

To: ALA Executive Board

Re: Operating Agreement Work Group Update

ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT: This report provides the Executive Board with an update on the activities of the Operating Agreement Work Group since it began its charge in August 2020.

CONTACT PERSON:

Maggie Farrell, maggie.farrell@unlv.edu, ALA Treasurer and Operating Agreement Work Group Co-Chair

Andrew Pace, andrewkpace@gmail.com, Operating Agreement Work Group Co-Chair

DRAFT OF MOTION: None

DATE: April 5, 2021

BACKGROUND:

<https://operatingagreement.ala.org/>

The Operating Agreement Work Group was proposed during ALA Midwinter 2020 with a final charge and appointments in June 2020. The WG has met throughout the year and meeting materials are available on our ALA website.

The WG has done an overview review of the individual sections of the Operating Agreement except for Section 5, Finances. This is focusing the conversation on the relationships with the goal to develop the financial structure in support of and to advance the relationship. However, conversations typically touch on the overhead rate application demonstrating the challenge before the WG.

The WG is drafting a new outline for the Operating Agreement. The WG will articulate details for shared services and central functions. The WG will discuss how Division and Round Tables contribute to our core values by provide expertise and funding for those efforts. Operational excellence is fundamental as ALA moves into the future.

In addition, we will begin to look at three financial options:

1. No overhead: articulate the financial model in the policy manual
2. Shift course: focus overhead on revenue drivers; add new pivot impact streams
Continuing Ed, Data Design & Research, Contributed Revenue; fund innovation across the association; add RTs; etc.
3. Stay the course: tweak the agreement and re-write; articulate shared services and the distinctions of the Division and RT portion of ALA's many units

The WG is to conclude its work by Annual 2021 but will likely seek an extension to thoroughly consider all issues as it develops its recommendations.

Operating Agreement Work Group members:

	Name	Position
Co-Chair	Maggie Farrell	UNLV
Co-Chair, SCOE Rep	Andrew Pace	OCLC
Division Member	Clara Bohrer	West Bloomfield Township Public Library
Division Member	Diane Chen	Stratford STEM Magnet School Library
Roundtable Member	Sophia Sotilleo	Lincoln University (PA)
Membership Member	Miranda Bennett	University of South Carolina
Publishing Committee	Christine Dulaney	Library of Congress
Member	Clara Harmon	Calumet City Public Library (IL)
Executive Board Member	Wanda Brown	ALA Past President
BARC Chair	Peter Hepburn	College of the Canyons
Division Staff	Tammy Dillard Steels	YALSA Executive Director
Division Staff	Kara Malenfant	ACRL Interim Executive Director
Division Staff	Kerry Ward	Core (previously LLAMA Executive Director)
Roundtable Staff	Lorelle Swader	Associate Executive Director
Finance Staff	Denise Moritz	Interim CFO
General Fund Staff	Melissa Walling	Director, Membership
General Fund Staff	Kathi Kromer	Director, Washington Office

ALA Personnel Supporting/Contributing to the WG:

Keith Brown
Marsha Burgess
Holly Robison

ACTIONS: None