



**2022 VIRTUAL
MARCH MEETING
COUNCIL ACTIONS**

Virtual ALA Council

Thursday, March 10, 2022

By CONSENT, Adopted ALA CD#5.1, Virtual Council Rules as distributed.

By CONSENT, Approved ALA CD#8.4 Virtual March Council Agenda as distributed.

ADOPTED, ALA CD#51, Resolution to Support School and Youth Services Librarians Facing Increased Intellectual Freedom Challenges

Resolved, that the American Library Association (ALA) on behalf of its members:

1. Commits to ongoing support of all children's right to read, their equitable access to diverse books and informational resources, and their right to library services by:
 - a. Reaffirming that the freedom to read supports active citizens of the future and speaks against censorship of youth library books and resources;*
 - b. Upholding a parent's right to decide what their own children can read, but not what other children can read as stated in the Access to Library Resources and Services for Minors: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights and the Access to Resources and Services in the School Library;*
2. Reaffirms their support of school librarians who face challenges and threats of prosecution or job loss by:
 - a. Condemning the intimidation of librarians and library workers in or beyond their place of work;*
 - b. Advocating for strict adherence to library collection and reconsideration policies;*
 - c. Defending librarians' professional responsibility to ensure their print and digital collections represent a variety of viewpoints that support the diversity of their communities and offer the breadth of history;*
3. Solicits anti-censorship position statements, endorsements, and partnerships at various ALA levels with stakeholders including educational organizations that support students' right to read, education unions and school administration groups, parent and student groups, ALA state chapters and organizations which include authors, vendors, publishers, and professional publications to support students' right to read;
4. Commits to widely disseminating talking points for librarians, library workers, administrators, and their supporters in school and public libraries to speak to citizens and community stakeholders emphasizing the importance of following established policies and of inclusive library collections;

5. Encourages ALA members to become more involved with intellectual freedom efforts in ALA, to act as liaison between other ALA groups and IFRT and IFC, to always report challenges to the Office of Intellectual Freedom (OIF) in support of accurate statistics, to donate to the LeRoy C. Merritt Humanitarian Fund supporting library workers who are facing financial difficulties for their support of intellectual freedom, and to join the Freedom to Read Foundation; and
6. Commits to speaking with one voice across the Association against threats to students' right to read and threats to their First Amendment rights.

ADOPTED, ALA CD#52, Resolution to Promote Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Efforts in AASL While Addressing Historical Effects of Racism

Resolved, that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members

1. Acknowledges the American Association of School Librarians' past actions and inactions that have harmed members of the profession;
2. Apologizes to Black school librarians for wrongs committed against them and for AASL's inactions on behalf of segregated school libraries and school library state associations;
3. Apologizes to all Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) school librarians for AASL's part in historical racism and segregation in the school librarian profession;
4. Commits to promoting diversity in school librarianship in undergraduate and graduate programs and at school recruitment fairs;
5. Commits to ensuring a diverse and inclusive membership by recruiting, welcoming and encouraging BIPOC school librarians to consider leadership opportunities within ALA and AASL;
6. Commits to applying and prioritizing an Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) lens in all aspects of the greater work of AASL and ALA;
7. Commits to sustaining a more diverse and inclusive leadership within ALA and AASL in terms of ethnicity, gender, and ability representation;
8. Communicates and aligns all EDI initiatives throughout AASL, ALA (in response to the newly adopted DEI Scorecard), and the profession;
9. Creates opportunities and resources for collaboration with ALA divisions, ALA chapters, AASL chapters, ALA Roundtables and National Affiliates of Librarians of Color (NALCo) to create a stronger voice for our profession.

DEFEATED, ALA CD 53, Resolution Calling on the US Executive Branch to Drop ESPIONAGE ACT Charges Against Julian Assange

RESOLVED, that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members, calls on the US executive branch to cease all efforts to extradite and prosecute Julian Assange.

APPROVED, ALA CD#35b, Action Item 3, Revised, that the TAG Task Force's mandate be extended until the ALA Council determines that its work has been completed, that the motion on the ALA governance structure that was included in part C of the TAG Taskforce's report (as amended by Council) be sent back to the Taskforce for further consideration, and that the TAG Taskforce be directed to proceed as follows:

1. Arrange to have virtual Council Meetings scheduled for March, April and May 2022, with the purpose of continuing the discussion of the TAG Task Force's recommendations;
2. Direct, that, in preparation for the virtual Council meetings, the TAG Task Force develop and present for Council's consideration its proposed composition of a reduced size ALA Council, functioning as an advisory body, and that the TAG Task Force also present options for the proposed composition of the new ALA Executive Board;
3. Direct, that, in preparation for the virtual Council meetings, the TAG Task Force prepare, for Council's consideration, ideas to advance the implementation of the 'Taking ALA Pulse' (TAP) concept, as a method of bringing feedback and issues from ALA Members, Units and Affiliates for Council's consideration in its potentially added role as a Body of Knowledge;
4. Direct that the Committee on Organization review the standing committee construct and charges in light of the new ALA Governance function, culture, and structure;
5. Direct, that, in preparation for the virtual Council meetings, the TAG Taskforce present, for Council's consideration, measures that could promote the effective functioning of ALA Council, with such measures including, but not limited to, improvements to the Council agenda development process, Council evaluation tools, Exit interviews, and more.

(Report of the Transforming ALA Governance, ALA CD#35b, Action Item 3, Revised)