



2021

ALA Midwinter Meeting

COUNCIL ACTIONS

ALA COUNCIL I
Sunday, January 24, 2021

By CONSENT, Adopted ALA CD#8.1 Virtual Council I Agenda as distributed.

By CONSENT, Adopted ALA CD#5, Virtual Council Rules as distributed.

By CONSENT, Adopted ALA CD#2.0-2.2, 2020 Virtual Council Minutes June, September, and December as distributed.

By CONSENT, Approved the following slate of candidates for the elections of (3) councilors to serve on the ALA Executive Board.

The first THREE (3) candidates receiving the highest number of votes will be elected to three-year terms (2021-2024). Candidates: **Ann Ewbank**, Associate Professor and Department Head, Education Director, School Library Media Program, Montana State University; **Sam Helmick**, Community & Access Coordinator, Iowa City Public Library; **kYmberly Keeton**, Community Archivist & Librarian, Austin Public Library; **Ana Elisa de Campos Salles**, Branch Manager Parkside Branch, San Francisco Public Library; **Grace Jackson-Brown**, Research and Instruction Librarian Missouri State University; **Christina Rodriques**, Member Relations Outreach Manager Membership & Research OCLC; and **Kari Mitchell**, Public Adult Librarian/Public School Librarian

(Report of the ALA Council Committee on Committees, ALA CD#12)

ALA COUNCIL II

Monday, January 25, 2021

By CONSENT, Adopted, as amended ALA CD#8.2 Virtual Council II Agenda as distributed.

APPROVED, ALA CD#27, Motion #1, ALA Committee on Organization, to establish the Council Committee on Sustainability

APPROVED, ALA CD#27, Motion #2, ALA Committee on Organization, to discontinue the Library Education Assembly

APPROVED, ALA CD#27, Motion #3, ALA Committee on Organization, to discontinue the Exhibits Round Table

APPROVED, ALA CD#27, Motion #4, ALA Committee on Organization, to endorse the creation of the proposed Exhibits Advisory Group, including exhibitor and library members, as an informal body to advise Conference Services.

APPROVED, ALA CD#27, Motion #5, ALA Committee on Organization, to change the charge of the ALA Election Committee

(Report of the ALA Committee on Organization, ALA CD#27)

ADOPTED, ALA CD#20.1, the Resolution in Support of Broadband as a Human Right

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

1. affirms universal access to affordable high-capacity broadband is as essential as electricity and therefore a basic right for all; and,
2. advocates for legislative and regulatory policies through which libraries can affect positive change toward such universal access.

(Report of the ALA Committee on Legislation, ALA CD#20.1)

ADOPTED, as amended, ALA CD#43, the Resolution to Condemn White Supremacy and Fascism as Antithetical to Library Work

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

1. acknowledges the role of neutrality rhetoric in emboldening and encouraging white supremacy and fascism;
2. apologizes for past and current harm caused by the profession and within the Association, and the Association's repeated failures to address white supremacy and fascism;
3. charges the Working Group on Intellectual Freedom and Social Justice, with a representative from the Committee on Diversity, to review neutrality rhetoric and identify alternatives, sharing findings by July 1, 2021;
4. will provide confidential communication channels for past and current BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) members, staff members, community members, and others to provide direct feedback;
5. informed by that direct feedback and previous ALA Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion work¹, commits to explicitly incorporating existing and developing antiracist and antifascist frameworks, in internal and external communications, advocacy, events, and organizational design efforts moving forward;
6. will establish a working group to review these areas with ODLOS to provide a list of recommendations for implementation that will explore opportunities for restorative and reparative measures;
7. will provide a preliminary plan by January 1, 2022 to implement the resulting recommendations; and
8. will provide regular implementation updates at intervals no longer than 6 months to the full ALA membership for the duration of the project and beyond.

ALA COUNCIL III

Tuesday, January 26, 2021

By CONSENT, Adopted, ALA CD#8.3 Virtual Council III Agenda as distributed.

ADOPTED, the following Memorials by Council: M-#1 Susan S. Lazinger; M-#2 Vicki J. Terbovich; M-#3 Dr. Yvonne J. Chandler; M-#4 Luisa Vigo-Cepeda; M-#5 Marjorie Lewis; M-#6 Judy Yung; M-#7 Susana Liu; and M-#8 Violette Y. Brooks

ADOPTED, the following Tributes by Council: T-#1 Barb Macikas; T-#2 Patricia Ann (Pat) Tumulty; T-#3 Ona Šimaite; T-#4 Barbara Johns; T-#5 Judith M. Nixon

ADOPTED, as amended ALA CD 19.2, ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee, Resolution in Opposition to Facial Recognition Software in Libraries

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

1. opposes the use of facial recognition software in libraries of all types on the grounds that its implementation breaches users' and library workers' privacy and user confidentiality, thereby having a chilling effect on the use of library resources;
2. recommends that libraries, partners, and affiliate organizations engage in activities to educate staff, users, trustees, administrators, community organizations, and legislators about facial recognition technologies, their potential for bias and error, and the accompanying threat to individual privacy;
3. strongly urges libraries, partners, and affiliate organizations that use facial recognition software to immediately cease doing so based on its demonstrated potential for bias and harm and the lack of research demonstrating any safe and effective use; and
4. encourages legislators to adopt legislation that will place a moratorium on facial recognition software in libraries.

(Report of the ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee, ALA CD#19.2)

ADOPTED, as amended ALA CD 19.3, ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee, Resolution on the Misuse of Behavioral Data Surveillance in Libraries

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

1. stands firmly against behavioral data surveillance of library use and users;
2. urges libraries and vendors to never exchange user data for financial discounts, payments, or incentives;
3. calls on libraries and vendors to apply the strictest privacy settings by default, without any manual input from the end-user;
4. urges libraries, vendors, and institutions to not implement behavioral data surveillance or use that data to deny services;
5. calls on libraries to employ contract language that does not allow for vendors to implement behavioral data surveillance or use that data to deny access to services;
6. calls on libraries to oversee vendor compliance with contractual obligations;
7. calls on library workers to advocate for and educate themselves about library users' privacy and confidentiality rights; and
8. strongly urges libraries to act as information fiduciaries, by routinely performing privacy audits, to assure that in every circumstance the library user's information is protected from misuse and unauthorized disclosure and ensuring that the library itself does not misuse or exploit the library user's information.

(Report of the ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee, ALA CD#19.3)

APPROVED, ALA CD 13.1, ALA Treasurer's Report, the 2022 Programmatic Priorities

(Report of the ALA Treasurer, ALA CD#13.1)

REMOVED, from consideration and to be reevaluated at Annual 2021 with feedback from Core, ALA CD 44, the Resolution on replacing the Library of Congress Subject Heading “Illegal aliens” with “Undocumented Immigrants”

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

- 1) supports the Library of Congress in changing the subject heading Illegal aliens to Undocumented immigrants.
- 2) Directs the CORE Subject Analysis Committee’s Working Group to prepare a report of recommendations by Annual 2021.

(ALA CD#44, Resolution on replacing the Library of Congress Subject Heading “Illegal aliens” with “Undocumented Immigrants”)

ADOPTED, as amended ALA CD 45, the Resolution to Prioritize Library Workers to Receive the COVID-19 Vaccine

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

- 1) encourages libraries to continue to share resources, strategies, and success stories in locally reclassifying library workers’ priority level;
- 2) supports the right of library workers to receive vaccination treatment as soon as possible in order to provide safer services for the public and for library workers; and
- 3) direct this resolution jointly to the Committee on Legislation, Committee on Library Advocacy, and Chapter Relations Committee for analysis of impact on state and local contexts and provide a report to Council no later than March 31, 2021; and
- 4) affirms that Library Workers have a fundamental right to a safe work environment. This includes, but is not limited to, a Library or other work setting that minimizes an employee’s environmental risk of exposure to Covid-19