Executive Board Conference Call Notes
February 16, 2016

Present for the call: President-elect Julie Todaro; Immediate Past President Courtney Young; Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels; Sr. Associate Executive Director Mary Ghikas. Board Members: John DeSantis, Loida Garcia-Febo, Peter Hepburn, Julius C. Jefferson, Jr., Sara Kelly Johns, Mike Marlin, James Neal, and Gina Persichini; Director of the Office of ALA Governance JoAnne Kempf; and Executive Board Secretariat Kerri Price. President Sari Feldman and Treasurer Mario Gonzalez were absent.

I. **Budget Update**
Keith Michael Fiels reported that the FY 2016 budget is on track. The Finance and Accounting department is preparing a detailed five-month analysis for the Board to review at its upcoming Spring Meeting.

II. **Annual Conference Update**
Mary Ghikas reported that current total registration for the upcoming 2016 Annual Conference is 4,000. Conference Services plans to send more advertising blasts announcing speakers and promoting the changes and enhancements made to the Orlando Convention Center area since the 2004 ALA Annual Conference.

III. **Accessibility Task Force**
Mary Ghikas and Mike Marlin gave an update on the newly created Accessibility Task Force, which focuses on accessibility of ALA conferences and meetings for people with disabilities. Mike Marlin and Christopher Corrigan, Digital Reference Librarian at the Library of Congress, will serve as co-chairs. The remaining 13 members possess expertise in the areas of accessibility, conference planning, and exhibits. The Task Force’s first conference call is scheduled for March 30.

IV. **Task Force on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion**
Julie Todaro reported that the Task Force prioritized a grid of recommendations gathered through listening sessions at conferences throughout the year. At the 2016 Annual Conference, it will recommend to the Board formation of a group to organize and track the implementation of the recommendations.

V. **Information Technology and Telecommunications Services (ITTS) External Review**
Keith Michael Fiels reported on the recently completed onsite visit as part of the external review of ALA’s information technology. External reviewers Brian Schottlaender, the Audrey Geisel University Librarian at the University of California, San Diego, and Margo Pecoulas, Director of Information Technology at the American Academy of Periodontology, spent two full days at ALA Headquarters in Chicago and conducted multiple interviews with staff. Conversations focused on business processes and issues related to the complexity of ALA’s structure. The reviewers will share a confidential draft report with the Board in late February, along with an executive summary for public consumption.

VI. **Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE) Proposal and Committee on Accreditation (COA) Appointments**
Mary Ghikas explained that a formal designation of a Dean/Director/Chair position on the COA roster, to be selected from a list of ALISE recommendations, was approved at the 2016
Midwinter Meeting. However, at its January 7 meeting, the ALISE Council of Deans and Directors discussed a proposal that recommends allocation of five COA members to deans, directors, and chairs. The Task Force on Accreditation Process and Communication, chaired by ALA Past President Barbara Stripling, will review this proposal and report its findings to the Board.

VII. **Kellogg Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation Initiative**
Keith Michael Fiels reported on the Kellogg Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation Initiative, which aims to help communities embrace racial healing and uproot conscious and unconscious beliefs in the hierarchy of human value. In December, Kellogg convened a meeting of approximately 100 individuals and representatives of organizations, including ALA, to co-design the initiative. Deborah Robertson, Director of the Public Programs Office, attended on ALA’s behalf.

VIII. **Staffing Update**
Keith Michael Fiels provided two staffing updates:
- An offer has been made to a candidate for Development Office Director. An announcement will be made after the background check is complete.
- Nine candidates for the reopened search for the Publisher of ALA Editions are scheduled for telephone interviews in the coming weeks. Face-to-face interviews with the final candidates will be held in April.

IX. **Letter on Wireless Radiation**
Mike Marlin discussed a letter sent to the Executive Board from the National Association for Children and Safe Technology about exposure to microwave radiation from wireless routers, devices, and equipment. Keith Michael Fiels will ask Karen Muller, Director of the ALA Library, to research the subject.

X. **Dirty Dozen List**
Keith Michael Fiels responded to concerns about ALA’s inclusion on the National Center on Sexual Exploitation’s “Dirty Dozen List.” ALA has been included on the list multiple times, because it advocates unfiltered access to public computers. James LaRue, Director of the Office for Intellectual Freedom, will provide background information on this topic for Board Members, in case members inquire about it.