

**Fall Executive Committee Meeting
October 26-27, 2012, Chicago**

Topic: Debrief from Friday Joint ALA Meeting

Background: The noon – 5pm Friday afternoon session with the ALA Executive Board and Division representatives will focus on ALA President Maureen Sullivan’s theme, “reimagining ALA.” Sullivan will facilitate the session. A proposed outline of the session is provided below.

Action Required: Action

A discussion will take place on site.

Proposed Outline (as of 9/25/12) – Joint ALA/Divisions discussion

- (1) Discussion will utilize an appreciative inquiry framework.
- (2) Discussion will be (primarily) in small groups, to enable the broadest participation and deeper discussion. Groups for questions 1 and 2 will be preset (Mary Ghikas) to maximize diversity (group, position, etc.) ; groups for questions 3 and 4 will be self-formed.
 1. Group facilitators will be pre-assigned for questions 1 and 2. Each group will select a member of the group (with good handwriting) to record the main points on flip charts.
 2. Groups for questions 3 and 4 will self-organize (both group facilitators and recorders).
- (3) Discussion will address the following 4 questions:
 1. What are (collective) ALA’s current strengths?
 2. Given the current context (economy, technology, etc.), where might there be opportunities for ALA (collectively)?
 3. What are our aspirations for the future?
 4. Five years from now, what are the results we would like to see? What are the most important of those results?
- (4) There will be a scheduled coffee break following discussion #2. Flip charts for Question 1 and 2 will be posted in the main/general room. All participants will be encouraged to circulate and read the results from all discussion groups, as a prelude to discussion of questions 3 and 4.
- (5) The Joint Boards will reconvene as a group of the whole following discussion of question 4. The “plenary” discussion will focus on the outcomes of the discussion of questions 3-4.

1. In thinking about the discussion of questions 3-4, is there “low-hanging fruit,” things that could be reasonably accomplished in 6-12 months?
 2. How do we want to communicate this afternoon’s discussion to the larger ALA world (ALA Round Tables, ALA Committees, Council, Membership)?
- (6) Notes from the Joint Boards discussion will be shared with the ALA Executive Board and eleven Division Boards of Directors for any necessary corrections, clarifications.
- (7) The intent is to expand the discussion, following a process similar to that used during the 2010 and 2015 planning processes. The current assumption is that questions for broader discussion will become apparent based on the Joint Boards discussion.
- (8) Based on discussion directions, a “container” for discussion may be established in ALA Connect.