**EBD #12.10**

**2020-2021**

**TO:** ALA Executive Board

**RE:** Update on Core: Leadership, Infrastructure, Futures

**ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT:**

No action; launch update on new ALA division

**CONTACT PERSON:**

Kerry Ward, Core Executive Directorkward@ala.org

**DATE:** October 2, 2020

**BACKGROUND:**

Core: Leadership, Infrastructure, Futures launched, September 1, 2020, replacing ALCTS, LITA, and LLAMA. In the first month of operation, Cor members and staff have moved forward in the following areas:

**Board**

The new Core Board <http://www.ala.org/core/about/board-of-directors> met for the first time on September 24. The Board is working on the structure of Sections, Committees, and Interest Groups. A draft organization chart has been created.

**Election**

The first Core election will take place in ALA Connect October 5-25, and the newly elected Board members will be seated in early November.

The President will be elected from the former presidents of the three divisions: Christopher Cronin (ALCTS), Tyler Dzuba (LLAMA), Evviva Weinraub Lajoie (LITA). For President-elect, the candidates are Lindsay Cronk and Margaret Heller.

**Sections**

Board members are working with sections to identify initial section leadership, who in turn will work on section committees. Many section committees have volunteers that have carried over to the new year, so there will be a few members in place once section committees are up and running in November.

The six Core sections are:

* Access and Equity
* Assessment
* Buildings and Operations
* Leadership and Management
* Metadata and Collections
* Technology

**Interest Groups**

Core Interest Groups will be open to anyone. Previous division Interest Groups will need to re-charter in Core. Already 14 Interest Groups from the previous three divisions have submitted a charter request. In addition, four former ASGCLA Interest Groups have been moved into Core:

* Collaborative Digitization
* Consortial eBooks
* Consortium Management
* Library Consulting

**Volunteer Opportunities/Appointments**

The volunteer form for division level committees is available (<http://www.ala.org/core/volunteer-committee>), and the newly elected President/President-elect will work together with Board to make appointments. The volunteer form for section level committees will be available in November.

**Social Media**

* Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ala_core>
* Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/core_ala/?hl=en>
* YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCV_Bc1j9BWHTgnaarmFcCfQ?view_as=subscriber>
* Facebook: We made the decision not to have a presence due to ongoing data privacy concerns with this platform.

**Electronic Resources**

Work will continue throughout the Fall on these sites.

* ALA Connect: <https://connect.ala.org/core/home>
* Website: <http://www.ala.org/core/>

**Continuing Education**

* Courses:The Fundamentals of Cataloging courses (formerly ALCTS) are fully subscribed and underway. A new course on Fundamentals of Digital Libraries will be tested this fall and launched early in 2021.
* Webinars: Four were offered in September. We are also testing “Core Classroom,” a hands-on webinar series with homework and interactive discussions. The series launch is expected early in 2021.

**Awards**

The awards programs of the three previous divisions were catalogued and reviewed by a member working group. Due to the sheer number of awards in the combined division, the leadership team has decided to pause all awards in FY21, except for the four programs managed on behalf of ALA and with other divisions: John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Awards, ALA/AIA Library Building Awards, Frederick G. Kilgour Award for Research in Library and Information Technology, and the Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Award (with ACRL). The rest of the awards will be evaluated during this transitional year, with some consolidations and eliminations likely.

**Publications**

Like awards, the publications program will be evaluated over the transitional year, with changes to both production and distribution likely. The three journals of the former divisions will remain independent, though we will look for opportunities to standardize production and branding in preparation for FY22.