

**ACTIONS OF THE ALA COUNCIL
2016 ALA MIDWINTER MEETING**

ALA Council I

Sunday, January 10, 2016, 8:30-11:00am

Westin Boston Waterfront Hotel, Grand Ballroom

Boston, Massachusetts

By **CONSENT**, Adopted ALA CD#2, 2015 Annual Conference Council Minutes as distributed.

By **CONSENT**, Approved the following slate of candidates for the ALA Executive Board Election: **Ann Crewdson**, Children's Librarian, Issaquah (WA) Library; **John C. DeSantis**, Cataloging & Metadata Services Librarian, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH; **Karen E. Downing**, Foundation and Grants Librarian, University of Michigan, Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library, Ann Arbor, MI; **Vicki Morris Emery**, Media Coordinator, Lake Braddock Secondary School, Burke, VA; **Andrew K. Pace**, Executive Director, Management Services, OCLC, Dublin, OH; and **Kimberly Ann Patton**, Youth Services Supervisor, Kansas City, KS, Public Library. (Report of the ALA Council Committee on Committees, ALA CD#11_12415_act)

ADOPTED, ALA CD#32_1716_act, Resolution Against Islamophobia, as amended to read: "That the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. recognizes the positive impact that Muslims have made in libraries and library science;
2. recognizes the contributions that Muslims have made to information and knowledge in ~~regards to~~ **fields such as** the sciences, mathematics, philosophy, medicine and geography;
3. stands with our colleagues, community members and users in speaking out against Islamophobia;
4. deplores the hate speech being directed at Muslims from every level of society; and

5. issues a public statement **condemning that condemns** Islamophobia and stands with our Muslim colleagues and users.”

ALA Council II

Monday, January 11, 2016, 10:00am-12:15pm

VOTED, To adopt the following action items contained in ALA CD#17_act, Policy Monitoring Committee Report:

Items #1-2. At the 2015 ALA Annual Conference, the ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee recommended and the ALA Council separated the Policy B.2.1.7 Labeling and Rating Systems into two new interpretations (Labeling Systems, ALA CD#19.4 and Rating Systems, ALA CD#19.5). Based on Council’s action, PMC **MOVES INSERTION** of the new interpretations into the online ALA *Policy Manual* as follows:

B.2.1.7 Labeling Systems

Labels as viewpoint-neutral directional aids are intended to facilitate access by making it easier for users to locate resources. The prejudicial label is used to warn, discourage, or prohibit users or certain groups of users from accessing the resource. The prejudicial label presupposes that individuals must be directed in making up their minds about the ideas they examine. The American Library Association affirms the rights of individuals to form their own opinions about resources they chose to access. Adopted 1951, amended 1971, 1981, 1990, 2005, 2009, 2015. (See “Policy Reference File”: Labeling Systems: An Interpretation of the *Library Bill of Rights*, 2014-2015 ALA CD#19.4); and

B.2.1.8 Rating Systems

Many organizations use or devise rating systems as a means of advising their opinions of the content and suitability or appropriate age or grade level for use of certain materials. However, the American Library Association affirms the rights of individuals to form their own opinions about resources they choose to read or view. Libraries are not required to provide ratings in their bibliographic records. If they choose to do so, they should cite the source of the rating in their catalog or discovery tool displays to indicate the library does not endorse any external rating system. Adopted 1951, amended 1971, 1981, 1990, 2005, 2009, 2015. (See “Policy Reference File”: Rating Systems: An Interpretation of the *Library Bill of Rights*, 2014-2015 ALA CD#19.5)

Item #3. At the 2015 ALA Annual Conference, the ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee recommended and the ALA Council adopted ALA CD#19.3, Internet Filtering: An Interpretation of the *Library Bill of Rights*.

By **CONSENT**, Approved, the insertion of the following abstract into the *ALA Policy Manual* under B.2.1.18, Use of Filtering Software in Libraries (which will be renumbered as B.2.1.18 based on Items 1 -2 above:

B.2.1.18 Use of Filtering Software in Libraries (new numbering)

B.2.1.18.1 Internet Filtering. The negative effects of content filters on Internet access in public libraries and schools are demonstrable and documented. Consequently, the American Library Association cannot recommend filtering. However, the American Library Association recognizes that local libraries and schools often must rely on federal or state funding for computers and internet access. Because adults and, to a lesser degree minors, have First Amendment rights, libraries and schools that choose to use content filters should implement policies and procedures that mitigate the negative effects of filtering to the greatest extent possible. Adopted, 2015. (*See* “Policy Reference File”: Committee on Professional Ethics Report: 2014-2015 ALA CD#19.3)

VOTED, To approve the application of the Joint Council of Librarians of Color to become an affiliate of the American Library Association. (Constitution and Bylaws Committee Report, ALA CD#25_1916_act)

VOTED, To approve the following action items contained in the Report of the Committee on Organization, ALA CD#27_11016_act:

Item #1. The revised name, charge, and composition of the Office of Literacy and Outreach Services (OLOS) Advisory Committee, as outlined below:

- Change the name of the OLOS Advisory Committee to the Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services Advisory Committee.
- Approve the charge of the Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services Advisory Committee:

The Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services Advisory Committee provides advice and support to the ALA Office for

Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services on the areas of diversity, literacy and outreach. The Advisory Committee is comprised of member groups that represent diverse viewpoints and constituents and will provide a two way forum to communicate member needs to the Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services and for the Office to share information with member groups. The Advisory Committee members will offer dynamic perspectives to help guide the strategic direction of the Office, will assess program effectiveness, encourage the exploration of new ideas and initiatives, and strengthen the growth of equity and inclusion within the American Library Association and the profession as a whole. Members are appointed to the Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services Advisory Committee through recommendations from the Presidents/Chairs of the stakeholder committees and organizations, with an additional three members appointed by the ALA President-elect.

- Change the composition of the Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services Advisory Committee, as follows:

The composition of the new Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services Advisory Committee will be made up of the merger of Diversity Council, a subcommittee of the Committee on Diversity (COD) and the OLOS Advisory Committee. Fifteen members of the Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services Advisory Committee will represent the following groups detailed below. Groups will select their own member representative with the exception of the three designated ex officio members.

- ❖ Current Diversity Council representatives (7 members):
 - American Indian Library Association (AILA)
 - Asian Pacific Librarians Association (APALA)
 - Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA)
 - Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA)
 - REFORMA (the national association to promote library and information services to Latinos and the Spanish speaking)
 - Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Round Table (GLBTRT)
 - Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA)

- ❖ Current OLOS Advisory Committee representatives (7 members):
 - Ethnic & Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table (EMIERT)
 - Social Responsibilities Round Table (SRRT)
 - Sustainability Round Table (SustainRT)
 - Association of Bookmobile & Outreach Services (ABOS)
 - Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL)
 - Committee on Literacy (COL)--Chair will serve (ex officio)
 - Rural, Native and Tribal Libraries of All Kinds (RNTLOAK) Committee—Chair will serve (ex officio)

- ❖ Committee on Diversity (COD) Chair (ex officio) (1 member)

An additional three members will be appointed by ALA President-Elect for a total of 18 members. All 18 members will have two-year staggered terms, with a chairperson appointed annually by the ALA President-elect.

Item #2. Formally designates a Dean/Director position on the ALA Committee on Accreditation, within the current committee structure. Appointment to that position, when vacant, will be made by the ALA appointing officer from a list of recommendations to be made by the ALISE Council of Deans and Directors.

VOTED, To approve the following programmatic priorities, as a basis for the FY17 budget and as a key framework for strategic planning:

- Advocacy for Libraries and the Profession
- Diversity
- Education and Lifelong Learning
- Equitable Access to Information and Library Services
- Intellectual Freedom
- Literacy
- Organizational Excellence
- Transforming Libraries

(ALA Programmatic Priorities, ALA CD#13.1, 1716_act)

ALA Council III
Tuesday, January 12, 2016, 9:30am-12:30pm

ADOPTED, Memorial resolutions for Shereen Marx, M-#1; Kuang-Hwei (Janet) Lee-Smeltzer, M-#2; Richard C. Fyffe, M-#3; Billy Charles Beal, M-#4; Allene Farmer Hayes, M-#5; and Linda Waddle, M-#6.

ADOPTED, Tribute resolutions for James H. Billington, ALA CD#20.2; and Barbara Blossveren, T#1.

ELECTED, To three-year terms (2016-2019) on the Executive Board were: Karen E. Downing and Andrew K. Pace. (Council Tellers Report on the ALA Executive Board Election Results, ALA CD#11.2_11116_inf)

ELECTED, To 1-1/2 year term (January 2016 through June 2017) on the Executive Board was John C. DeSantis. (Council Tellers Report on the ALA Executive Board Election Results, ALA CD#11.2_11116_inf)

ADOPTED, ALA CD#19.1 and ALA CD#20.1, Resolution for Restoring Civil Liberties and Opposing Mass Surveillance, which read: "That the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members and the public interest:

1. urges the President and Congress to amend all germane surveillance-enabling authorities, such as Executive Order 12333, the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) as amended, and the USA PATRIOT Act, to:
 - a. require government agencies to obtain judicial warrants before collecting any individual's personal information from third parties and require court approval for National Security Letters;
 - b. raise the standard for government collection of all records under FISA from "reasonable grounds" to "probable cause" and sunset Section 215 of the USA PATRIOT ACT (commonly known as the "library records" section);
 - c. limit the government's ability to use information gathered under intelligence authorities in unrelated criminal cases, thereby making it easier to challenge the use of illegally obtained surveillance information in criminal proceedings; and

- d. prohibit the government from requiring hardware and software companies to deliberately design encryption and other security features to facilitate government access to information otherwise protected by such features;
2. recommits itself to leadership in the fight for restoration of the public's privacy and civil liberties through statutory and other legal reforms; and
3. commends and thanks all parties, both inside and outside of government, involved in developing and securing passage of the USA FREEDOM Act, resulting in movement away from overbroad surveillance laws and practices for the first time in more than a decade.” (ALA CD#19.1 and ALA CD#20.1— joint resolution sponsored by the Committee on Legislation and the Intellectual Freedom Committee)

ADOPTED, ALA CD#19.2, User Generated Content in Library Discovery System: An Interpretation of the *ALA Library Bill of Rights*.

ADOPTED, ALA CD#31_Rev_11116_act_3:00pm, Resolution Concerning Accessibility of ALA Conferences and Meetings for People with Disabilities, which read: “That the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

establish and charge a Conference Accessibility Task Force to:

1. collect data from ALA Members and conference attendees with disabilities;
2. establish methods for reviewing and addressing accessibility grievances;
3. draft guidelines for review of contracts to ensure ADA and WCAG compliance;
4. research best practices for accessibility training and makes a recommendation for implementation;
5. report progress to Council during the ALA Annual Conference 2016 and ALA Midwinter 2017 and;
6. make a final report to Council with recommendations during ALA Annual Conference 2017 in Chicago.”

ADOPTED, ALA CD#34_11016_act, Resolution on Replacing the Library of Congress Subject Heading "Illegal Aliens" with "Undocumented Immigrants," which read: "That the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

urges the Library of Congress to change the subject heading *Illegal aliens* to *Undocumented immigrants*."

ADOPTED, ALA CD#35_11116_act, Resolution Supporting the 2015 Advocacy Implementation Plan, which read: "That the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. encourages all divisions, round tables, state chapters, school affiliates, other affiliate organizations, and individual libraries and library staff to adopt the *Advocacy Implementation Plan* in order to move forward the advocacy goals and ensure the success of libraries and the profession across the nation; and
2. urges cross division and organizational collaboration to galvanize the membership and advance the *Advocacy Implementation Plan* and *Libraries Transform* campaign through the power of collective impact.