

# ALA Council Committee Report Form

TO: ALA Council

DATE: December 19, 2024

RE: *(select one)*

- ACTION REQUESTED
- INFORMATION

X REPORT

**ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT:**

**Committee on Professional Ethics (COPE)  
Report to Council**

As the chair of the Committee on Professional Ethics (COPE), I am pleased to report on the committee's activities since Annual Conference in June 2024

## **Charge**

The council committee on professional ethics shall augment the Code of Ethics by explanatory interpretations and additional statements, prepared by this committee or elicited from other units of ALA. When units of the association develop statements dealing with ethical issues, a copy will be sent to the committee on professional ethics for review so that it may be compared to the existing ALA code of ethics in order to determine whether or not conflicts occur.

## **COPE Statements, Q&As, and Working Groups**

As the Office for Intellectual Freedom (OIF) prepares to for the next edition of the Intellectual Freedom Manual, the COPE committee members and liaisons have been updating and revising the following committee documents for updates and possible publication in the 11<sup>th</sup> edition of the manual: approved by cope

[Enforcement of the Code of Ethics Q&A](#) -- In September 2024, the committee voted to approve the revised and updated document. It has not yet been updated on the website.

[Speech in the Workplace Q&A](#) – In progress, and will be completed early in 2025.

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[Copyright: An Interpretation of the Code of Ethics](#)– In progress, with plans to bring to Council for a vote at Annual Conference 2025.

The next projects for the committee are the revision of the following committee documents:

[Conflicts of Interest Q&A](#)

[Ethics and Social Media Q&A](#)

## Thank You

The Committee on Professional Ethics would like to acknowledge the unit liaisons for their commitment and contributions. COPE also thanks the OIF staff for their commitment, assistance, and hard work. In particular, Eric Stroshane for serving as staff liaison, and Aimee Strittmatter for scheduling our meetings. COPE thanks President Cindy Hoyl and the Executive Board for their confidence in the committee and for allowing them to serve ALA.

Respectfully submitted,  
ALA Committee on Professional Ethics

Julia Warga, chair  
Kat Breitenbach  
Richard Groves  
Wanda Mae Huffaker  
Dr. Karen Snow  
John Spears  
Amy Sarkaria Wiggins  
Afton Fawn Ussery (committee associate)

Action requested from Councilors is to cast their vote to: *n/a*

**ACTION REQUESTED BY***n/a*

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**CONTACT PERSON:**

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**STAFF LIAISON CONTACT:**

**Eric Stroshane**

**BACKGROUND:** *(add information)*