



## DUTIES OF ALA COUNCILORS

The ALA Council is the governing body of the ALA. It delegates authority to the divisions of the Association to plan and carry out programs and activities in accordance with policy established by the Council. The council determines all policies of the Association, and its decisions are binding unless set aside by the membership (ALA Bylaws Article VII, Section 2 c.).

There are a total of **125 Council members**:

- 36 Councilors-at-Large (elected by ALA membership);
- 53 Chapter Councilors (elected by Chapters);
- 8 Division Councilors (elected by Divisions);
- 14 Round Table Councilors (elected by Round Tables); and
- 14 Executive Board Members (note: voting members only) (elected by Council)
  - The Executive Director serves as a non-voting member of Council.

Any personal member of the Association can be elected to the ALA Council. The officers of Council are the ALA President, ALA President-Elect, ALA Treasurer, and the ALA Executive Director. Round Tables with personal membership equal to or greater than one percent of ALA's total personal membership as of August 31 of each year are entitled to elect one councilor. The remaining Round Tables are jointly represented by one councilor – the Small Round Table Councilor which represents 5 Round Tables.

Per ALA Bylaws, Article VI. Council Section 5. Council Meetings. The Council shall hold at least two (2) meetings each year, of which one shall be held during the annual conference of the Association and any other(s) shall be designated by the Executive Board or at the call of the president.

In addition, Councilors are expected to attend the ALA Membership Meeting at the Annual Conference. New Councilors will be asked to attend orientation sessions at the Annual Conference and Winter Meeting following their election.

ALA Councilors also serves as members of the ALA-Allied Professional Association [ALA-APA] Council. \* The ALA-APA Council is the governing body of the ALA-APA and determines all policies of the ALA-APA. It meets once at the Winter Meeting. All Councilors are expected to attend the ALA-APA Council meeting.

Councilors are charged with the following duties:

1. To annually elect a Council Committee on Committees (COC) upon nomination by the President-Elect and Committee on Committees (floor nominations are also accepted). The COC works with the president-elect to appoint members to Council and ALA committees and develop slates of Council nominees for the Executive Board, COO, PBA, etc.



2. To review the actions of the Executive Board; receive the minutes of all Executive Board meetings; receive reports from the President for the Executive Board, from the Executive Director for the Headquarters staff and from the Treasurer, the division presidents, and BARC on the projected budget for the ensuing year. By directive also receive at each Winter and Annual meeting a report from the Freedom to Read Foundation, the Endowment Trustees, and the Policy Monitoring Committee.
3. To receive the views of the Resolutions Committee about all resolutions presented to Council from Councilors, ALA units, and the Membership.
4. To originate and act on all proposed amendments to the Bylaws before these are submitted to the membership for vote.
5. To establish dues for chapter, organization, and corporate ALA members upon recommendation of the Executive Board.
6. To receive the report of the ALA Nominating Committee and Committee on Committees.
7. To act on petitions from national organizations requesting affiliation with the Association.
8. To act on resolutions referred to by the ALA Membership.
9. To review at each meeting the information on implementation of actions from previous Council meetings.
10. To establish state, provincial, regional, and territorial library associations as ALA chapters as provided in the Bylaws.
11. To establish a division or discontinue divisions or round tables.
12. To establish or discontinue committees and to determine their composition, function and size as the Association's needs require.
13. To determine all Association policies; may delegate responsibility to speak for the Association within assigned fields of responsibility in accordance with general Council policies.
14. To authorize changes, additions, and deletions in the ALA Policy Manual upon recommendation of the Policy Monitoring Committee following.

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\*NOTE: Because the ALA-APA is a 501(c)6 organization and thus is governed by different regulations than ALA, which is a 501(c)3 organization, some employers may impose restrictions on participation in the ALA-APA.

Individuals considering ALA/APA office are encouraged to consult with their employer regarding any restrictions regarding lobbying activities or service on the Board of a 501(c)6 organization, and to consult with ALA staff regarding accommodation to any such restriction.



The ALA-APA Bylaws state: "Notwithstanding the provisions in Articles IV, V, AND VII, an individual who is unable to unwilling to serve as a member of the ALA-APA Council, Board or Committee shall be entitled to submit a written resignation to the Executive Director, and upon submission of said resignation, that individual shall cease to be a member of that respective body."