

**YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
ALA Midwinter Meeting, Boston
January 8 – 12, 2016**

Topic: Bylaws Language Changes

Background: Changes in ALA and YALSA policies and procedures have made four of the existing sections of YALSA’s Bylaws inaccurate as a reflection of the work of the organization. The four changes noted below would realign the Bylaws with current policies and procedures. For the Bylaws related to the elections and term of the three award committees, the proposed changes would be broad enough to include any future changes within the policies and procedures for those respective awards. This broader wording may alleviate the need for future Bylaws changes. As chair of the Organization and Bylaws Committee, Robin Kurz presents the following for the Board’s consideration.

Action Required: Action

Overview

1. Current Article VIII, Sec. 11 “The three candidates nominated for the Margaret A. Edwards Author Award Committee who receive the highest number of votes shall be elected to a two-year term. These terms shall begin immediately following the first Annual Conference after the election and shall conclude immediately following the third Annual Conference after the election.”

Note: The current wording is inaccurate as Edwards has a 17-month term from immediately following the first Midwinter Meeting after the election and shall conclude immediately following the third Annual Conference after the election
(<http://www.ala.org/yalsa/bookawards/edwards/policies>).

Proposed change to “The three candidates nominated for the Margaret A. Edwards Award Committee who receive the highest number of votes shall be elected to a single term that commences in the calendar year immediately following the election year.”

2. Current Article VIII, Sec. 12 “The four candidates nominated for the Michael L. Printz Award Committee who receive the highest number of votes shall be elected to a one-year term. These terms shall begin immediately following the first Midwinter Meeting after the election and shall conclude immediately following the second Annual Conference after the election.”

Note: The current wording is inaccurate as Printz has a seventeen-month term to conclude the third annual after the election (otherwise, it would conclude in the midst of the reading year.)
<http://www.ala.org/yalsa/booklistsawards/bookawards/printzaward/aboutprintz/criteria>

Proposed change to “The four candidates nominated for the Michael L. Printz Award Committee who receive the highest number of votes shall be elected to a single term that commences in the calendar year immediately following the election year.”

3. Current Article VIII, Sec. 14 “The four candidates nominated for the Excellence in Non-fiction Award Committee who receive the highest number of votes shall be elected to a one-year term. These terms shall begin immediately following the first Midwinter Meeting after the election and shall conclude immediately following the second Annual Conference after the election.”

Note: The current wording is inaccurate as Nonfiction concludes immediately following the second Midwinter Meeting after the election.

<http://www.ala.org/yalsa/booklistsawards/bookawards/nonfiction/policies>

Proposed change to “The four candidates nominated for the Excellence in Non-fiction Award Committee who receive the highest number of votes shall be elected to a single term that commences in the calendar year immediately following the election year.”

4. Current Article XII “The rules contained in *Sturgis's Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure* (revised), in the latest available edition, shall govern YALSA in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Bylaws of YALSA or with the Constitution and Bylaws of the American Library Association.”

Note: Recent changes approved by ALA Council to switch from Sturgis’ book to *Robert’s Rules of Order* impact all Divisions and necessitate a bylaws update.

Proposed change to “The rules contained in *Robert’s Rules of Order*, in the latest available edition, shall govern YALSA in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Bylaws of YALSA or with the Constitution and Bylaws of the American Library Association.”

Financial Implications

Minimal staff time for preparing the ballot

Proposed Action

The Board moves to accept the proposed bylaws changes as outlined above, and directs the Executive Director to work with staff to place them on the 2016 ballot for members’ consideration.

Additional Resources

- Vote to adopt Robert’s Rules of Order, <http://ow.ly/WCfrs>
- YALSA Bylaws, <http://ow.ly/WCfbR>