

YALSA Board of Directors Meeting  
Via conference call  
March 2, 2011

**Topic:** Confirmation of Advocates Dues Category

**Background:** At their January 2011 meeting the Board briefly discussed the idea of a new dues category for those who supported teen services, but who didn't work in young adult librarianship. As this was a discussion that grew out of another topic, the Board decided to table the idea and discuss it via their work space in ALA Connect after the Midwinter Meeting. Including the item as a part of this meeting simply ensures it will be entered into the official record of the association.

**Action Required:** Consent

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**Proposal:**

Create a reduced dues category of \$25 (proposed rate for students, retirees and non-salaried) for individuals who are advocates of library services to teens.

**Rationale:**

- Creating an advocates category could help increase YALSA's membership by providing a specific 'home' for individuals who do not fit into existing dues categories. The advocates category would be for those who support teen services or YA lit but who do not work in a library setting
- By identifying and building a group of teen services advocates, YALSA could strengthen its advocacy efforts at the national level and possibly help members locally as well
- Recruiting teen services advocates to become a part of the association could help bring in diverse views and new ideas
- Providing a means for advocates to get involved in the organization could also help YALSA identify future leaders from this pool of members, some of whom could be mentored for leadership positions and bring some added diversity to the Board of Directors

**Proposed Action:**

The Board directs the Executive Director to put the proposal to create a new 'advocates' dues category at the rate of \$25 on the 2011 ballot for members' consideration.

**Additional Information:**

ALA has a dues category for 'associates,' which is similar in focus to the proposed advocates category. ALA defines their 'associates' category as appropriate for: "those not employed in library and information services or related activities who, through their personal commitment and support, promote library and information services; e.g. friends and special citizen caucuses

and/or individuals interested in participating in the work of the Association.”