

2015-2016 ALA CD#41_61716_ACT
2016 ALA Annual Conference

Because of its financial implications, this resolution was forwarded to the Budget Analysis and Review Committee (BARC) by the Council Resolutions Committee

RESOLUTION ON ALA SUPPORT FOR SPECTRUM SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Whereas a commitment to diversity and to diversifying the profession to reflect the society we serve is articulated in the ALA Strategic Plan as a Key Action Area and the Spectrum Scholarship Program is ALA's most visible and effective initiative working towards this strategic action;

Whereas the Spectrum Scholarship was created in 1997 to increase the number of students from underrepresented groups in library and information science (LIS) programs through a competitive scholarship program;

Whereas the Spectrum Scholarship will be celebrating its 20th Anniversary in 2017;

Whereas the program awarded 60 scholarships last year, with 61 scholarships announced for this year, and an additional 60 scholarships in the next fiscal year;

Whereas over the last 20 years, over 1,000 scholarships have been awarded for masters of LIS students, and 18 doctoral fellowships have been awarded;

Whereas the Spectrum Scholarship program consists of much more than just a monetary award, and includes mentoring and professional development activities sponsored by multiple ALA Divisions and Affiliates;

Whereas the alumni community of Spectrum Scholarship recipients is over 650 active members of the Association, who have over the last 20 years given back to the association by volunteering at all levels within committees, offices, round tables, affiliates, and divisions;

Whereas although the scholarships are well funded; there is insufficient funding provided to market and administer the program; and

Whereas the Spectrum Scholarship program is overseen by the Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach services but does not have a dedicated staff member to oversee the program; now, therefore, be it,

Resolved, that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

directs the Executive Director and the Executive Board of the American Library Association (ALA) to develop an operational budget inclusive of staff with increased funding for recruitment, marketing and expanding the impact of the Spectrum Scholarship program, and include input from the Spectrum Advisory Committee in the development of an operational budget.

Mover: Ed Garcia (Councilor-at-Large/Committee on Diversity)

Seconded: Matthew Ciszek (Councilor-at-Large/Committee on Diversity)

E-Form for Resolution on ALA Support for Spectrum Scholarship Program

Submitted on Saturday, June 18, 2016 - 19:54 Submitted by user:

Submitted values are:

Date:

Resolution author(s): Ed Garcia & Matthew Ciszek E-mail address: edprism@gmail.com 1. Title of Resolution: Resolution on ALA support for Spectrum Scholarship Program 2. ALA Units and/or Committees Consulted (if any):

3. Endorsements by ALA Units and/or Committees (if any):

4. Fiscal implications: Specify the resources needed to carry out the resolution's directive(s): Executive Board & Executive Director are asked to implement a budget for increased support of the spectrum scholarship program 5. List all parties to whom resolution should be sent:

Executive Board, Executive Director, Office of Diversity & Spectrum Advisory Committee 6.

Impact on ALA Policies and Positions: Explain how the resolution supports ALA's Strategic Plan, its mission, and/or its core values.:

How resolution aligns with ALA Strategic Plan:

Our first Whereas clause addresses this: a commitment to diversity and to diversifying the profession to reflect the society we serve is articulated in the ALA Strategic Plan as a Key Action Area, and the Spectrum Scholarship Program is ALA's most visible and effective initiative working towards this strategic action.

6a) ALA general policy or viewpoint: If the resolution sets forth a general policy or an ALA viewpoint, describe.:

6b) Change in existing policy: If this resolution necessitates a change in existing policy, state the policy number and the change.:

6c) New policy: If this resolution establishes new policy, describe.:

6d) Policy conflicts: If this resolution conflicts with existing policy, state provisions for resolving the conflict.:

7. Initiating Committee or Unit (if any):

8. Pertinent Background Information, e.g. bibliography, citations, supportive quotes, URLs, etc.:

9. Mover's Name: Ed Garcia

10. Seconder's Name: Matthew Ciszek

Resolution on ALA Support for Spectrum Scholarship Program

How resolution aligns with ALA Strategic Plan:

Our first Whereas clause addresses this: a commitment to diversity and to diversifying the profession to reflect the society we serve is articulated in the ALA Strategic Plan as a Key Action Area, and the Spectrum Scholarship Program is ALA's most visible and effective initiative working towards this strategic action.