

**YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
ALA Annual Conference, New Orleans
June 22 - 26, 2018**

Topic: Filling the Board Vacancy

Background: Jess Snow resigned from the Board in May; however, her term on the Board runs through June 2020. In the past, the Board has made a practice of voting on a course of action for the vacancy. Sandra Hughes-Hassell presents the following proposal for the board's consideration.

Action Required: Action

Typical options for filling a vacancy

1. Do nothing and to leave the position vacant through the end of June 2020, at which point newly elected board members will take over.
2. Appoint a seasoned board member who would be interested in and able to fill the spot, as this person would not need orientation or have a learning curve. Since at-large board members aren't allowed to serve consecutive terms (per the bylaws), eligible candidates would be 1) from the 2016 - 2017 board or earlier, 2) have served in an ex-officio capacity, 3) served as an officer (President, Secretary, Fiscal Officer, Division Councilor; or 4) served fewer than three years on the board.
3. Appoint someone who's recently stood for election, as those individuals have already indicated their current willingness to serve and have been carefully vetted by the Board Development Committee.
4. Appoint an up and coming YALSA leader who has expressed interest in Board service, but who has not served in any appointed or elected capacity. This could possibly be someone that the current Board Development Committee is considering for the 2019 slate.

Proposal

Appoint a seasoned board member who could immediately begin contributing to the work of the board and executive committee. Sandra Hughes-Hassell asked the Board and the Board Development Committee for suggestions and the person nominated is Trixie Dantis, a former YALSA Board Fellow, and candidate for Board on the 2018 slate.

Rationale

YALSA Board of Directors – Annual 2018
Filling Executive Committee & Board Vacancy

- Bringing in someone brand new in this dual role on the board could be unfair to the individual, who would be asked to deal with a steep learning curve. Additionally, they would have to pay to attend the 2019 Annual and Midwinter meetings, without much ability to prepare or plan for that expense.
- Appointing a seasoned board member means the appointee will not have a learning curve and will be able to fully participate in board work from day one.
- Trixie Dantis has one year of board service as a Board Fellow, and she was recently vetted by the 2017- 2018 Governance Nominating Committee and placed on the 2018 slate as a candidate for Board.

Recommended Board Action

The Board directs the President to appoint Trixie Dantis to serve as Board Member at Large through the next election and directs the Board Development Committee Chair to put the position on the ballot for a one-year term, to finish out the remainder of Jess Snow's appointment.

Additional Resources

- YALSA Bylaws:
www.ala.org/yalsa/sites/ala.org.yalsa/files/content/BYLAWS_2016approvedchanges.pdf