

**The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Round Table (GLBTRT)
Proposed Bylaws Revisions, Adopted in American Library Association, Election, 2011**

GLBTRT Mission Statement and Bylaws

*Note: The following red ~~strikethroughs~~ in **bold** text are changes to the GLBTRT Bylaws as voted on by round table membership in the 2011 election. The changed were adopted. Additionally, the round table name replaced 'Transgendered' with 'Transgender' during the 2011 ALA Midwinter Meeting. The ALA Committee on Organization (COO), voted to approve a name change for the Round Table so that it would become the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table. COO chair Jim Rettig brought that action item to ALA Council in his report, and Council passed it without any debate or dissent. Those changes are noted in green ~~strikethroughs~~ and **bold** text.*

Mission Statement

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and ~~Transgendered~~ **Transgender** Round Table of the American Library Association is committed to serving the information needs of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and ~~transgendered transgender~~ professional library community, and the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and ~~transgendered transgender~~ information and access needs of individuals at large. We are committed to encouraging and supporting the free and necessary access to all information, as reflected by the missions of the American Library Association ~~and democratic institutions.~~

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and ~~Transgendered~~ **Transgender** Round Table provides its members, other American Library Association divisions, members, and affiliates, and the library and information science field as a whole with a forum for discussion and an environment for education and learning regarding the needs of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and ~~transgendered transgender~~ professional community and population at large.

I. PURPOSE

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and ~~Transgendered~~ **Transgender** Round Table of the American Library Association shall:

- promote the improved quality, quantity, and accessibility of library materials and service of particular interest or usefulness to lesbian, bisexual, gay, and ~~transgendered transgender~~ people of all ages;
- develop, promote and defend unrestricted access of all library users to information by or about gay, lesbian, bisexual, and ~~transgendered transgender~~ people;
- **sponsor and** promote awareness **of programs and of the** ~~and develop funding sources outside of ALA for the~~ **Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table Stonewall** Book Awards, ~~and programs;~~
- provide bibliographic services to librarians, archivists, other information professionals, and library users;

- work toward eliminating job discrimination against gay, lesbian, bisexual, and ~~transgendered~~ **transgender** employees of libraries, archives, and information centers;
- advocate revising classification schemes, subject heading lists, indices, etc., in order to remove terms derogatory to the lives, activities, and contributions to culture and society of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and ~~transgendered~~ **transgender** people;
- ~~remind~~ **advocate within** the membership and leadership of ALA ~~as often as necessary that many~~ on behalf of ~~librarians, archivists, other information specialists, and library users are~~ gay, lesbian, bisexual, or ~~transgendered transgender~~ **people librarians, archivists, other information specialists, and library users**;
- support other ~~minority~~ **under-represented and disadvantaged** groups working for adequate representation and equal opportunity within ALA;
- work with groups outside ALA interested in achieving equal rights for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and ~~transgendered~~ **transgender** people;
- provide opportunities for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and ~~transgendered~~ **transgender** librarians, archivists, and other information specialists attending ALA conferences to meet and socialize with one another; and
- promote the ALA Library Bill of Rights and its Code of Ethics.

II. VOTING STATUS AND CANDIDACY FOR OFFICE

Voting Status

Members of the American Library Association Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and ~~Transgendered~~ **Transgender** Round Table are eligible to vote in Round Table elections **and on ballot initiatives**.

Candidates for Office

~~At the Membership Meeting during the Annual Conference, the Membership Promotion Committee will announce a slate of candidates for the next ballot. At that Membership Meeting, other individuals may also announce their candidacy for vacant offices. The Immediate Past-Chair of the Round Table will chair a nominating committee charged with developing a slate of candidates, to be presented to the Round Table Executive Board at the Midwinter Meeting.~~ Nominated candidate names will be submitted to ALA for inclusion on the Spring Ballot. Newly elected officers will take office the last day of Annual Conference during which they were elected.

Qualifications

Candidates for elected offices must be members of ALA, must be members of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and ~~Transgendered~~ **Transgender** Round Table, and must agree to attend the Membership and ~~Steering Committee~~ **Executive Board** meetings scheduled for the Annual Conferences and Midwinter Meetings during ~~his/her~~ **the** term of office.

Elections

Round Table officers will be elected annually on the Spring Ballot. Each year the Round Table will elect a Chair-Elect. In alternating years the Round Table will elect a Secretary or a Treasurer. In alternating years the Round Table will elect at least one but not all Directors-at-Large. Every three years and on condition of satisfying ALA policy on membership required for Council representation, the Round Table will elect a Round Table Councilor.

III. MEETINGS

The Round Table must conduct at least one Membership Meeting at the Association's Annual Conference. The Round Table ~~Steering Committee~~ **Executive Board** shall meet at least ~~twice~~ **once** at both Annual Conference and Midwinter Meeting. Membership and ~~Steering Committee~~ **Executive Board** meetings are open to anyone who wishes to attend them.

IV. OFFICERS

Titles and Terms of Office

The Round Table shall elect a Chair, a Secretary, a Treasurer, five Directors-at-Large, and a Round Table Councilor. The Chair serves a three-year term: in the first year as Chair-Elect, in the second year as Chair, in the third year as Immediate Past-Chair. The Secretary, Treasurer, and Directors-at-Large serve two-year terms. The Round Table Councilor serves a three-year term. No person may serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office. If a position is vacated before the completion of the term, the Executive Board will select a person to serve the remainder of that term. The Round Table shall elect Co-Chairs of differing gender identity, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, each serving a term of two years. One Co-Chair and a Secretary shall be elected during even-numbered years. One Co-Chair and a Treasurer shall be elected during odd-numbered years. Officers may not hold the same office for more than two consecutive terms without approval of the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee will select a person to serve for the remainder of the term of any office that becomes unexpectedly vacant.

No decision or instruction made by a ~~Co-Chair~~ shall conflict with a decision or instruction made by the Round Table membership or the ~~Steering Committee~~ **Executive Board**.

V. COMMITTEES

The Round Table shall pursue its goals primarily through the work of its committees. A voting Round Table member as designated by the Round Table ~~Co-Chairs~~ **Chair-Elect** shall chair each committee. Whenever possible, a committee chair will be selected after ~~s/he has~~ **having** served in an apprentice capacity during the preceding year, and after consultation with other

committee members. Any member interested in serving on a committee must fill out the GLBTRT Committee Volunteer web form.

Steering Committee

~~The elected officers and appointed chairs of the standing committees shall constitute the Round Table Steering Committee. The Steering Committee may not make a decision inconsistent with a decision made by Round Table members at a membership meeting.~~

Standing Committees

The ongoing work of the Round Table shall be carried out by its Standing Committees. ***The Executive Board may create or dissolve Standing Committees. Dissolution of a Standing Committee requires a two-thirds majority vote at two consecutive ALA Annual Conferences. A new Standing Committee must be authorized by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a membership meeting of the Round Table.***

Standing Committee chairs shall serve ~~two~~**one**-year terms, and will be appointed by the ~~Co-Chairs~~**Chair-Elect**. ***Standing Committee chairs may not serve more than two consecutive terms. Any chair of a Standing Committee who cannot attend a Steering Committee meeting due to unforeseeable events shall communicate committee activities, concerns, or needs to the Co-Chairs and/or the Steering Committee in advance of the meeting.***

Ad hoc Committees and Projects

Special projects shall be authorized by the **Chair** ~~Co-Chairs~~ as the Round Table membership, ~~its Steering Committee~~ ***the Executive Board***, or the **Chair** ~~Co-Chairs~~ shall deems necessary to carry out specific activities.

Any member of the Round Table may propose a special project at ~~a Steering Committee~~**an Executive Board meeting**, Membership Meeting, ***or*** through an announcement ***distributed through the Round Table's communication channels. in the newsletter, or via the listserv.*** Upon endorsement of the project by the membership or by the ~~Steering Committee~~**Executive Board**, the ~~Co-Chairs~~ **Chair** shall appoint an individual to coordinate the project or to direct those interested to designate a chair.

Ad hoc Committees shall be formed as necessary to complete the business of the Round Table for projects of limited length. Formation of Ad hoc Committees will require a majority vote of the ~~Steering Committee~~ ***Executive Board or of Round Table members in attendance at a Membership Meeting.***

VI. LIAISONS

Establishing liaisons to specific target groups will be encouraged when the relationship appears to be beneficial to the Round Table. The ~~Co-Chairs~~ **Chair** will appoint liaisons from the membership to other groups both inside and outside ALA. Liaison terms will be for two years, not to exceed two consecutive terms (four years). Liaison appointments may be for specific projects or on-going. ~~Reasons for establishing liaisons may include sharing of information on relevant and common issues, avoiding duplicate programming or publishing, sharing programming and/or publications, avoiding duplication of organizational structures, and providing expert guidance in issues familiar to both groups.~~

VII. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Disputes over the procedures used in making a decision at a Round Table **Membership Meeting** or ~~Steering Committee~~ **Executive Board** meeting shall be resolved by reliance upon the provisions contained in the "Rules of Order" that ALA Council uses.

VIII. AMENDING THE BYLAWS

Bylaws amendments may be proposed by the Executive Board or by the Round Table Membership at a Membership Meeting. The bylaws may be amended **by a simple majority vote on the Spring Ballot.** ~~at the annual Membership Meeting by a majority of the voting members attending.~~ The proposed amendments must have been announced ~~at a previous membership meeting or have been published in an issue of the newsletter and/or posted on the website~~ not less than thirty days before the ~~annual Membership Meeting~~ **Spring Ballot.** ~~Otherwise, proposed amendments will require at least three-fourths of the voting members attending the Annual Membership Meeting for approval.~~