

ALA Council Committee Report Form

TO: ALA Council

DATE: January 4, 2023

RE: *(select one)*

- ACTION REQUESTED
- INFORMATION
- REPORT

ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT: *(add below)*

Action requested from Councilors is to cast their vote to: *(if applicable)*

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ACTION REQUESTED BY: *(add committee name)*

ALA Publishing Committee

CONTACT PERSON: *(add chair information)*

Heather Campbell, Chair, ALA Publishing Committee

STAFF LIAISON CONTACT:

Mary Mackay (Staff Liaison, Interim Senior Associate Executive Director and Head of ALA Publishing & Media)

Mary Jo Bolduc (Staff Liaison, Licensing and Permissions Manager)

BACKGROUND: *(add information)*

**ALA Publishing Committee
Council Committee Report, January 2023**

Members of the Committee:

Heather M. Campbell, Chair
Barbara A. Alvarez, Associate
Renate L. Chancellor, Member
Crystal Chen, Member
Lynn M. Dixon, Associate

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Sara Kelly Johns, Member
Emily Knox, Member
Elizabeth M. McChesney, Member
Wendy Tressler, Member
Peter D. Hepburn, Executive Board Liaison
Mary Mackay, Staff Liaison
Mary Jo Bolduc, Staff Liaison

Accomplishments, July–December 2022:

- *Welcomed new committee members and associates.* The chair emailed incoming members after ALA Annual to welcome them. She shared an onboarding document that provides an overview of the committee's activities, information about ALA Publishing & Media's product lines and other ALA publishing units, instructions for accessing ALA Connect, and expectations of committee members. The chair and staff liaisons held an introductory meeting with the new Executive Board liaison in July. In September, after two members left the committee, the chair provided onboarding materials and committee meeting minutes to two new members, who were appointed as replacements to one-year terms. Members introduced themselves in virtual committee meetings.
- *Established meeting schedule and expectations.* Members agreed to attend several virtual meetings throughout the year in addition to meeting in person at ALA Annual; the chair scheduled these meetings to take place virtually. Associates agreed to rotate minute-taking responsibilities. All members agreed to learn about ALA Publishing & Media product lines, come prepared to participate actively in meetings, and complete tasks determined by the committee.
- *Determined Carnegie-Whitney subcommittee membership and activities.* Emily Knox agreed to head the subcommittee, and several members volunteered to serve. The subcommittee began reviewing applications and planned to present the finalists to the full committee in January.
- *Selected representative to ALA Information Technology Advisory Committee (ITAC).* Crystal Chen volunteered to represent the Publishing Committee at ITAC, and the chair communicated this decision with the ITAC chair.
- *Discussed ALA Publishing & Media activity and ideas for promoting products.* The committee hosted guest speaker George Kendall, Editor and Publisher of *Booklist*, and members provided feedback about the new *Booklist Reader* print product. The committee also hosted Angela Gwizdala, Publisher of ALA Editions/ALA Neal-Schuman, to provide ideas for a new series of affordable evergreen books.
- *Discussed sustainability.* The committee hosted guest speaker Matthew Bollerman, chair of the ALA Sustainability Committee. Members considered how the two

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committees might work together to raise awareness of sustainable practices, perhaps as a presentation at ALA Annual or through information provided to authors and publishers.

- *Discussed the need for a policy or guidelines on publication ethics for ALA journal editors.* Emily Knox shared a paper (<https://doi.org/10.1002/asi.24593>) that criticizes ALA division journals for their lack of publishing ethics documentation. Members agreed to form a working group to draft guidelines that all journal editors can follow; next steps will include a project plan, collecting examples, and communication with journal editors.

Planned Activities, January–June 2022:

- Award the Carnegie-Whitney grant. Committee will vote on winners in January.
- Form a publication ethics working group. The group will create a project plan with a timeline, stakeholders, and deliverables.
- Continue to review and provide feedback about ALA Publishing & Media products.
- Determine the feasibility of appointing a chair-elect along with a chair to improve continuity in committee leadership.
- Plan the committee's meeting at ALA Annual.
- Write a legacy statement to reflect the committee's accomplishments.