

## Committee Information Update (CIU) COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

**Committee Name:** Committee on Education

**Conference Year:** 2021

**Committee Chair:** Karen Downing

**Staff Liaison:** Gwendolyn Prellwitz

**Committee Members:** Mr. Victor Dominguez Baeza; Mrs. Amy Dye-Reeves; Mrs. Sarah Rose Edwards Obenauf; Dr. LaVerne Gray; Chelsea Hanrahan; Mrs. Christine Hoffman; Stefanie Metko; Dr. Xinyu Cindy Yu-Mills; Dr. Elizabeth A. Burns (AASL Representative); Walter Butler (ACRL Representative); Laura Saunders (ALISE Representative); Kimberly A. Brown-Harden (LEARNRT Representative); Karen Iva Berry (Associate); Stephanie S. Rodriguez; (Associate)

Date of meeting(s)	Meeting format (in-person or virtual)	Number of members present	Guest Presenters, Speakers
5/11/2021	Virtual	8/15	
4/19/2021	Virtual	10/15	
3/26/2021	Virtual	8/15	
2/25/2021	Virtual	11/15	Lessa Kanani'opua Pelayo-Lozada, 2022-2023 ALA Presidential Candidate
2/23/2021 - Chair and ALISE rep meeting with CoA	Virtual	4/4	Rachel Applegate (COA Chair), Karen O'Brian (OA Staff)
2/16/2021	Virtual	9/15	
1/27/2021	Virtual	11/15	
1/20/2021 - Chair, Associates and ALISE	Virtual	4/4	

**Committee Charge:** To have responsibility for developing and recommending the association's policies related to the full spectrum of education for all library and information studies personnel. To assure that the association actively solicits from its members information about the condition, currency, relevance, and type of education necessary to improve current and future library and

information services. This information will be shared with the ALA committee on accreditation, the ALA membership and its units, and allied professional organizations. To coordinate recommendations and policies concerning education promulgated by ALA divisions, round tables, and other units to eliminate conflict or unnecessary duplication and to work closely with these units through the education assembly. To maintain communication and rapport nationally and internationally, as appropriate, with other organizations concerned with library and information studies. To represent the association nationally and internationally to organizations and agencies outside the field of library and information studies that are concerned with professional education and staff preparation. To identify needed education initiatives in library and information studies and to help promote their accomplishments. To identify needed research concerning education for library and information studies and to help promote its accomplishment. To act as a clearinghouse of information on all aspects of education for library and information studies, for the profession and the public-at-large.

**Objectives of the committee for this conference year, including any planned activities:**

1. Update the ALA Core Competences, last revised in 2009, engage the LIS community broadly in providing feedback and revise as needed - culminating in a vote to adopt by ALA Council and the ALA Executive Board.
2. Per their invite, monitor discussions in the Librarian Education Reform Discussion Group and other national conversations on LIS education and engage/facilitate conversations between educators, employers, and the LIS profession to ensure education meets the needs of the profession.
3. Intentionally incorporate the concepts of social justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion into LIS education/professional development through a variety of strategies.

**Describe interactions with other units within ALA:**

- COE works with the ALA Committee on Accreditation.
- COE has representation from ACRL, AASL, and LEARN-RT as part of its composition as well as a representative from ALISE.
- COE provides a representative to the IFLA Education and Training Section.

**Synthesis of activities (summarize discussions, decision(s) or motion(s) reached, and note follow-up action(s) required:**

1. The COE has been working hard to finalize a draft of the revised ALA Core Competences in order to have a completed draft to circulate throughout ALA and its affiliates before ALA Annual 2021. We will seek broad and targeted feedback over the next 6 months via webinars, a website with a linked feedback survey, and we will incorporate feedback into a final document to be voted upon at ALA Annual 2022. Other activities include:
  - a. Met with Committee on Accreditation chair and staff to discuss the revised Core Competences and to strategize how to communicate differences in purpose and content between Core Competences and Standards of Accreditation

- b. Developed scripts for the public feedback webinars
- c. Developed a feedback survey for the public to provide their thoughts on the revised Core Competences
- d. Developed a comprehensive spreadsheet for groups for COE to reach out to within ALA and its affiliates
- e. Developing a website to provide access to the revised Core Competences draft, dates for the webinars, and a link to the feedback survey
- f. Attended the Connect Community Librarian Education Reform events
- g. Submitted a motion to COO (which passed) to retire the Education Assembly, an entity that was not an effective forum for sharing education-related information, and was often redundant to the work of the COE.
- h. Forwarded a nominee to the ALA Executive Board for the IFLA Standing Committee on Education and Training

**If unable to achieve desired committee outcomes, what hampered the ability to achieve stated goals (lack of resources, member participation, communication issues, procedural delays, etc.?)**

- n/a Despite the challenges of operating during a pandemic, the COE accomplished a lot this year! Many thanks go to Gwendolyn Prellwitz and Amber Hayes for their outstanding support of the COE.

**Priorities/recommendations for the upcoming year:**

- Launch the period for public feedback on the 2021 Draft of ALA's Core Competences
- Conduct multiple public forums on the 2021 Draft of ALA's Core Competences
- Synthesize feedback from the survey and forums and generate revisions as necessary
- Provide a finalized draft to ALA Council and the ALA Executive Board in Fall 2022
- Create work plan and timeline to guide future revisions to the Core Competences (suggest this might be best undertaken as special task forces of the ALA Executive Board in consultation with the Committee versus undertaken by the Committee itself in the future)
- Identify specific strategies and goals related how COE can fulfill its objective of Intentionally incorporating the concepts of social justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion into LIS education
- Determine how COE may convene periodic forums that bring together educators, hiring managers and library administration, and new professionals in productive and generative conversations to ensure that LIS education meetings the changing needs of the profession

**Other comments/information you believe will help the Association in its work:**

- Please watch for upcoming calls for feedback on the revised Core Competences, and provide your comments!

- Many thanks to the very active member leaders serving on the COE this year. We accomplished a lot of good work through their willingness to share their time and expertise. And special thanks to our excellent ALA staff liaisons, Gwendolyn Prellwitz and Amber Hayes. Thank you all!

**Submitted by:** Karen Downing

**Date Submitted:** 6/10/21