

**MINUTES
ALA Executive Board Meeting
2015 ALA Annual Conference**

**June 26 – 30, 2015
San Francisco, CA**

American Library Association

Volume 25

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Executive Board Meeting 2015 ALA Annual Conference San Francisco, CA

The ALA Executive Board met in Nob Hill A-C of the Marriott Marquis in San Francisco, from June 26-30, 2015.

PRESENT: President Courtney Young; President-elect Sari Feldman; Treasurer Mario Gonzalez; Immediate Past President Barbara K. Stripling; Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels; Executive Board members: Robert Banks, Peter Hepburn, Alexia Hudson-Ward, Sara Kelly Johns, John A. Moorman, James G. Neal, and Gina Persichini.

The agenda (2014-2015 EBD #9.4.1) is attached as Exhibit 1.

Session One

The Board convened at 8:30AM on Friday, June 26, 2015, with President Courtney Young presiding and began the meeting with a moment of silence in honor of Board Member Gail Schlachter, who passed away on April 27, 2015.

Agenda Approval

By consent, the Executive Board approved the agenda for the 2015 ALA Annual Conference Executive Board Meeting (2014-2015 EBD #9.4.1, Exhibit 1). *Consent agenda*

Procedural/Consent Items

The Executive Board approved the following items:

By consent, accepted the following reports: President's Report (2014-2015 EBD #7.7, Exhibit 2); President-elect's Report (2014-2015 EBD #7.8, Exhibit 3); Executive Director's Report (2014-2015 EBD #12.31, Exhibit 4); Center for the Future of Libraries Report (2014-2015 EBD #12.36, Exhibit 5).

By consent, approved the 2015 ALA Executive Board Spring Meeting Minutes and Vote Tally (2014-2015 EBD #2.4 and EBD #1.6, Exhibits 6 and 7).

By consent, approved the Confirmation of Conference Call Vote, May 19, 2015, in which the partial refinancing of ALA's existing JPMorgan Chase Bank Loan was approved (2014-2015 EBD #1.7, Exhibit 8).

By consent, approved the Confirmation of Conference Call Vote, June 16, 2015, in which Louisville, Kentucky, was approved as the official location for the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) 2019 National Conference & Exhibition on the dates of November 11-17, 2019 (2014-2015 EBD #1.9, Exhibit 9).

A Board member requested that the Development Office Report (2014-2015 EBD #6.4.1, Exhibit 10) be transferred from the Consent Agenda to the Regular Agenda.

Development Office Report – EBD #6.4.1 (Exhibit 10)

Kim Olsen-Clark, Director, ALA Development Office, provided an update on activities that have occurred since submitting her written report.

- The Carnegie Corporation of New York approved ALA’s grant proposal to fund the 2015 I Love My Librarian Awards.
- The Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) Investor Education Foundation approved a grant proposal from the ALA Public Programs Office and the Office for Research and Statistics. The funds will be used to implement programs and services designed to increase patrons’ access to and understanding of financial information.
- The Center for the Future of Libraries and Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) continues to work with the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) on their grant application to the National Leadership Grants program, submitted in February 2015. The proposal seeks to develop clear and accessible recommendations for creating future-focused learning activities and spaces for youth in a variety of library settings, such as small- to mid-sized libraries and for those with varying capacities.

Executive Committee Report

President Courtney Young reported that the Executive Committee of the ALA Executive Board met on Thursday, June 25, 2015, during which the Committee discussed the ALA Strategic Plan, the Membership Meeting agenda, and issues related to accreditation and the Committee on Legislation.

Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) – INFO #2 (Exhibit 11)

Dan Cohen, DPLA Executive Director, gave a general overview of the DPLA and an update on Hydra-in-a-Box, the joint initiative of DPLA, Stanford University, and the DuraSpace organization, funded by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

The DPLA is a free online library, launched on April 18, 2013, that provides access to millions of books, photographs, maps, audiovisual materials, and more, from libraries, archives, and museums across the United States. It is defined by three main elements:

1. A portal that delivers students, teachers, researchers, and the public to resources.
2. A platform that enables new and transformative uses of digitized cultural heritage.
3. An advocate for a strong public option in the twenty-first century.

The DPLA operates with a small headquarters staff and a decentralized structure, consisting of 19 state-based or regional hubs. These hubs are made up of libraries (large, small, urban, rural), archives, and museums that work together to scan collections, add metadata, host digital content, and preserve that content. Communication within and among hubs occurs via virtual meetings and at DPLA’s annual convention, held in April. The DPLA headquarters in Boston links to the various collections from a central portal.

While there tends to be a focus on the DPLA website, most of the material use comes through DPLA’s application programming interface (API) and is accessed through various applications,

educational websites, and public exhibits. All the software used by DPLA is open source and software developers are able to choose specific content to highlight in various formats.

Because libraries, archives, and museums often do not have the staff to publicize their collections, the DPLA plans to focus on developing partnerships that will maximize collection use. Currently, DPLA has a partnership with the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), with plans to bring the DPLA digital content to as many teachers and students as possible. In addition, the Department of Education is using the DPLA's metadata in its Learning Registry, which helps distribute educational materials to state agencies.

A joint initiative between the DPLA, Stanford University, and the DuraSpace organization has been awarded a \$2 million National Leadership Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). Nicknamed Hydra-in-a-Box, the project aims to foster a new, national library network through a community-based repository system, enabling discovery, interoperability, and reuse of digital resources by people from this country and around the world.

Other recent DPLA Projects:

- DPLA learned on June 26, 2015, that it has been awarded a \$3.4 million grant from the Knight Foundation and the Sloan Foundation to open new Service Hubs that provide a way for all cultural heritage organizations across the country to connect through one national collection.
- The DPLA is focusing on filling the gaps in its collections, particularly with audiovisual materials, newspaper collections, and post-1923 ebooks.
- With funding from the Knight Foundation, the DPLA is working on simplifying the rights statements from various collections. Several draft international statements are being finalized and will help clarify restrictions to collection users.
- The DPLA is working to standardize the various metadata schemas used by different collections, allowing them to work together seamlessly.

Responding to a question about DPLA's prospects for born digital content, Cohen explained that some content, such as digital photographs from scientists and online newspapers, fit within DPLA's collection development policy, while other types of content, such as large scientific data sets and website material, are better served by partners like the Internet Archive.

Discussion turned to impact assessment strategy and Cohen noted that while the DPLA does track API usage, it is also working with its partners to discover meaningful ways to track specific collection usage.

Strategic Framework and Directions – EDB #12.32 (Exhibit 12)

Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels and Senior Associate Executive Director Mary Ghikas led a discussion on member comments regarding the Strategic Framework and Directions and the modifications made to the draft, based on those comments.

After soliciting comments on the draft Strategic Framework and Directions in April 2015, ALA received a small number of responses from ALA members. Most of the comments

received were related to the implementation plans and what they will mean for specific ALA units. However, two comments led to changes in the draft:

1. Under Professional and Leadership Development Goals, “as well as the world around them” was added to the statement, “Librarianship and library leadership reflect the communities they serve, as well as the world around them.”
2. Housing status was added in the Key Action Areas, under Equitable Access to Information and Library Services.

ALA is making good progress on the Advocacy implementation plan. ALA leaders met with the Library Champions on June 25 and gathered several ideas for working with the corporate community in delivering the national public awareness campaign that will be launched in October 2015. In addition, the Advocacy Coordinating Group is bringing together several groups from across the Association to build the campaign infrastructure and develop messaging.

Eight Kitchen Table Conversations are scheduled at this Annual Conference and will explore the ALA member experience. Topics will include joining and renewing, reducing email “chatter,” and making sure members get the information that matters most to them.

Executive Board Liaison Visits and Talking Points

Keith Michael Fiels led a discussion on the talking points for the Executive Board liaison visits that will take place during this conference.

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Global Libraries Initiative

Deborah Jacobs, Director of the Global Libraries Initiative discussed the Foundation’s plans for the Global Libraries Initiative.

In March 2014, Bill and Melinda Gates decided to wind down the Global Libraries Initiative (GLI) in a manner that will leave the field in a strong position. The wind-down plan will span three to five years and will focus on funding the following project areas: network and knowledge sharing, leadership capacity development, impact and advocacy, and research and innovation.

Over the past year, the GLI identified three lead legacy partners, one of which is the Public Library Association (PLA), to receive limited-life, project support grants as part of the wind down. PLA is currently working alongside the GLI and the other legacy partners to develop a framework for the legacy strategy and an operating model that outlines the process for ongoing interaction and engagement. The other two partners are the Technology & Social Change Group (TASCHA) at the University of Washington Information School and the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA). Funded by one of the project support grants, PLA recently launched *Project Outcome: Measuring the True Impact of Public Libraries*, which will help libraries enhance existing service data with outcome data.

The GLI will close on December 31, 2018, and will award its last grants mid-2018. GLI staff is working with ALA staff to complete a capacity assessment that ensures that ALA has the correct mechanisms in place to support the ongoing legacy work.

Keith Michael Fiels thanked the GLI for its support throughout the years, and for two very successful recently-funded projects: The Policy Revolution! initiative and the Libraries Transforming Communities initiative

Board Effectiveness

Immediate Past President Barbara Stripling commented on the Board's effectiveness during this meeting.

The Board adjourned at 10:45AM and moved into closed session. Following the closed session, it reconvened for the ALA-APA Board of Directors meeting.

Session Two

The Board convened at 1:30 PM on Monday, June 29, 2015, following a closed session, with President Courtney Young presiding.

PRESENT: President Courtney Young; President-elect Sari Feldman; Treasurer Mario Gonzalez; Immediate Past President Barbara K. Stripling; Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels; Executive Board members: Robert Banks, Peter Hepburn, Alexia Hudson-Ward, Sara Kelly Johns, John A. Moorman, James G. Neal, and Gina Persichini.

Report out of Executive Session

President Courtney Young reported on the June 29, 2015, executive session, in which the Board heard the legal update.

Endowment Trustees Report – EBD #13.4 (Exhibit 13)

Rodney Hersberger, Senior Trustee of the Endowment Trustees, reported on the most recent position of ALA's portfolio, its managers, and their performance.

- The endowment fund is at \$41,103,356, as of May 31, 2015. Potential market risks include the Federal Reserve's possible future interest rate increase, unstable geopolitical events in the Middle East and Ukraine, and the financial crisis in Greece.
- The Trustees revised its Investment Policy Statement to include a wider range of investments, including hedge funds.
- In September, the Trustees plan to interview three or four investments advisors. While the current advisor performs well, the Trustees feel it is important to test the marketplace and to go through the exercise of putting out a request for information.
- On July 12, 2015, the Trustees will attend a seminar in New York City with the Blackstone Group that will focus on private equity investments.

Budget Analysis and Review (BARC) Report – EBD #3.3 (Exhibit 14)

Patricia Wand, chair of the Budget Analysis and Review Committee, reported on the BARC meetings and the Planning and Budget Assembly (PBA) during the Annual Conference.

YTD 2015 Financial Results (May) - EBD #14.11 (Exhibit 15)

Total ALA Revenues were \$33.5 million compared to the budget of \$33.4 million for a positive variance of \$133,132. Most of the variance was in the Division results (+\$478,341) and Grants & Awards (+\$679,734). Total ALA Expenses were \$34.3 million compared to the budget of \$36.0 million for a positive variance of \$1.7 million. The result was excess expenses over revenues (Net Expenses) of (-\$761,101), which is better than the budgeted excess expenses over revenues of (-\$2.6 million).

The impact on the financial position of the Association resulted in Total Assets of \$81.9 million which is \$810,186 (-1.0%) lower than this time last year. The change is due primarily to lower cash (\$2.6 million) related to the prepayment of the long-term debt and a decrease in fixed assets (-\$886,416) due to the continued amortization of the ALA financial system. These results were offset by an increase in long-term investments (+\$2.5 million) and prepaid expenses (\$801,587).

Loan Refinancing

Finance staff explored options for renegotiating ALA's outstanding long-term debt for better terms and secured a 3% interest rate and a loan term to 2020. In order to lock in the 3% rate, a principle payment of \$2.2 million was made on May 21. This, along with the regularly scheduled payment of \$647,500, resulted in a new loan balance of \$6.0 million, due August 1, 2020. The combination of the new rate and a shorter term resulted in potential savings of approximately \$342,097. The new loan will result in interest savings for the publishing operation. In addition, staff was able to convince JP Morgan Chase to waive its prepayment penalty, resulting in a savings of \$105,233.

Publishing Update

Don Chatham, Associate Executive Director of Publishing, provided an update to BARC on recent activities of the Publishing Department.

The Neal Schuman (NS) operation is behind in its budgeted revenue by approximately 28%. This is partially due to 1) a two week shutdown of book order shipments related to the transition to a new fulfillment house and 2) of the 12 titles scheduled to be published during the year, four were moved to *Booklist*, four were published, and four are still in progress. As a result, revenue from NS is under budget while revenue from *Booklist* is over budget.

Resource Description and Access (RDA) is well positioned to be key to future library success as the product has been designed to be a new standard for the digital age that will enhance discovery and description of all resources.

The FY16 results are helped by the reduction in amortization expenses for RDA and NS of approximately \$290,000. As noted earlier there will be an additional benefit from the renegotiated loan resulting in a savings in interest expense estimated to be about \$40,000.

Discussion on the Role of BARC

BARC discussed its role and whether or not it is maximizing its efforts to carry out its charge. In particular, BARC examined the role of the liaison and agreed that there is a need to better define the role of a liaison, both with staff and member leaders.

Round Tables

BARC discussed accounting practices currently used to track expenses related to ALA round tables. Staff provided a brief overview of the history of round tables and how support for them has evolved. There are now 20 ALA round tables, and each fills a valued function, contributing in significant ways to the profession.

Financial Learning Series

BARC is planning a webinar entitled "Budget Planning for a Pre-conference or One-time Event." This module is expected to be ready to publish on the Treasurer's web page later this summer.

Planning and Budget Assembly (PBA) and Division Leaders/BARC Joint Meeting

BARC met on Sunday, June 28, 2015, with members of the PBA. The BARC chair provided basic financial highlights and answered questions raised regarding the BARC report to the

Membership Information Session on Saturday. The agenda focused on implementing the new Strategic Directions, particularly those around the “Libraries Transform” campaign which will be formally launched on Tuesday, June 30 by incoming ALA President Sari Feldman. Her presentation was followed by a lively discussion and exchange of ideas.

The Division Leaders/BARC Joint Meeting focused entirely on ALA’s investment in technology, and its progress and plans for the next two years.

Finance and Audit Committee (F&A) Report – EBD #4.25 (Exhibit 16)

Mario González, ALA Treasurer, reported on the F&A meeting, held June 29, 2015.

FY16 Preliminary Budget – EBD #14.12 and #14.13 (Exhibit 17 and 18)

The following changes were made to the FY16 Preliminary Budget, since the Executive Board’s review at its 2015 Spring Meeting:

- Inclusion in the General Fund for two standing committees (+\$19,630)
- Budget reductions by two Divisions (-\$18,000)
- Round Tables (+\$7,849)
- Grants and Awards related to the Public Awareness Campaign (+\$20,270)
- No change in the capital budget of \$1.7 million

The total FY16 ceiling is \$67,087,027, a decrease of the ceiling amount presented at the spring meeting of -\$15,725.

On the recommendation of Finance and Audit Committee and BARC, the Executive Board

Voted to:

- Approve the revised preliminary FY 2016 General Fund Budgetary Ceiling of \$29,363,944, including a \$1,951,257 net asset transfer to offset the Plant Fund operating expenses and up to a \$250,000 transfer from ALA investment earnings.
- Approve the revised FY 2016 Divisions Budgetary Ceiling of \$30,159,433.
- Approve the FY 2016 Round Tables Budgetary Ceiling of \$2,028,170.
- Approve the revised \$79,944 transfer from the Division Fund to offset the Plant Fund operating expenses.
- Approve the revised FY 2016 Grants and Awards (Restricted Fund) Budgetary Ceiling of \$3,860,532.
- Approve the revised FY 2016 Long-term Investment Fund (Endowment Fund) Budgetary Ceiling of \$1,674,948 including a \$200,500 capital gain to be allocated for funding the ALA Spectrum Initiative and a transfer of \$559,576 interest and dividends from the Endowment Fund to the General Fund in accordance with Policy 8.5.1.
- Approve the FY 2016 total ALA Capital Budget of \$1,743,460.
- Approve 2% compensation to base salary for ALA staff for the 2016 budget.
- Approve the revised FY 2016 Total ALA Budgetary Ceiling as follows:

General Fund	\$29,363,944
Division Fund	\$30,159,433

Round Tables	\$2,028,170
Grants & Awards	\$3,860,532
Long-Term Investment	<u>\$1,674,948</u>
Total ALA Budgetary Ceiling	\$67,087,027

EBD #14.13

Controller’s Report – EBD #4.24 (Exhibit 19)

- Cash and short-term investments total \$20.4 million and are projected to generate approximately \$300,000.
- The renegotiated loan has resulted in improved liquidity ratios for debt service coverage and cash to debt of 3.29 and 5.72 to the requirement of 1:1.
- Inventory reserves for FY15 will likely need to be increased to \$80,000 –\$100,000, which is lower than the earlier estimate of \$200,000

Digital Content and Libraries – EBD #12.33 (Exhibit 20)

Alan Inouye, Director of the Office for Information Technology Policy (OITP), and Digital Content Working Group Co-Chairs Carolyn Anthony and Erika Linke provided an update on the work of the Digital Content Working Group (DCWG).

- The DCWG continues a productive dialogue with both the Big 5 publishers and smaller publishers regarding its concerns about business models for creating access to ebooks in libraries. In addition, DCWG participated in panel sessions at Book Expo America this past spring, including one entitled “The Power of Partnerships,” that explored the ways in which libraries and publishers can work together to create a culture of reading.
- ALA completed and released its fifth supplement to *American Libraries* on digital content in late May. This issue comprises ten articles ranging from the current state of the Big 5 publishers and libraries to digital content and national policy advocacy. The supplement includes articles by DCWG members Carolyn Anthony, Vailey Oehlke, and Micah May.
- The Intellectual Freedom Committee completed its “Library Privacy Guidelines for E-book Lending and Digital Content Vendors,” which provides vendors with information about appropriate data management and security practices in respect to library patrons’ personally identifiable information and data about their use of digital content.
- In the *2015 Library and Book Trade Almanac* (Bowker Annual), Robert Wolven (former DCWG co-chair), Melissa Goertzen, and Jeffrey Carroll discuss the preservation of ebooks and the need for libraries to build more effective relationships with publishers and other key stakeholders in order to take proper current action to ensure preservation of digital materials.
- The DCWG has been working with the Canadian Library Association (CLA) and its e-Book Task Force. CLA developed a list of key priorities that the DCWG endorses, highlighting the issues of availability; fairness; access, preservation and research; resource sharing; transferability; and protection of privacy.
- The DCWG is exploring ways to collaborate with the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA), as the DPLA develops Library Unsimplified, an ebook platform. In addition, the DCWG is communicating with the DPLA, regarding its messaging around the Open

eBooks program, which makes eBooks available to children and youth from low-income families, stressing the important roles that public and school libraries can play in this process.

The discussion turned to DCWG's work on accessibility issues. The DCWG is communicating with Benetech, about providing greater awareness of their services to librarians and libraries, such as its book scanning program. Benetech is a nonprofit that develops innovative and effective technology applications for unmet social needs.

Policy Revolution! – EBD #12.34 (Exhibit 21)

Alan Inouye, Director of the Office for Information Technology Policy (OITP), gave an update on Policy Revolution!, an OITP initiative.

The Policy Revolution! initiative is at a major transition point. Until now, much of OITP's efforts were directed towards two pieces of foundational work:

1. Determining what should be communicated to national decision makers and influencers, via development of the National Policy Agenda, which was released at this Annual Conference.
2. Developing a communications strategy, using the Beltway-based strategic communications firm Adfero, Inc.

OITP is now moving toward implementation of the National Policy Agenda through active engagement with external stakeholders. Part of this process involves considering the current political context in Washington and determining what can be accomplished with a Republican-controlled Congress. Some library service ideas to explore and promote include small business and entrepreneurship services, services for military families and veterans, and services for rural communities.

The National Policy Agenda aligns with the ALA Strategic Framework and Directions, and those working on the Policy Revolution! initiative provided input on the Information Policy Implementation Plan. Other coordinating activities include working with President-Elect Sari Feldman's Libraries Transform initiative and developing a workshop for ALA leadership on information policy at the 2016 Midwinter Meeting.

Discussion turned to the absence of librarians and library workers in the National Policy Agenda. It was noted that the Libraries Transform campaign aims to focus on librarians and library workers and will be incorporating much of the Policy Revolution! language.

While the National Policy Agenda document is aimed at library leadership, the Board expressed interest in targeted, one-page documents that could be developed for specific audiences, such as Congressional committees. In addition, templates could be developed for other nonprofits that are working on similar planning projects.

Accreditation Subcommittee Discussion – EBD #12.38 (Exhibit 22)

ALA Immediate Past President Barbara Stripling reported on the Accreditation Subcommittee's recent activities.

At the Fall 2014 ALA Executive Board Meeting, a subcommittee of the Board was appointed to work with the Association for Library & Information Science Education (ALISE) and the ALISE Council of Deans and Directors to improve communication and look at issues related to accreditation of graduate programs in library and information studies. The subcommittee met with ALISE representatives and the Committee on Accreditation (COA) chair at the 2015 Midwinter Meeting in Chicago, then in May in New York, and finally on Thursday, at this Annual Conference. Conversations have been productive and thoughtful and have resulted in two proposals:

1. To create two ALA task forces on Accreditation (Task Force on Accreditation Process and Communication and Task Force on Context of Future Accreditation).
2. A change in the process of appointing members to the ALA Committee on Accreditation.

The proposed task forces will be short-termed and will report to the ALA Executive Board. Proposed membership includes various entities within ALA (COA, the Committee on Education, the Executive Board, and division representatives) and also external entities (ALISE, the Canadian Library Association, and the I-School Consortium). The group feels two task forces are necessary, because the type of thinking needed to tackle the two issues is very different (process and communications strategy versus visionary thinking and research).

The Committee on Accreditation requested a consultant on accreditation processes and the work of the Task Force on Accreditation Process and Communication will inform the consultant's assessment.

The Board requested that a representative from the Committee on Diversity be added to the Task Force on the Context of Future Accreditation.

On a motion by Barbara Stripling, the Executive Board

Voted to approve appointment of the Task Force on Accreditation Process and Communication and the Task Force on the Context of Future Accreditation, with the charge, timeline, and composition described in EBD #12.38. EBD #12.38

The Accreditation Subcommittee/ALISE group requested the following changes to the COA composition:

1. That the composition of COA include a designation for one slot to be held by a Dean/Director/Chair of a library or information science program, based on recommended nominations submitted by the ALISE Council of Deans/Directors/Chairs.
2. That a formal process of approval of a designated slot for a Dean/Director/Chair on the COA be initiated through the Committee on Organization, with approval in place by the 2017-2018 appointment year.
3. That the process for appointment of a Canadian member be similarly formalized, with nominations to come from the Canadian Library Association (CLA).

On a motion by Barbara Stripling, the Executive Board

Voted to approve the change in the process of appointment of members to the ALA Committee on Accreditation as described in EBD #12.38. EBD #12.38

The discussion turned to budgetary considerations for the two task forces. It was noted that the task forces will work virtually and at the ALA Annual Conference and Midwinter Meeting. Participating groups (ALISE, the I-School Consortium, etc.) will be responsible for funding member travel expenses, if necessary.

Session Three

The Board convened at 1:30 PM on Tuesday, June 30, 2015, with President Courtney Young presiding. A closed session was added to the agenda, following the Washington Office Report.

PRESENT: President Courtney Young; President-elect Sari Feldman; Treasurer Mario Gonzalez; Immediate Past President Barbara K. Stripling; Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels; Executive Board members: Robert Banks, Peter Hepburn, Alexia Hudson-Ward, Sara Kelly Johns, John A. Moorman, James G. Neal, and Gina Persichini.

Conference Services

Paul Graller, Manager of Conference Services gave a recap of the 2015 Annual Conference.

- Total registration was 22,696 (15,883 members and 6,813 exhibitors). Revenue exceeded budget for registration and advertising, but expenses will likely exceed budget as well. However, overall, the conference looks to be a financial success.
- The exhibits were well-received and included a GLBT Publishers Pavilion, a Gaming Lounge, and an expanded Zine Pavilion. For the most part, exhibitors were pleased with the split exhibit hall.
- The Libraries Without Borders booth showcased its Ideas Box, a portable toolkit that equips vulnerable populations with customized technologies and programming to access critical information and to produce culture in different media.
- Conference Services will begin marketing the 2016 Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida, focusing on improvements made to the conference experience since the 2004 conference held there, including transportation and layout improvement. There is some concern that Book Expo will be held in Chicago during the same time period, but it has become more international in scope and may not affect Orlando attendance as much as previously assumed.

The GLBT Round Table Board expressed its appreciation that the conference maps clearly indicated gender-neutral restrooms.

Discussion turned to accessibility issues and the challenge the San Francisco site posed for some members, particularly with regard to the distance between events.

Members noted problems with the ALA Conference Scheduler's compatibility with Google Calendar, particularly in relation to time zones not transferring properly. ALA will use a different vendor starting next year and will look into this issue.

Washington Office Report – EBD #12.30 (Exhibit 23)

Emily Sheketoff, Associate Executive Director, ALA Washington Office, provided an update on activities that have occurred since submitting her written report.

- ALA filed comments on the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to the Department of Labor and the Department of Education that expressed the need for language that would include libraries in the funding for employment help in any workforce legislation.

- The Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee (HELP) passed the Every Child Achieves Act, and it includes much of the school library language that ALA requested. However, it does not include the Reed-Cochran amendment which makes it explicit that Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) funds may be used to support school libraries and “effective school library programs” in multiple ways. The compromise appears to be that this language will be in the report that accompanies the law, but that has not been finalized yet. The Every Child Achieves Act will begin Senate debate on July 7, 2015.
- The Electronic Communications Privacy Act may come up on the Senate floor during the week of July 7, 2015. The act seeks to require a warrant for the government to access all emails, text messages, cloud files, and to prevent “backdoor surveillance” of Americans under the guise of gathering foreign intelligence.
- In April, the White House announced the launch of ConnectED: Library Challenge, a new initiative to ensure that all school students receive public library cards through their schools. In the fall, the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) will convene a meeting of national library, government, and school leaders to discuss best practices for developing and implementing school-public library card programs in their local districts. ALA has and will continue to promote a key role for school librarians to ensure the success of this program over the coming months. It is important to note that different jurisdictions have different legal and confidentiality issues related to library card issuance. Therefore, the program will not be one-size-fits-all.
- The House Appropriations Committee (HAC) marked up the House Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies’ (Labor HHS) Appropriations Bill, which includes funding for the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). HAC gave LSTA level funding for 2016, which is an \$8.6 million cut from President Obama’s request, but it is level with 2015 funding. HAC also eliminated funding for the Innovative Approaches to Literacy Program, which provides grants to school libraries. The Senate Appropriations Committee increased LSTA funding slightly for 2016. It is doubtful that either the House or Senate will vote on the Appropriations Bills, as Senate Democrats are committed to filibustering if Republicans do not agree to raise spending cap amounts.
- In late April, ALA joined several other founding member trade and civil society organizations to launch Re:Create: Innovators, Creators and Consumers United for Balanced Copyright. The group is a new coalition formed in anticipation of at least some, and potentially sweeping, efforts beginning in the current Congress to “reform” copyright law.

The Board moved into closed session to discuss the Committee on Legislation, an ALA personnel issue, the retirement of the Librarian of Congress, and the retirement of the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) Secretary General.

Approval of 2015-2016 Executive Board Meeting and Conference Call Schedule - EBD #1.0, 2015-2016 (Exhibit 24)

The Executive Board approved the schedule by consent.

Executive Board Liaison Reports

Board members shared highlights from their liaison visits during this Midwinter Meeting.

Alexia Hudson-Ward commented on:

- Committee on Education
- International Relations Round Table (IRRT)
- Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL)

Peter Hepburn commented on:

- Sustainability Round Table (SustainRT)
- New Members Round Table (NMRT)
- Social Responsibilities Round Table (SRRT)
- Library & Information Technology Association (LITA)

Sara Kelly Johns commented on:

- Public Awareness Committee

Robert Banks commented on:

- Public Library Association (PLA)
- Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA)
- Publishing Committee
- Website Advisory Committee

John Moorman commented on:

- Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS)

Conflict of Interest Statement - EBD #1.8 (Exhibit 25)

The Conflict of Interest Statement was approved by the ALA Executive Board in 2002 and adopted by the ALA Council the same year. The 2015-2016 statements were read and signed by the Executive Board members.

Board Effectiveness

Immediate Past President Barbara Stripling commented on the Board's effectiveness during this meeting.

Recognition of Board Members (Terms Expiring)

President Courtney Young recognized Executive Board members whose terms expired: Immediate Past President Barbara Stripling, Robert E. Banks, Alexia Hudson-Ward, and John A. Moorman.

The Board adjourned at 4:00 PM.