Resolution on Member Access to Electronic Lists of the American Library Association

Whereas, Association Policy 7.4.4 states that "All meetings of the American Library Association and its units are open to all members..." and

Whereas, Policy 7.4.4 was created to ensure transparency and to protect and guarantee opportunities for member participation in Association activities, and

Whereas, electronic lists are increasingly important to the work of the Association, and

Whereas, many of these lists are currently closed to most members, and

Whereas, the maintained closure of these lists is not in keeping with the spirit of Policy 7.4.4, and

Whereas, excluding members from reading electronic lists inhibits member participation, and

Whereas, read-only access to the Association's electronic Council list by non-Council members has been shown to allow member participation without negative impact upon the business of the Association,

Therefore, be it resolved that all electronic lists of the American Library Association shall henceforth be available for read-only access to all members of the Association. Closed lists may be established only for the discussion of matters affecting the privacy of individuals or institutions, and

Therefore, be it resolved that this resolution shall be implemented on ALA servers as soon as the ALA Executive Director deems it feasible.

Moved by: Melora Ranney Norman, Councilor At Large

Seconded by: Tom Wilding, Councilor At Large

Submitted 1/12/08
Version #5