for their advocacy. She reminded them that Legislative Day this year is May 4-5 (see http://www.ala.org/advocacy/advleg/nlld) and encouraged Chapters to organize delegations to Washington, DC; CRC encouraged Chapters to contribute financial support if possible.

Emerging Leaders Team F, the fourth emerging leaders team to work on Librarians Build Communities (LBC), established LBC as a Membership Initiative Group (MIG) last April. At this Midwinter Meeting, LBC MIG held a blood drive in the ALA exhibit hall. Thirty-two ALA members volunteered to give blood. See http://www.ala.org/groups/lbc.
Doug Evan, Ohio Library Council Executive Director, presented a report on proceedings of the International Council of Library Association Executives (ICLAE) committee meeting at Annual.

Sari Feldman, ALA President-elect, discussed her initiative for her presidential year, and encouraged input on the ALA Strategic Plan.

CRC liaisons made brief reports from the following groups: ALA Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion—Majed Khader; Freedom to Read Foundation—Alan A. Kornblau; Literacy Assembly—Ann Hamilton, CRC Chair; Education Assembly—Ben Allen Hunter; Legislation Assembly—Carey D. Hartmann; Recruitment Assembly—Rodney Lippard; Planning and Budget Assembly—Don Roalkvam; Advocacy Group—Ann Hamilton, CRC Chair. Most of their reports are available at http://connect.ala.org/node/233685.

Of particular note was the report from the ALA Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. Majed Khader said the task force is currently in the information-gathering phase and encouraged those present to complete this survey at https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/tfedi1web.

2015 Annual Conference in San Francisco

At this Midwinter, several Chapter leaders discussed their state association’s strategic plans. CRC will discuss the progress of those plans, as well as discuss the progress of the ALA Strategic Plan in light of Advocacy, Information Policy, and Professional and Leadership Development.