

**2014 MIDWINTER MEETING**

**IMPLEMENTATION REPORT**

**TO ALA COUNCIL**

**AT THE**

**2014 ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**LAS VEGAS, NEVADA**

## REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2014 ALA MIDWINTER MEETING COUNCIL ACTIONS

ALA Policy A.4.2.4 requires the Executive Board or its delegates to report to Council on the status of implementation of motions and resolutions passed by Council during the preceding year. The report shall be entered in the Council minutes.

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**Document Number/Title of Document:** ALA CD#34, Resolution on Electronic Communications for ALA Council

**Implementation Action:** Based on ALA Council Document #34, Resolution on Electronic Communications, moved and seconded by ALA Councilors John Sandstrom, Lauren Comito, and Suzanne L. Sager, the ALA Council **VOTED** that the ALA President shall appoint a task force of the Council to work with ALA HQ staff to:

1. Examine and revise as needed the guidelines for the Council email lists and electronic communications,
2. Determine when various Council Documents should be available to the membership-at-large and the public-at-large,
3. Determine what options are available for sharing Council Documents and what are the capabilities, requirements, and consequences of each option,
4. Make recommendations to Council regarding which option(s) should be adopted,
5. Determine a schedule for re-examining these issues.
6. Prepare an interim report for Annual 2014.
7. Prepare a final report and recommendations for Midwinter 2015."

**Response:** On March 17, 2014, ALA President Barbara K. Stripling appointed John C. Sandstrom, chair, Lauren Comito, Bernard A. Margolis, and Mike L. Marlin, to serve on the Presidential Task Force on Electronic Communications for the ALA Council. ALA staff support to the task force includes Pam Akins, Danielle Alderson, and Lois Ann Gregory-Wood.

The task force will present its recommendations for Council's consideration at Council I on Sunday, June 29, 8:30-11:00am, LVH, Paradise North, Las Vegas, NV.

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**Document Number/Title of Document:** ALA CD#17, Policy Monitoring Committee Report. At the 2013 ALA Annual Conference, the ALA Council adopted the 2012-2013 ALA CD#44, Resolution on Prayer, as amended to read:

"The American Library Association refrains from having public prayers during its meetings. Moments of silence may be observed during meetings."

At the 2014 ALA Midwinter Meeting, upon recommendation by the Policy Monitoring Committee, the ALA Council **VOTED** that the above text be incorporated into the ALA *Policy Manual* as Policy A.7.4.1.2.

**Response:** The new policy has been incorporated into the online *ALA Policy Manual*.

**Document Number/Title of Document:** ALA CD#35, Revised, 1/26/14, Resolution to Improve Member Access to ALA Unit Governing Information, ALA CD#35.

**Implementation Action:** Based on ALA Council Document #35, Revised, 1/26/14, Resolution to Improve Member Access to ALA Unit Governing Information, moved and seconded by ALA Councilors Gina Persichini, Suzanne Sager, and Ed Garcia, the ALA Council **VOTED** that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. Adjusts policy to include, "the governing bodies of ALA Divisions and Round Tables shall make drafts of their meeting minutes or other reports of actions taken available via the unit's ALA-hosted web page within 30 days of the meeting;"
2. Adjusts policy to include, "the governing bodies of ALA Divisions and Round Tables shall make final versions of meeting minutes or other reports of actions taken available via the unit's ALA-hosted web page within 30 days of their approval;"
3. Requires governing bodies to maintain an easily-available historical record of these meetings and action reports; and
4. Exempts sub-units of the divisions and sub-units of round tables from the policy. "

**Response:** The ALA Council's action was communicated to the Council Policy Monitoring Committee (PMC) who will bring its recommendation on the placement of the policy language into the *Policy Manual* for Council's consideration at the 2014 ALA Annual Conference.

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**Document Number/Title of Document:** ALA CD#37, Resolution on Whistleblower Edward Snowden.

**Implementation Action:** The ALA Council **DEFEATED**, Resolution on Whistleblower Edward Snowden, ALA CD#37, which read: "That the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members: recognizes Edward Snowden, as a whistleblower who, in releasing information that documents the mass surveillance programs of the National Security Agency, has performed a valuable service in launching a dialogue about transparency, government surveillance, and over classification."

**Response:** No further action necessary.

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**Document Number/Title of Document:** ALA CD#38, Resolution to Allow Programs at American Library Association (ALA) Midwinter Meetings.

**Implementation Action:** The ALA Council **REFERRED**, Resolution to Allow Programs at American Library Association (ALA) Midwinter Meetings, ALA CD#38, which read: "That the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members change policy A.7.4.11 to allow for programs designed for continuing education and development in the fields of library service," to the Budget Analysis and Review Committee (BARC).

**Response:** The Budget Analysis and Review Committee will report to the ALA Council on the resolution at the 2014 ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas, NV.

**Document Number/Title of Document:** ALA CD#24, ALA Honorary Membership

**Implementation Action:** The ALA Council **VOTED** to bestow an ALA honorary membership upon Patricia Glass Schuman.

**Response:** The ALA honorary membership will be presented to Patricia Glass Schuman during the ALA Opening General Session on Friday, June 27, 4:00pm-5:15pm, LVCC, Exhibit Hall C1.

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**Document Number/Title of Document:** Memorials Resolutions, M-#1-4, and Tribute Resolution, T-#1; ALA CD#20.1B; ALA CD#19.1B; and ALA CD#20.4.

**Implementation Action:** The ALA Council **ADOPTED** the following memorials for Augusta "Gussie" Clark, M-#1; Major Owens, M-#2; Nasser Sharify, M-#3; Bohdan Stephan Wynar, M-#4; and Pete Seeger (oral acknowledgment).

Also, the ALA Council **ADOPTED**, the following tributes for Giovanni's Room Bookstore and Owner Ed Hermance, T-#1; Senator Patrick Leahy and Congressman James Sensenbrenner, ALA CD#20.1B and ALA CD#19.1B; and Senator John D. (Jay) Rockefeller IV, ALA CD#20.4.

**Response:** All memorial and tribute resolutions were disseminated as directed by the resolutions.

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**Document Number/Title of Document:** ALA CD#11.2, Tellers Report on the ALA Executive Board Election.

**Implementation Action:** The ALA Council **ELECTED** the following persons to a three-year terms on the Executive Board (2014-2017): **Peter D. Hepburn; Gina A. Persichini; and Gail A. Schlachter.** **Mike L. Marlin** was also elected to a 5-month term (January 28 through July 1, 2014) on the Executive Board to complete the unexpired term of Sylvia K. Norton, recently appointed executive director of the ALA American Association of School Librarians (AASL).

**Response:** Mike Marlin's Executive Board term began immediately following his election. Peter D. Hepburn; Gina A. Persichini; and Gail A. Schlachter will begin their three-year terms at the close of the 2014 ALA Annual Conference.

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**Document Number/Title of Document:** Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC) and the Committee on Legislation (COL) Report on the Joint Resolution: ALA CD#19.1 and ALA CD#20.1, Resolution on Curbing Government Surveillance and Restoring Civil Liberties.

**Implementation Action:** By **CONSENT**, the ALA Council divided the "Resolved" clause of the joint COL and IFC ALA CD#19.1 and 20.1, Resolution on Curbing Government Surveillance and Restoring Civil Liberties, into two separate actions: ALA CD#19.1(A) and CD#19.1(B) and ALA CD#20.1(A) and ALA CD#20.1B.

The ALA Council then **ADOPTED** ALA CD#19.1(A) and ALA CD#20.1(A), Resolution on Curbing Government Surveillance and Restoring Civil Liberties, as amended to read: "The American Library Association (ALA), on upon of its members:

calls upon Congress to pass legislation supporting the reforms embodied in H.R. 3361/S. 1599 as introduced, and upon the President to sign such legislation."

**Document Number/Title of Document:** Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC) and the Committee on Legislation (COL) Report on the Joint Resolution: ALA CD#19.1A and ALA CD#20.1A, Resolution on Curbing Government Surveillance and Restoring Civil Liberties (*continued*)

**Dissemination:** Resolution distributed, cited and used to direct ALA's work in support of H.R. 3361/S.1599. Also used as basis for press releases and other public statements by ALA in support of USA Freedom Act.

**Response:** The resolution was well received by Hill staffers, coalition members and other allies.

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**Document Number/Title of Document:** Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC) and the Committee on Legislation (COL) Report on the Joint Resolution: ALA CD#19.1B and ALA CD#20.1B, Resolution on Curbing Government Surveillance and Restoring Civil Liberties.

**Implementation Action:** The ALA Council **ADOPTED** ALA CD#19.1B and ALA CD#20.1B, Resolution on Curbing Government Surveillance and Restoring Civil Liberties, as amended to read: "The American Library Association (ALA), on upon of its members:

commends Senator Patrick Leahy and Congressman James Sensenbrenner for sponsoring the USA FREEDOM Act, the 143 legislators in the Senate and the House who have co-sponsored it, and the 85 organizations that have endorsed it, as of January 27, 2014."

**Response:** Offices of Leahy and Sensenbrenner expressed appreciation for recognition of their leadership.

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**Document Number/Title of Document: Document Number/Title of Document:** Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC) and the Committee on Legislation (COL) Report on the Joint Resolution: CD#20.2 and ALA CD#19.2, Resolution on Expanding Federal Whistleblower Protections.

The ALA Council **ADOPTED** ALA CD#20.2 and ALA CD#19.2, Resolution on Expanding Federal Whistleblower Protections, which read "That the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. urges Congress to amend the Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act of 2012 to extend existing legal protections for whistleblowers to employees of all national security and intelligence agencies, and to non-federal employees working for civilian contractors;
2. urges Congress to establish a secure procedure by which all federal employees, and all non-federal employees working for civilian contractors, may safely share evidence they have discovered of fraud, waste, or abuse with the appropriate oversight committees of Congress, and directly with the press and the American people, with the protection of legally enforceable rights against retaliation or prosecution;
3. commends the courage and perseverance of federal employees, and non-federal employees working for civilian contractors, who risk their livelihoods, their reputations and their liberty to expose evidence of government fraud, waste, or abuse."

**Document Number/Title of Document: Document Number/Title of Document:** Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC) and the Committee on Legislation (COL) Report on the Joint Resolution: CD#20.2 and ALA CD#19.2, Resolution on Expanding Federal Whistleblower Protections (*continued*)

**Dissemination:** Shared with congressional and coalition allies involved with reform of whistleblower protection laws. Noted in various meetings on the Hill and elsewhere including those of openthegovernment.org. Shared with Government Accountability Project (GAP) for further distribution in their efforts.

**Response:** GAP, in particular, was very appreciative of ALA's position and refers to the policy regularly. There has been little congressional attention on these whistleblower issues because of efforts to get the USA FREEDOM Act passed so there has been less opportunity to engage around this resolution.

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**Document Number/Title of Document:** Committee on Legislation Report, ALA CD#20.3, Resolution on Maintaining Government Websites during a Government Shutdown.

**Implementation Action:** The ALA Council **ADOPTED** ALA CD#20.3, Resolution on Maintaining Government Websites during a Government Shutdown, as amended to read:

The American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. urges the President to direct the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and Department of Justice (DoJ) to develop guidance to federal agencies stating that, in the event of a government shutdown or other emergency, continued access by the public to essential information on agency websites is an "excepted" activity that would warrant the retention of personnel or the obligation of funds to assure access;
2. urges the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), in the absence of such a guideline, to direct each agency to communicate the status during a shutdown of its website to the Government Printing Office (GPO) or another appropriate agency, which would widely communicate and update information about which agencies are maintaining their websites, which are updating them and which are closing them;
3. urges OMB to require each agency to determine what information is essential and should be available if a government shutdown or emergency should occur. For such an occurrence, develop a contingency plan for continued public access to information;
4. urges OMB to direct agencies to work with GPO in hosting their online publications and data in the Federal Digital System (FDSys) or other publicly accessible means;
5. urges GPO to expand its automated harvesting of Federal agencies' websites and to redirect persistent uniform resource locators (PURLs) to GPO-harvested copies rather than agency websites; and
6. urges that GPO or another appropriate agency be directed to maintain a clearinghouse of web pages that provide alternate ways of accessing government information.

**Document Number/Title of Document:** Committee on Legislation Report, ALA CD#20.3, Resolution on Maintaining Government Websites during a Government Shutdown (**continued**)

**Dissemination:** The Washington Office has shared ALA's position with the Administration, OMB, GPO and also shared this resolution during Congressional meetings when it was appropriate.

**Response:** We were thanked for our interest and work in this area.

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**Document Number/Title of Document:** ALA 2013 CD #49, Resolution on Digitization of U.S. Government Documents.

**Implementation Action:** The ALA Council **VOTED** that the Committee on Legislation (COL) report out at the 2014 Annual Conference on ALA 2013 CD #49, Resolution on Digitization of U.S. Government Documents, which was referred to COL at the 2013 Annual Conference.

**Response:** The Committee on Legislation (COL) will report to Council on the resolution at the 2014 Annual Conference.

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**Document Number/Title of Document:** ALA CD#36 Lemony Snicket Prize for Noble Librarians Faced with Adversity.

**Implementation Action:** The ALA Council **APPROVED** the establishment of the Lemony Snicket Prize for Noble Librarians Faced with Adversity as outlined in ALA CD#36.

**Response:** Laurence Copel, youth outreach librarian and founder of the Lower Ninth Ward Street Library, New Orleans, is the first recipient of the Lemony Snicket Prize for Noble Librarians Faced with Adversity. Daniel Handler, also known as Lemony Snicket, will present Copel with the prize on June 29, 2014, at the ALA Annual Conference. Copel will receive a cash prize along with an odd, symbolic object from Handler's private collection.