

ALA Council Committee Report Form

TO: ALA Council

DATE: January 3, 2024

RE: *(select one)*

- ACTION REQUESTED
- INFORMATION
- REPORT

ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT: *(add below)*

Action requested from Councilors is to cast their vote to: *(if applicable)*

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ACTION REQUESTED BY: *(add committee name)*

ALA Publishing Committee

CONTACT PERSON: *(add chair information)*

Heather Campbell, Chair, ALA Publishing Committee

STAFF LIAISON CONTACT:

George Kendall (Staff Liaison, Interim Director, ALA Publishing & Media, and Editor & Publisher, *Booklist*)

Mary Jo Bolduc (Staff Liaison, Licensing and Permissions Manager)

BACKGROUND: *(add information)*

**ALA Publishing Committee
Council Committee Report, January 2024**

Members of the Committee:

Heather M. Campbell, Chair

Barbara A. Alvarez, Member

Renate L. Chancellor, Member

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Gina Costello, Member
Lynn M. Dixon, Associate
Kerri F. Foley, Member
Sara Kelly Johns, Member
Emily Knox, Member
Mazen El Makkouk, Associate
Charles E. McAuley, Member
Elizabeth M. McChesney, Member
Christopher Lee Proctor, Member
Peter D. Hepburn, Executive Board Liaison
George Kendall, Staff Liaison
Mary Jo Bolduc, Staff Liaison

Accomplishments, July–December 2023:

- *Welcomed new committee members and associates.* The chair emailed incoming members after ALA Annual to welcome them. She shared an onboarding document that provides an overview of the committee's activities, information about ALA Publishing & Media's product lines and other ALA publishing units, instructions for accessing ALA Connect, and expectations of committee members. Members introduced themselves in virtual committee meetings.
- *Established meeting schedule and expectations.* Members agreed to attend several virtual meetings throughout the year in addition to meeting in person at ALA Annual; the chair scheduled these meetings to take place virtually. Associates agreed to rotate minute-taking responsibilities. All members agreed to learn about ALA Publishing & Media product lines, come prepared to participate actively in meetings, and complete tasks determined by the committee.
- *Determined Carnegie-Whitney subcommittee membership and activities.* Sara Kelly Johns agreed to head the subcommittee, and Gina Costello, Christopher Proctor, Lynn Dixon, and Mazen El Makkouk volunteered to serve. The subcommittee began reviewing applications and planned to present the finalists to the full committee in February 2024.
- *Selected representative to ALA Information Technology Advisory Committee (ITAC).* Chip McAuley volunteered to represent the Publishing Committee at ITAC, and the chair communicated this decision with the ITAC chair.
- *Discussed ALA Publishing & Media activity and ideas for promoting products.* The committee heard updates from George Kendall about potential collaborations with

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Library Journal and the results of a survey of libraries selected to receive a free trial of *Booklist Reader*.

- *Established Publishing Ethics subcommittee.* To address criticism (see <https://doi.org/10.1002/asi.24593>) that ALA division journals lack publishing ethics documentation, the committee formed a subcommittee to draft a policy that all ALA editors can follow. Members include several Publishing Committee members as well as journal editors from most of ALA's divisions: Joni Bodart, Elizabeth A. Burns, Heather Campbell, Diane Dias De Fazio, Lynn M. Dixon, David Free, George Kendall, Emily Knox, Jacquie Kociubuk, Richard Saunders, Rachel Scott, Sarah Searles, Megan Thomas, Kristen Toleben, Ken Varnum, and Sharon Verbeten. The subcommittee meets virtually and has an ALA Connect channel for communication.

Planned Activities, January–June 2024:

- *Award the Carnegie-Whitney grant.* The full committee will vote on winners in February 2024.
- *Continue to review and provide feedback about ALA Publishing & Media products.*
- *Continue Publishing Ethics Subcommittee activities.* The subcommittee plans to complete a first draft of a publishing ethics policy in mid-February and a final draft before the ALA Annual Meeting in June 2024. The Publishing Committee plans to approve the final draft and then bring it to Council for adoption by ALA. Members hope that this will become the association's default publishing ethics policy, which editors/editorial boards can adapt and publish on their websites. With such a policy in place, ALA also will be able to apply for membership in the international Committee on Publication Ethics ([COPE](#)).
- *Plan the committee's meeting at ALA Annual.*
- *Write a legacy statement to reflect the committee's accomplishments.*