

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
SPECIAL VIRTUAL COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2023: 2:00-3:00 PM CT

ALA President Emily Drabinski called the meeting to order.

ADOPTED by Consent:

- Adoption of Virtual Council Rules, ALA CD #5.2
- Agenda, CD #8.9

Committee on Accreditation Report, CD #30.1

Chair Gail Dickinson provided the following updates:

- Presenting revised Standards for Accreditation of Master's Programs in Library and Information Studies
- These standards have been in preparation since 2021 to address three areas of improvement:
 - Reduce redundancy
 - Improve clarity
 - Strengthen equity and diversity
- ALA established the ALA-ALISE Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Working Group. The committee and ALA's Office of Accreditation worked with this group to strengthen diversity and equity in standards, as was presented in a draft in June
- Feedback on various drafts was widely sought over the past two years
- The timeline for an accreditation visit is 24 months, with a crucial 12-month window for a program to prepare. Thus programs expecting early 2025 visits need to begin work now and cannot wait until the January Council meetings for approval

Chair Dickinson moved to adopt the 2023 Revised Standards for Accreditation of Master's Programs in Library & Information Studies, CD #30.1.

President Drabinski called for a vote on CD #30.1.

Results:

- 132 yes
- 0 no
- 1 abstain

APPROVED to adopt the 2023 Revised Standards for Accreditation of Master's Programs in Library & Information Studies, CD #30.1

Executive Director Search Update

President Drabinski provided a brief update on the search:

- Interim Executive Director Leslie Burger is serving in this position temporarily
- A robust national search will begin next month, with a search committee to be chaired by Immediate Past President Lessa Pelayo-Lozada that will work with search firm Isaacson Miller
- The expectation is that a new Executive Director will be in place by summer 2024

Executive Board Member Election Rules, ALA CD #36

President Drabinski noted that as this is the first year that Councilors will elect the Executive Board members per the composition outlined in the newly adopted bylaws, the Executive Board recommends the elections rules outlined in CD #36:

- A. An individual who may be a member of multiple groups shall only be placed on the ballot for one Executive Board member position and only be elected to one Executive Board member position.
- B. All candidates must consent to serving prior to election and those nominated may decline any or all nominations; candidates will not be placed on the ballot for positions they have declined nomination for.
- C. Floor nominations must stipulate the specific category an individual is being nominated for.
- D. Elections will only be held for vacated offices as determined by current Executive Board assignments.
- E. Candidates, including floor nominated candidates, must provide proof of NALCO or Chapter membership.
- F. Candidates elected by the Council may not serve in more than one position on the executive board simultaneously.
- G. Write-in candidates will not be part of the ballot.

Council discussed the proposed rules.

Councilor Scroggins noted that Item E implies that all candidates must provide proof of membership in NALCO or Chapter, rather than the specific category for which they are nominated. President Drabinski noted this can be clarified in housekeeping.

President Drabinski moved on behalf of the ALA Executive Board, that the ALA Council approve the following Executive Board Election Guidelines recommended by the ALA Executive Board for adoption in the ALA Policy Manual and direct the Policy Manual Revision Working Group to insert and amend the ALA Policy Manual, Section A where necessary and appropriate, CD #36.

President Drabinski called a vote on CD #36.

Results:

- 131 yes
- 1 no
- 3 abstain

APPROVED the following Executive Board Election Guidelines recommended by the ALA Executive Board for adoption in the ALA Policy Manual and direct the Policy Manual Revision Working Group to insert and amend the ALA Policy Manual, Section A where necessary and appropriate, CD #36.

President Drabinski adjourned the meeting.