

**2016 MIDWINTER MEETING  
IMPLEMENTATION REPORT  
ON ALA COUNCIL ACTIONS  
TAKEN AT THE  
2015 ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

## REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2015 ANNUAL CONFERENCE 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 Awards Committee Report, ALA CD#7

**Implementation Action:** The ALA Council *APPROVED*, the establishment of the Ernest A. DiMattia, Jr. Award for Innovation, and Service to Community and Profession. (ALA CD#7)

**Response:** The application deadline for the \$5,000 cash award is December 1<sup>st</sup> of the year preceding the presentation of the award. The first award will be presented during the 2016 ALA Annual Conference in Orlando, FL.

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**Document Number/Title of Document:** ALA Constitution and Bylaws Committee Report, ALA CD#25.1

**Implementation Action:** The ALA Council *REFERRED*, back to Constitution and Bylaws Committee, Item#1: "That the following amendment to the ALA Constitution be approved so that at the 2016 Midwinter Meeting Council can consider placing the amendment on the spring 2016 ballot for the membership's vote:

Amend Article X of the ALA Constitution to state:

Section 1. National or international organizations having purposes similar to those of the Association or to one or more of the Association's subdivisions may request to become an affiliate of the Association. Requests for affiliation are subject to Council's approval.

Section 2. The Association or any subdivision thereof may request to become an affiliate with national or international organizations having purposes similar to those of the Association or to one or more of the Association's subdivisions. However no subdivision of the Association may separately affiliate itself with an organization with which the Association is affiliated."

**Response:** The Bylaws and Constitution Committee will bring its revised recommendation to Council at the 2016 ALA Midwinter Meeting.

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**Document Number/Title of Document:** ALA Strategic Directions Document, ALA CD#37

**Implementation Action:** *ADOPTED*, ALA CD#37, ALA Strategic Directions Document, as amended to add new wording to the 8<sup>th</sup> bullet point of the "Goals" of "Professional and Leadership Development (page7). The revised language reads:

- The outcome of learning is **knowledge supporting positive** individual and organizational change.

**Response:** The ALA Strategic Directions Document will be implemented as amended.

**Document Number/Title of Document:** The Resolution on the Importance of Sustainable Libraries, ALA CD#36.

**Implementation Action:** The ALA Council *ADOPTED*, Resolution on the Importance of Sustainable Libraries, ALA CD#36, which read: “That the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. recognizes the important and unique role libraries play in wider community conversations about resiliency, climate change, and a sustainable future and begins a new era of thinking sustainably in order to consider the economic, environmental and socially equitable viability of choices made on behalf of the association;
2. enthusiastically encourages activities by itself, its membership, library schools and state associations to be proactive in their application of sustainable thinking in the areas of their facilities, operations, policy, technology, programming, partnerships and library school curricula; and
3. directs the ALA Executive Director to pursue sustainable choices when planning conferences and meetings and to actively promote best practices of sustainability through ALA publications, research and educational opportunities to reach our shared goal of vital, visible and viable libraries for the future.”

**Response:** ALA Management has followed up with the Chair of the Sustainability Round Table, and is initially focusing on two areas related to sustainability. The “greening” of the Association’s physical facilities and the ALA Annual Conference and Midwinter Meeting. A report on ALA’s efforts at this Midwinter Meeting in Boston “Think Fit at Midwinter 2016” is attached to this document as (ALA CD#9.1). Further reports will be provided on an ongoing basis, as will efforts to reduce our carbon footprint as an association and to support libraries of all types in their sustainability efforts within their communities.

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**Document Number/Title of Document:** Resolution Denouncing the Systemic Racism that Motivated the South Carolina Shootings, ALA CD#43.

**Implementation Action:** The ALA Council *ADOPTED*, ALA CD#43, Resolution Denouncing the Systemic Racism that Motivated the South Carolina Shootings, as amended to read: “That the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. denounces racially and politically motivated **violence as exemplified by the** shootings at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church in Charleston, South Carolina, on the evening of Wednesday, June 17, 2015;
2. recognizes the hidden, endemic, and pervasive nature of systemic racism in American culture;
3. will strengthen and prioritize its own efforts to support diversity and foster cultural understanding and humility within our profession; and
4. will work with other professional associations to enable **librarians library staff** and information organizations to expand our collective understanding of the hidden, systemic nature of racism in American culture and its potential for violence.”

**Document Number/Title of Document:** Resolution Denouncing the Systemic Racism that Motivated the South Carolina Shootings, ALA CD#43 (*cont.*)

**Response:** The ALA Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion is charged to develop a plan and strategic actions to build more equity, diversity, and inclusion among ALA members, the field of librarianship and communities. The most important Task Force outcome is the public and honest conversation that will be generated by its plan and recommended action. The final Task Force report will include recommendations for ensuring that a continuing focus on equity, diversity, and inclusion is embedded throughout the ALA organization. The Task Force will present its final report at the 2016 ALA Annual Conference in Orlando, FL.

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**Document Number/Title of Document:** Resolution on Libraries and Schools Affected by the Conflict in Gaza and Israel in 2014, ALA CD#40.

**Implementation Action:** The ALA Council *DEFEATED*, CD#40, Resolution on Libraries and Schools Affected by the Conflict in Gaza and Israel in 2014, which read: "That the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. deplores the destruction and damage of cultural institutions, including schools and libraries, in Gaza and Israel during the recent conflict there;
2. deplores the use of schools for storing or firing weapons;
3. calls again for the protection of libraries and cultural resources in the Middle East, and urges the US Government to support the United States Committee of the Blue Shield in upholding the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict"; and
4. calls upon the government of the United States, as well as other governments, intergovernmental organizations, and nongovernmental organizations to provide material assistance for the reconstruction and restoration of these libraries and schools."

**Response:** No further action is required on this resolution at this time.

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**Document Number/Title of Document:** Committee on Organization Report, ALA CD#27.1

**Implementation Action:** The ALA Council *APPROVED*, Committee on Organization, ALA CD#27.1, Action Item #1 as stated below:

Revision of the Budget Analysis and Review Committee (BARC) composition description (changes in **bold italics**):

The Budget Analysis & Review Committee (BARC) consists of nine (9) Members:

- Two (2) ALA Executive Board Members, with staggered two-year terms
- Six (6) ALA Members, with staggered four-year terms
- ALA Treasurer (*ex-officio* voting)

A Chair is selected from among the non-Executive Board members.

**Document Number/Title of Document:** Committee on Organization Report, ALA CD#27.1 (*cont.*)

**Executive Board Members and ALA Members may not be reappointed once they have served on the Committee for four (4) years. The maximum four (4) years need not be consecutive and need not be served as the same member type. For example, one could serve as an Executive Board Member for two (2) years and an ALA Member for two (2) years.**

**Three (3)-year Treasurer term do not count towards the four (4)-year term of Committee service outlined above. Therefore, one may serve as Treasurer for three (3) years and a combination of Executive Board Member/ALA Member for four (4) years, for a total of seven (7) years.**

**Response:** The revised BARC composition has been appropriately disseminated.

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**Document Number/Title of Document:** Memorial Resolutions, M-#18-M-#27

The ALA Council **ADOPTED** the following memorials: Gail A. Schlachter, M-#18; David Cohen, M-#19; Charles Benton, M-#20; Cynthia D. Clark, M-#21; Ruth C. Carter, M-#22; William Vernon Jackson, M-#23; Elizabeth H. (Betsy) Park, M-#24; Floyd C. Dickman, M-#25; Cynthia G. Hurd, M-#26; and Zoia Horn, M-#27.

**Response:** Memorial resolutions were disseminated to the friends, families, and colleagues of the above persons.

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**Document Number/Title of Document:** Tribute Resolutions, T-#6-#10

**Implementation Action:** The ALA Council **ADOPTED** tribute resolutions for: Jessie Carney Smith, T-#6; 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), T-#7; 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association (APALA), T-#8; Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore, MD, T#9; and 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the National Endowment for the Humanities, T-#10.

**Dissemination:** Tribute resolutions were appropriately disseminated.

**Response from:** Janet H. Clark, APALA President

“On behalf of APALA, I thank you for this fantastic resolution by ALA Council for recognizing APALA and its dedication to diversity and social justice on behalf of Asian American/Pacific Islander librarians and communities. We are very excited about working with ALA leadership in accomplishing our mutual goals.”

**Document Number/Title of Document:** Council Tellers Report, ALA CD#12.2, Item #1

**Implementation Action:** The ALA Council *ELECTED*, To the 2015-2016 Council Committee on Committees: Gladys Smiley Bell; Maria Carpenter; Stephen L. Matthews; and Rocco A. Staino. This committee will be chaired by ALA President-Elect Julie B. Todaro.

**Response:** 1) The 2015-2016 Committee on Committees will: (1) report its slate of candidates for the upcoming Council ALA Executive Board election at the ALA Midwinter Meeting; 2) complete its appointments to the 17 ALA Council committees at the 2016 Midwinter Meeting; and (3) develop (April, 2016) its slates of candidates for the 2016-2017 Committee on Committees and Planning and Budget Assembly Council elections.

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**Document Number/Title of Document:** Council Tellers Report, ALA CD#12.2, Item #2

**Implementation Action:** *ELECTED*, To the 2015-2016 Planning and Budget Assembly. *Councilors-at-Large:* John C. DeSantis and Eric D. Suess. *Chapter Councilors:* Jennifer A. Alvino; Ben Allen Hunter; and Patricia (Patty) M. Wong.

**Response:** The PBA will meet at the 2016 ALA Midwinter Meeting on Sunday, January 9, 1:00 - 2:30pm. The invitation to attend the meeting, along with an agenda will be sent to Council, Committee, Division and Round Table PBA representatives.

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**Document Number/Title of Document:** Committee on Legislation (COL) and Intellectual Freedom Committee Joint Report on ALA CD#42, Resolution Against Mass Surveillance of the American People.

**Implementation Action:** In response Council's referral of ALA CD#42, Resolution Against Mass Surveillance of the American People, the COL and IFC proposed the following substitute Resolution on the Passage of the USA Freedom Act and Reaffirming ALA's Commitment to Surveillance Law Reform, which read: "That the American Library Association, on behalf of its members: 1) commends the authors and primary supporters of the USA FREEDOM Act for their efforts, courage, and success in securing its passage; 2) recommits itself to the maximum possible restoration of the public's privacy and civil liberties through statutory and other legal reforms; and 3) reaffirms its commitment to fostering maximum transparency in all workings of government.

The ALA Council *REFERRED*, Resolution on the Passage of the USA Freedom Act and Reaffirming ALA's Commitment to Surveillance Law Reform (*substitute resolution*); and ALA CD#42, Resolution Against Mass Surveillance of the American People (*original resolution*), back to the ALA Committee on Legislation and the ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee.

**Document Number/Title of Document:** Committee on Legislation (COL) and Intellectual Freedom Committee Joint Report on ALA CD#42, Resolution Against Mass Surveillance of the American People (*cont*).

**Response:** On November 16, 2015, Pam Klipsch, IFC Chair and Ann Dutton Ewbank, COL Chair, sent the following progress report on Council's referrals to their two committees at the San Francisco Conference.

"Ann and Pam discussed how to go about handling this, and agreed to convene a Working Group, with representatives of COL, IFC, SRRT, and Council, to review the resolution as we received it and determine what to do. We also set up a Connect space for the Working Group to track our progress.

The members of the Working Group are: Ann Ewbank and Kent Oliver for COL; Pam Klipsch and Doug Archer for IFC; Al Kagan and Laura Koltutsky for SRRT Action Council; and Jim Neal and Aaron Dobbs for Council.

We asked Lois Ann Gregory Wood to provide us with the transcript of the Council debate and decision to refer the resolution back to COL and IFC so that we could be sure we understood what Council wanted us to do.

The Working Group held three conference calls in August, September and October. During the first call we spent a lot of time discussing what we were charged to do and how we wanted to proceed. We also began reviewing the resolution. We then appointed a drafting party, consisting of Doug Archer, Aaron Dobbs and Laura Koltutsky, who took our initial comments and created a first draft revision of the resolution.

During the second conference call in September we again discussed, section by section, the draft revision, and made more comments. The drafting party again took responsibility for incorporating these changes into the draft document.

Our third conference call was October 20, when we were able to finish work on the draft document with a final, careful line by line review of the resolution. Throughout this process we worked to achieve consensus on each point before we moved on to the next one.

Members of the Working Group then took the proposed draft document back to their constituencies in COL, IFC and SRRT Action Council and asked for feedback. All three groups reviewed the draft and reported back that they could support the document in principle. Only one small grammatical point was raised and that change was made.

The Working Group will consider all comments posted to our Connect page or on the Council elist. We understand there is a Council Forum scheduled for Saturday night at Midwinter, and Ann and Pam will be at that Forum to answer questions and discuss the draft revised resolution. If it is necessary to make further changes after that, COL and IFC have a joint meeting sceduled for Sunday morning, and we have invited our SRRT colleagues to attend so that we can continue to work on this together.

**Document Number/Title of Document:** Committee on Legislation (COL) and Intellectual Freedom Committee Joint Report on ALA CD#42, Resolution Against Mass Surveillance of the American People (*cont*).

We would like to thank the members of the Working Group for their investment in this process of working toward consensus: Doug Archer, Aaron Dobbs, Al Kagan, Laura Koltutsky, Jim Neal and Kent Oliver. We would also like to acknowledge the support we received from our staff liaisons: Deborah Caldwell Stone (OIF), Adam Eisgrau (WO), and Gwendolyn Prellwitz (ODLOS). “

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Please note a proposed draft revised resolution was sent to Council with the above email and posted on the Working Group's Connect page at <http://connect.ala.org/node/246874> so that Councilors have ample time to review the document and post comments before we gather in Boston in January.

The COL and IFC will bring their recommendation to Council on Tuesday, January 12, 9:30-12:30pm at the ALA Midwinter Meeting.

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**Document Number/Title of Document:** Intellectual Freedom Committee Report, ALA CD#19.3-19.5.

**Implementation Action:** The ALA Council **ADOPTED** the following Interpretations of the *Library Bill of Rights*: ALA CD # 19.3, Internet Filtering; ALA CD # 19.4, Labeling Systems; ALA CD# 19.5, Rating Systems.

**Response:** At the 2016 ALA Midwinter Meeting, the Policy Monitoring Committee will report to Council on placement of the revised Interpretations into the online ALA *Policy Manual*.

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**Document Number/Title of Document:** Resolution to Improving Access to Spanish, Bilingual, and Books in Various Languages for Children in Detention Centers, ALA CD#38, Revised 2, 62915.

**Implementation Action:** The ALA Council **ADOPTED**, ALA CD#38, Revised 2, 62915, Resolution to Improving Access to Spanish, Bilingual, and Books in Various Languages for Children in Detention Centers, which read: “that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. urges ALA members and units to support the REFORMA Children in Crisis project for the continued delivery of books to refugee children and teens;
2. encourages the director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services to develop a partnership with the United States Customs and Border Protection agency to ensure that unaccompanied refugee children have access to books and programming in those children’s native languages, whether they speak Spanish, indigenous languages, or other tongues, and bilingual books;
3. urges libraries in affected areas to provide services and programs for and with detained minors while under they are in the care of government-designated service providers; and



**Document Number/Title of Document:** Resolution to Improving Access to Spanish, Bilingual, and Books in Various Languages for Children in Detention Centers, ALA CD#38, Revised 2, 62915 (*cont.*)

4. encourages ALA members, the Reference & User Services Association, and other relevant ALA units and affiliates to develop materials that meet the information and recreation needs of refugee children, teens, and their guardians, and to share that information with librarians in other affected communities.”

**Response:** The Resolution to Improving Access to Spanish, Bilingual, and Books in Various Languages for Children in Detention Centers, ALA CD#38, Revised 2, 62915, was sent to ALA divisions, offices, round tables, and other organizations for their consideration and use.

Jody Gray, the new Director of the Office for Diversity, Literacy and Outreach Services, will be coordinating ALA efforts in this area, and ALA will continue to actively support REFORMA efforts to increase access to these materials for children in detention centers.

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**Document Number/Title of Document:** Resolution on Gun Violence, ALA CD#45

**Implementation Action:** The ALA Council *ADOPTED*, Resolution on Gun Violence, as amended to read: “That the American Library Association, on behalf of its members:

1. deplores the gun violence that materially affects libraries in the communities we serve; and
2. will work with state chapters and affiliates to support legislation that allows the prohibition of the carrying of guns in or near libraries and other educational institutions.

**Response:** The resolution was widely distributed through ALA’s news sources to ALA state library chapters, affiliate members, and other educational institutions.

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**Document Number/Title of Document:** The Statement from *The Movement for Black Lives* on the Charleston Shooting, issued on Friday, June 19, 2015.

**Implementation Action:** The ALA Council *ENDORSED*, ALA CD#46, The Statement from *The Movement for Black Lives* on the Charleston Shooting, issued on Friday, June 19, 2015.

**Response:** ALA’s endorsement was shared with the organization.