2015 MIDWINTER MEETING

IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

TO ALA COUNCIL

AT THE

2015 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2015 ALA MIDWINTER MEETING COUNCIL ACTIONS

ALA Policy A.4.2.4 requires the Executive Board or its delegates to report to Council on the status of implementation of motions and resolutions passed by Council during the preceding year. The report shall be entered in the Council minutes.

Document Number/Title of Document: Revised Standards for Accreditation of Master’s Programs in Library and Information Studies, ALA CD#10_12315_Act.

Implementation Action: Council, VOTED, To adopt the revised Standards for Accreditation of Master’s Programs in Library and Information Studies, as outlined in ALA CD#10_12315_Act, Committee on Accreditation Report.


Document Number/Title of Document: Policy Monitoring Committee Report, ALA CD#17_Act, Item #1-3.

Implementation Action: Upon recommendation by the Policy Monitoring Committee, Council VOTED, To adopt the following three (3) action items contained in ALA CD#17_Act, Policy Monitoring Committee Report:

Item #1: Communication to ALA members by ALA Committees and Council Committees.

At the 2014 ALA Annual Conference, the ALA Council adopted a Resolution on Communication by ALA and Council Committees (2014-2015 ALA CD#27.1) to read: “Each chair of an ALA Committee or a Council Committee is responsible for submitting to the ALA Executive Director at least two times each year a substantive report on the committee’s work and accomplishments so that these reports can be made available to all interested ALA members. Such reports may address, but not be limited to, matters such as accomplishments, planned activities, issues that affect the committee’s work and their implications for the future, interactions with other units within ALA, relationship of the committee’s work to the ALA strategic plan, current level of committee members’ involvement (more substantive than an attendance roll), committee self-check on its value and viability (update charge, discontinue committee, consolidate with another, change structure, other observations).”

PMC moves that the above text be incorporated into the ALA Policy Manual as Policy A.5.5.4 Committee Reporting.
Item #2: Lifespan of Membership Initiative Groups.

At the 2014 ALA Annual Conference, the ALA Council adopted this revision to ALA Policy A.4.3.2: “Once established, a MIG may operate for three years at which point it may re-petition for another three- year term or may request another place within the ALA structure by following the procedures for establishing that type of group, or may request the ALA COO to disband it. The re-petitioning process can be renewed every three years. If the re-petition process is not carried out when due, the MIG will be disbanded.”

PMC moves that the revised text be incorporated into the ALA Policy Manual as Policy A.4.3.12 to read:

“A Membership Initiative Groups (MIG) is formed when a group of ALA members identifies a common concern or interest about librarianship which falls outside the delegated responsibility of a single division, roundtable, or unit, and wishes to establish a short-term, renewable mechanism to address this concern or interest. To establish a MIG, which must be approved by COO and reported to Council, a group must submit to the Committee on Organization a statement of purpose, at least one hundred signatures of ALA members in good standing, and the names and addresses of designated organizers. Once established, a MIG may operate for three years at which point it may re-petition for another three- year term or may request another place within the ALA structure by following the procedures for establishing that type of group, or may request the ALA COO to disband it. The re-petitioning process can be renewed every three years. If the re-petition process is not carried out when due, the MIG will be disbanded.”

Item #3: Copyright: Interpretation of the Code of Ethics.

At the 2014 ALA Annual Conference, the ALA Council adopted a new interpretation to the Code of Ethics regarding “The Copyright” as recommended in ALA CD#40.1.

The new interpretation to Code of Ethics will be represented in the ALA Policy Manual by means of an abstract, supplied by the originating committee, followed by a reference to the Policy Reference File, where the full text of the Interpretation will reside.
PMC MOVES INSERTION of the following as B.1.4:

B.1.4 Copyright

Librarians are sources of copyright information for their user communities. Librarians should acquire a solid understanding of the purpose of copyright law and knowledge of its details relevant to library activities. They should do so in order to develop the ability to critically analyze issues of fair use or other limits to the rights of copyright holders, as well as to gain the confidence to implement the law using good judgment. Librarians and library staff should be educated to recognize and observe copyright and its limits, to understand and act on their rights and those of their users, and to be ready to inform or properly refer users with questions pertaining to copyright. When the balance between rights holders and information users’ needs to be restored, librarians should engage with rights holders and legislators and advocate on behalf of their users and user rights. Adopted, 2014. (See “Policy Reference File”: Committee on Professional Ethics Report: 2013-2014 ALA CD#40.1_63014_act Response: The new/revised policies have been incorporated into the online ALA Policy Manual.

Response: COO will bring its response to Council’s referral at the 2015 Annual Conference.
Amend Article XII of the ALA Bylaws to state:

Robert's Rules of Order, [The Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure] in the latest edition, shall govern the Association in all cases to which it can be applied and in which it is not inconsistent with the Constitution, the Bylaws, or special rules of order of the Association. (ALA Constitution and Bylaws Committee Report, ALA CD#25_2115_act)

Response: The ALA membership ratified Council’s action during the 2015 ALA spring election. Robert’s Rules of Order is now ALA’s official parliamentary authority.

Response: No further action on this resolution is required at this time.
Implementation Action: Council ADOPTED, the following memorials: Diane P. Monnier, M-#1; Jean E. Lowrie, M-#2; Roger C. Greer, M-#3; Chris Olson, M-#4; Ruth V. Bell, M-#5; Ferol Ann Accola Foos, M-#6; Miriam Drake, M-#7; Lois Mai Chan, M-#8; Judith Hopkins, M-#9; Mary Woodley, M-#10; Julia Claire Blixrud, M-#11; Vivian Blache Cazayoux, M-#12; Ernest A. DiMattia, Jr., M-#13; John H. Hunter, M-#14; Donald J. Sager, M-#15; Leslie Feinberg, M-#16; and Paul Kay Sybrowsky, M-#17;

Also, ADOPTED, the following tributes: Nathan Scott, T-#1; The Ferguson Municipal Public Library, T-#2; Linda H. Lord, T-#3; Charles Wilt, T-#4; and Tom Wheeler, T-#5.

Response From Tom Wheeler: During the 2015 National Library Legislative Days, ALA president, Courtney L. Young and ALA E-rate Task Force chair, Kathi Peiffer, presented FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler with the Council resolution recognizing his leadership and dedication to increasing library broadband through the E-rate program. Chairman Wheeler hosted Young and Peiffer along with Gigi Sohn, counsel to the Chairman, for an informal meeting at the FCC during which time they discussed the library’s new roles in the digital age and their importance as a place where anyone can freely access online resources. Click -- here is a picture of Chairman Wheeler accepting the tribute.

Response: A press release was issued through ALA about the resolution (see http://www.ala.org/news/press-releases/2015/03/ala-urges-library-directors-support-trustee-membership-united-libraries). PLA ran information in their most recent issue of Public Libraries with portions of the resolution.

The United for Libraries Board of Directors and other United for Libraries volunteers have identified about 100 library directors and are making individual calls to each to urge the library directors to encourage and support ALA and United for Libraries personal membership for each of their Trustees. Based on the results and feedback from this, next steps will be determined.
**Document Number/Title of Document:** Resolution Recognizing and Supporting United Nations, Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on its 70th Anniversary, ALA CD#18.1_2215_Act.

**Implementation Action:** Council *ADOPTED*, ALA CD#18.1_2215_act, Resolution Recognizing and Supporting United Nations, Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on its 70th Anniversary, which read: “That the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. recognizes UNESCO’s 70 years of achievement, as well as encourages its members to join in support of anniversary activities; and 

2. continues to urge Congress to approve the national interest waiver so the United States can again pay its dues, and become a fully functioning member of UNESCO.”

**Response:** The resolution was sent to UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova and to the Congressional leadership in House and Senate; w/no response to date.

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**Document Number/Title of Document:** Council Tellers Report on the ALA Executive Board Election Results, ALA CD#11.2_2215_Inf.

**Implementation Action:** Council *ELECTED*, to three-year terms on the Executive Board: Loida Garcia-Febo; Julius C. Jefferson, Jr.; and Mike Marlin.

**Response:** The newly elected Board members will begin their terms at the close of the 2015 ALA Annual Conference. They will be seated at the Board’s fall meeting in Chicago, IL, October 23-25, 2015.

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**Document Number/Title of Document:** Resolution Denouncing Recent Assaults on the Freedom of Expression as Exemplified in the Attack on *Charlie Hebdo*, ALA CD#19.1_2215_Act.

**Implementation Action:** Council *ADOPTED*, Resolution Denouncing Recent Assaults on the Freedom of Expression as Exemplified in the Attack on *Charlie Hebdo*, ALA CD#19.1_2215_Act, which read: “That the American Library Association, on behalf of its members:

1. denounces these bloody assaults on fundamental human rights;

2. expresses its deepest condolences to all those associated with the publication *Charlie Hebdo* and to the French people;

3. affirms its solidarity with L’Association des Bibliothécaires de France
4. reaffirms in the strongest possible terms its unwavering commitment to the advocacy and defense of intellectual freedom including freedom of the press, freedom of speech and freedom of expression; and

5. directs Keith Michael Fiels, Executive Director of the American Library Association to communicate its support and resolve to Francois Hollande, President of the French Republic for the people of France and to our colleagues of L’Association des Bibliothécaires de France.”

Response: On April 27, 2015, ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels sent the following to Council:

“Attached (see below) is a letter from the Chief of Cabinet of the French Republic, in response to our Council resolution in support of intellectual freedom and expressing our sympathy for the Charlie Hebdo attacks.

Mr. Director General,

The President of the French Republic has received your correspondence and I thank you sincerely for expressing your support to our country following the tragic events mourned in France on 7, 8 and 9 of January last.

The Walk Republicaine of January 11, bringing together all those who wished, including many heads of state and government from around the world, reaffirmed our strong commitment to freedom, tolerance and pluralism defended by France throughout the world.

Confronted by barbarism and obscurantism, our determination is absolute.

Please accept, Mr. Director General, the assurances of my highest and distinguished consideration.”
Monsieur Keith-Michael FIELS
Directeur Général
American Library Association
50 EAST HURON STREET
CHICAGO
ILLINOIS 60611-2795
ÉTATS-UNIS

Paris, le 30 MARS 2015

Monsieur le Directeur général,

Le Président de la République française a bien reçu votre correspondance et m’a confié le soin de vous remercier sincèrement pour l’expression de votre soutien à notre pays à la suite des tragiques événements qui ont endeuillé la France les 7, 8 et 9 janvier derniers.

La Marche Républicaine du 11 janvier, rassemblant tous ceux qui le souhaitaient, dont de nombreux chefs d’État et de gouvernement du monde entier, a réaffirmé notre profond attachement aux valeurs de liberté, de tolérance et de pluralisme que défend la France partout dans le monde.

Confrontés à la barbarie et à l’obscurantisme, notre détermination est absolue.

Je vous prie d’agréer, Monsieur le Directeur général, l’assurance de ma considération distinguée.

Isabelle SIMA
Implementation Action: Council ADOPTED, Resolution on Preserving Public Access to Scientific and Technical Reports Available through the National Technical Information Service, ALA CD#20.1_2215_Act, which read: “That the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. urges the United States Congress to fund the provision of digital reports held by the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) to federal agencies and the public at no charge through NTIS, as well as the preservation of NTIS’ print and microform collections so they will remain available for sale to the public on a cost-recovery basis; and

2. urges the United States Congress to ensure that a national repository is selected, statutorily charged, and funded to preserve and provide public access to these important scientific and technical reports if NTIS-enabling legislation is eliminated.”

Dissemination: This resolution has been shared in multiple meetings with Congressional staff as we (Washington Office staff) seek to educate them on the importance of the NTIS collection and urge them to:

1. fund the provision of digital reports held by the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) to federal agencies and the public at no charge through NTIS, as well as the preservation of NTIS’ print and microform collections so they will remain available for sale to the public on a cost-recovery basis; and

2. ensure that a national repository is selected, statutorily charged, and funded to preserve and provide public access to these important scientific and technical reports if NTIS-enabling legislation is eliminated.

Response: We were thanked for the information and assured that they will keep our requests in mind moving forward.
Implementation Action: Council DEFEATED, Resolution on the Destruction of Libraries and Schools in Gaza in 2014, ALA CD#32_Revised_2315_Act, which read: “That the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. deplores the destruction and damage of cultural institutions, including schools and libraries, in Gaza during the recent conflict there;

2. again calls for the protection of libraries and cultural resources in Gaza, and urges the US Government to support the United States Committee of the Blue Shield in upholding the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict”; and

3. calls upon the government of the United States, as well as other governments, intergovernmental organizations, and nongovernmental organizations to provide material assistance for the reconstruction and restoration of these libraries and schools.”

Response: No further action on this resolution is required at this time.