

Council Committee Report Form

TO: ALA Council

RE: Council Orientation Committee

- ACTION REQUESTED**
- INFORMATION**
- REPORT**

ACTION REQUESTED BY: *(if no action, please leave blank)*

CONTACT PERSON:

Rodney Lippard, Chair

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919-923-7716

STAFF LIAISON CONTACT:

Marsha P. Burgess, ALA Council Secretariat/Governance

mburgess@ala.org

DATE: 05/28/2021

BACKGROUND:

Committee Members: Rodney Lippard (Chair), Jayne Blodgett, Libré Booker, Keturah Cappadonia, Micki Dietrich, Dora Ho, Susan Jennings, Karen Schneider (Executive Board Liaison), Marsha P. Burgess (Staff Liaison)

The Council Orientation Committee met monthly to carry out the business of the committee.

Accomplishments:

During this past year, the committee established a series of web events, "Tune in Tuesdays," to educate Councilors on the workings of ALA. As a result, the following events were held:

July 28, 2020 – Introduction to Council

August 11, 2020 – Parliamentary Boot Camp

September 8, 2020 – Finance & Budget

October 6, 2020 – ALAConnect

November 10, 2020 – ALA Endowment

December 15, 2020 – ALA-APA

January 5, 2021 – Resolutions

January 12, 2021 – Committee on Organization & Constitution & Bylaws

April 27, 2021 – New Councilor Welcome & Introduction to Council

All events were recorded and are available under the Basic Guide to the ALA Council and Resources web page at ala.org. Upcoming events are scheduled for:

June 15, 2021 – Disrupting Microaggressions: Engaging in Effective Actions

Council Committee Report Form

June 22, 2021 – Disrupting Microaggressions: Engaging in Effective Actions

Three Council Forum sessions were scheduled for the MidWinter Meeting (January 22, 24, & 25, 2021), including arranging for facilitators and providing and distributing Essence Notes. After an abhorrent incident with a Zoom bomber, plans were put into place to control the attendance at the fora while maintaining the open meeting concept for all ALA meetings. Additionally, council Forum sessions have been scheduled for the Annual Meeting with a facilitator and other roles assigned.

Documentation was submitted to Committee on Organization to amend the charge of the Council Orientation Committee to more accurately reflect the work of this group and address recommendations for increasing the number of committee members.

Recommendations:

Establish a training program for Council Forum Facilitators. This training was discussed during the previous year but was not realized. As Council Forum has now come under the umbrella of Council Orientation, a procedure for selecting and training facilitators to manage the event is needed.

Formally develop a New Councilor Mentor program. In the past, the requesting and assigning of mentors has been very informal. Council Orientation is the right place for a mentoring program to be, but it needs to be more formally developed to identify mentors and provide guidelines.