Executive Board Conference Call Notes
December 15, 2015

Present for the call: President Sari Feldman; President-elect Julie Todaro; Immediate Past President Courtney Young; Treasurer Mario Gonzalez; Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels; Sr. Associate Executive Director Mary Ghikas. Board Members: Robert Banks, Peter Hepburn, Julius C. Jefferson, Jr., Sara Kelly Johns, Mike Marlin, and Gina Persichini; Director of the Office of ALA Governance JoAnne Kempf; Margot Conahan, Manager of Professional Development, Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL); and Executive Board Secretariat Kerri Price. Board Members Loida Garcia-Febo and James Neal were absent.

I. Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL) 2019 Conference Relocation
Margot Conahan presented the proposal to relocate the 2019 ACRL Conference from Minneapolis, MN, to Cleveland, OH. Minneapolis was selected to host the NCAA Final Four Tournament during the conference dates, resulting in a lost exhibit space and hotel rooms for ACRL. The Minneapolis Convention and Visitors Bureau offered various alternate dates that overlapped with religious holidays and other scenarios that were not in the best interest of the conference. Since reasonable accommodations could not be made for 2019, Minneapolis has offered $50,000 in compensation to re-book the conference in 2025 (next available Midwest rotation). The Executive Board voted to approve the relocation.

II. Government Documents Round Table (GODORT) Nominations for the Depository Library Council
On the recommendation of the GODORT, the ALA Executive Board voted to submit GODORT’s nominations for consideration for appointment to the Depository Library Council to the Public Printer of the U.S. Government Printing Office.

III. Midwinter Registration Update
Mary Ghikas provided registration numbers for the upcoming 2016 Midwinter Meeting. As of December 11, 2015, total registration is 7,149 (3,884 are paid registrations), compared to 6,548 for the 2015 Midwinter Meeting in Chicago. Exhibitor registration is lower this year, possibly due to many exhibitors opting to attend the 2016 Public Library Association (PLA) Conference in April, rather than the Midwinter Meeting. Winter weather concerns may also be an issue for members and exhibitors. Since many ALA members attend the Midwinter Meeting for content (rather than committee meetings), ALA is working to develop and advertise that content at an earlier date, making it easier for members to gain funding and/or permission to attend from their employers.

IV. I Love My Librarian Awards
Sari Feldman, Julie Todaro, Courtney Young, and Mario Gonzalez reported that the 2015 I Love My Librarian Awards, held on December 3, 2015, in New York City, was a moving and inspiring event. Ten librarians were selected from a pool of more than 1,300 nominations submitted by library patrons nationwide. Awarded for their exceptional public service to the community and ongoing commitment to transforming lives through education and lifelong learning, each librarian received a $5,000 cash award, a plaque, and a travel stipend to attend the awards ceremony and reception.
V. Review of Draft 2016 Executive Board Midwinter Meeting Agenda
Sari Feldman walked the Board through the 2016 Midwinter Meeting Agenda (January 8-12, 2016).

VI. ASCLA Accessibility Resolution
Keith Michael Fiels and Mike Marlin discussed the latest draft of the accessibility resolution that the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA) plans to bring to Council at the 2016 Midwinter Meeting. ALA will immediately implement many of the recommendations in the resolution, including setting up a practical method for addressing and resolving accessibility complaints and grievances during conferences and meetings, and appointing a representative from the Accessibility Assembly to the ALA Conference Committee.