



GUIDE TO THE 2016
ELECTIONS

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A Message from ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels



Voting is one of the most important things you can do as a member of the American Library Association. This is because the officers you elect will make a real difference.

The President of the Association will serve as the public voice of the Association, libraries of all types and all across the nation, and of American libraries around the world. The president represents us as members and the library users we serve, doing hundreds of media interviews and speaking with dozens of groups each year. A new president-elect is elected every year.

The Treasurer helps chart the financial future of the Association, and makes sure that our dues dollars get the maximum “bang for the buck.” The treasurer works closely with member advisory groups and staff to guide the Association through financial ups and financial downs, and helps support our work on behalf of libraries and the public by sustaining a strong Association. The treasurer position appears on the ballot every three years, and this year is a treasurer election year.

The 186 Councilors are responsible for setting the broad policies that shape our Association’s public positions and direction. Whether we’re talking about intellectual freedom, the privatization of libraries or e-books, Councilors weigh all of the factors and make sure that the Association takes stands that are important to libraries and to the public we serve.

You may note a few differences with this year’s election: This year we have three candidates running for president-elect and just one candidate for treasurer. Why these numbers? Well, the ALA Nominating Committee has traditionally put forth two candidates each for president-elect and treasurer, which they did. Along the way, two individuals opted to run for president via the petition process. Subsequently, one presidential candidate and one treasurer candidate withdrew from the election. Neither the ALA Bylaws, nor ALA’s parliamentary authority, Roberts Rules of Order, require that two candidates run for these positions, so after careful deliberation, the Nominating Committee elected to leave the slate as is with three candidates for president-elect and one candidate for treasurer.

You may also be wondering about these **“petition candidates.”** ALA has a Nominating Committee that slates individuals to run for the offices of president-elect, treasurer, and councilor-at-large. We also have a process whereby individuals can file petitions to get on the ballot by obtaining a required number of signatures from ALA members. Once the petition process is completed, petition

candidates and nominated candidates are treated exactly the same. They are not differentiated on the ballot because they are on equal footing and are all viable candidates for these positions.

All of these elected officers represent you and your interests. The good news – You get to pick them! So your vote is very, very important.

This guide provides:

- » Information and insights about the Presidency, Treasurer and Council.
- » Council “myth busters” and examples of Council’s recent resolutions relating to libraries
- » Information about the candidates
- » Voting instructions and timeline

Reviewing candidate information and voting does take some time, but we hope that you will join the members who understand that their vote really does shape the future. So get out and vote!



Keith Michael Fiels
Executive Director
American Library Association

The Role of the ALA President

The individual elected to the position of ALA President serves three years on the ALA Executive Board: One year as President-elect, one year as President, and one year as Immediate Past President.

The role of the ALA President is to be the Association's chief spokesperson and to work closely with the ALA's Executive Director in identifying and promoting library issues nationwide and internationally. The ALA President is recognized as the Association's leader by its members. He/she is also vital to the governance of the Association and serves as presiding officer at Executive Board, Council, and Membership meetings.

Throughout this three-year term, the individual promotes ALA's programs, priorities, and key messages through attendance at various state, national, and international library association meetings, as well as with the media. They lead the Association in

planning for the future and work closely with members to ensure that their ideas and concerns help drive the overall direction of the Association.

The ALA President is also a member, ex officio with vote, of the Board of Trustees of the Freedom to Read Foundation. They also serve as the President of the ALA-Allied Professional Association (ALA-APA).

Based on the experience of successful past ALA presidents, this position is equal to at least a half-time job.

During the year as President-elect, this individual serves as spokesperson for the Association in the absence of the president or when asked to do so. They also represent the Association at meetings, conferences, receptions, legislative hearings, and other events.

Presidential Initiatives

The President develops presidential initiatives in keeping with the prevailing ALA messages and Strategic Plan. Here are some recent presidential accomplishments.

2015–16 President Sari Feldman



With generous support from Overdrive, on October 29, 2015, Feldman launched Libraries Transform, ALA's new, multi-year public awareness campaign. Its ultimate goal is to increase funding support for libraries and advance information policy issues in alignment with ALA advocacy goals.

Libraries Transform focuses on the one main idea that libraries today are less about what they have for people and more about what they do for and with people. The campaign's broad objectives are to:

- » increase awareness of and support for the transforming library;
- » shift perception of library from "obsolete" or "nice to have" to essential;
- » energize library professionals and build external advocates to influence local, state and national decision makers.

Visit www.librariestransform.org for more information.

2014–15 President Courtney Young



Rather than create new initiative projects, 2014–15 President Courtney Young focused her resources on "kick starting" programs that were already being proposed and further enhancing programs already underway throughout the Association. Examples include working with the Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment in partnership with ALA Chapters to provide training for a national cohort of 25 librarians from a cross section of libraries to become certified Career Development Facilitators (CDF).

Young also assisted ALA Staff to create a Media Resource Archive for ALA which will include photos, audio, video, and other material that can be turned into content and messages for advocacy, member engagement, marketing, communication, social media, recruitment, media outreach, and publications.

Finally, Young assisted the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) with the development of an annual Leadership Conference for state affiliate leaders.

2013–14 President Barbara Stripling



Following the lead of her predecessors, 2013–14 President Barbara Stripling continued the transformation process with her “Libraries Change Lives” initiative. The initiative is framed around three areas of transformative practice that enable community members to change their lives: literacy, community engagement, and innovation.

Stripling developed the [Declaration for the Right to Libraries](#) which continues to collect signatures across the country – and the world – from individuals who want to affirm their right to libraries. All kinds of libraries – public, school, academic, as well as “special” libraries in hospitals, law firms, banks, and corporations – are organizing declaration signings to raise public awareness about the role that libraries play in our communities, and to generate dialog about the needs of the community and how the library can be a solution to these needs.

Stripling also worked to engage libraries and their communities by promoting library partnerships with [TEDx events](#) which are designed to engage community members through collaborative engagement, focusing on the concept of “ideas worth spreading.”

A series of webinars, with topics ranging from maker space to strategic partnering to literacy innovations, took place throughout Stripling’s presidential year.

Stripling’s presidency culminated with a Summit on the Future of Libraries in Washington, DC, May 2–3, 2014. The summit brought together thought leaders both within and outside of the library profession to focus on thinking differently about the future of

libraries in the context of societal, educational, and technological changes.

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2012–13 President Maureen Sullivan



Maureen Sullivan continued the work begun by Immediate Past President Molly Raphael in the area of community engagement. Working with a grant from IMLS, Sullivan’s initiative “Promise of Libraries Transforming Communities” teamed ALA with the Harwood Institute for Public Innovation to develop a multi-phased, iterative

initiative that provided the tools, techniques, skills, and training that libraries and librarians need to play a stronger role in their community.

Sullivan also worked with the Harvard Graduate School of Education to conduct a three-day symposium (March 21–23, 2013) called [Library Leadership in the Digital Age](#) to help administrators and managers in libraries of all types learn how to lead effectively in the face of the new challenges of the Digital Age.

Finally, Sullivan and various ALA staff worked to create the [ALA Leadership Institute](#). This unique four-day immersive leadership development program for future library leaders will be held for a fourth year in Itasca, IL, August 8–11, 2016.

This Year's Presidential Candidates

This year's candidates for ALA President-elect are Christine Lind Hage, Lisa Janicke Hinchliffe, and James G. (Jim) Neal.

Christine Lind Hage



Christine Lind Hage is director of the Rochester Hills (Michigan) Public Library. She has been an ALA member since 1971 and is the immediate past president of United for Libraries (formerly the Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends and Foundations – ALTAFF) and served as the 1998–99 president of the Public Library Association (PLA). Hage has served on numerous committees throughout ALA, PLA and ALTA/ALTAFF, including several terms as both at-large councilor (1999–2002) and PLA division councilor (2002–05, 2008–14).

She holds a bachelor's degree in English from Oakland University and an AMLS from the University of Michigan. Hage is the author/co-author of several books, including "A Library Board's Practical Guide to Hiring Outside Experts," ALA/ALTA, 2008; "A Library Board's Practical Guide to Finding the Right Library Director," ALA, 2005; and "Public Library Start-Up Guide," ALA, 2004.

In addition to her service to ALA, Hage was named the 1997 Librarian of the Year by the Michigan Library Association of which she has been an active member since 1971. Hage is also active at the local level and served as the 2008–09 president of the Rochester (Michigan) Rotary and is a Paul Harris Fellow of the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International. She is on the board of Rochester Area Neighborhood House, a local social service agency.

"I only belong to organizations whose work I truly believe in and when I belong, I take an active and leadership role in the organization. I believe in being an embedded librarian in any organization I join," said Hage.

Hage has worked at all levels of public library service and successfully completed six library construction projects. She started the Clinton-Macomb Public Library from scratch by hiring the staff, developing public and service policies and building three buildings.

Lisa Janicke Hinchliffe



Lisa Janicke Hinchliffe is professor and coordinator for information literacy services and instruction at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She has been an ALA member since 1993 and served as the 2010–11 president of the Association for College and Research Libraries (ACRL).

She has held numerous other positions within ACRL and also served on various ALA and division committees, including the International Relations Committee, School Library Implementation Task Force and the Digital Literacy Task Force for the Office for Information Technology Policy. She also served on the National

Expert Panel for the Office for Literacy and Outreach Services' Libraries, Literacy, and Gaming Initiative.

"I am honored to be nominated as a candidate for President of ALA. I joined ALA as an MLS student and have been a continuous member since that time," said Hinchliffe. "I have learned so much from so many colleagues in the association. It would be a privilege to give back to the profession by serving in this role. As ALA President, my goal will be to enable all ALA members to benefit from their connection with the association in order to better serve their communities and strengthen our libraries. Together, we can improve and transform people's lives and our society."

In her role as ACRL president, Hinchliffe's initiative on the Value of Academic Libraries catalyzed a national conversation and has positioned libraries as leaders in higher education on assessment of student learning and success. It generated multiple open access reports and resources and garnered two IMLS grants.

Hinchliffe is the recipient of the 2015 ACRL Instruction Section Miriam Dudley Instruction Librarian Award as well as the 2009 ACRL Special Presidential Recognition Award for Information Literacy Immersion Program. She was also awarded the University of Illinois GSLIS Library School Alumni Association Leadership Award in 2003 and the University of Illinois GSLIS Jane B. and Robert B. Downs Professional Promise Award in 1995.

Hinchliffe holds a BA in Philosophy from the University of St. Thomas, an MS in Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois and an EdM in Educational Psychology, also from the University of Illinois.

James G. (Jim) Neal



James G. (Jim) Neal is university librarian emeritus at Columbia University, New York. Neal served as the vice president for information services and university librarian at Columbia from 2001–14. He holds an MSLS and an MA in history from Columbia and a BA in Russian studies from Rutgers University. He also holds a certificate in advanced librarianship from Columbia.

An ALA member since 1976, Neal has held numerous leadership positions throughout ALA and its divisions. He is currently completing his second term on the ALA executive board as an at-large member and served as the 2010–13 ALA treasurer. He has also served as a member-at-large on ALA council, 1994–2001. His ALA committee service includes the Budget Analysis and Review Committee (BARC), Endowment Trustees and various others. Neal's division experience includes serving as president of the Library Leadership and Management Association (LLAMA) 1992–93, as well as multiple committees within the Association for College and Research Libraries (ACRL), including chair of the 2017 national conference in Baltimore.

Neal is currently a member of the board of trustees of the Online Computer Library Center, Inc. (OCLC) and has also served on the board and as president of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL). He has chaired the National Information Standards Organization (NISO) and is the current treasurer of the Freedom to Read Foundation as well as the Metropolitan New York Library Council (METRO). He is also an active member of the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA).

In 1997 ACRL named Neal the Academic Librarian of the Year and he was the 2007 recipient of ALA's Hugh Atkinson Memorial Award and the 2009 ALA Melvil Dewey Medal Award. The University of Alberta presented Neal with the honorary doctor of laws degree in 2010. In 2015 he received the ALA Joseph W. Lippincott Award for "distinguished service to the profession of librarianship," and was added to the Freedom to Read Foundation Roll of Honor also in 2015.

"Libraries and library workers are fundamental to the vitality and success of communities, schools, colleges and organizations of all types," said Neal. "Access to information, supportive services and information policies in the public interest are the key ingredients. ALA is spearheading the charge through advocacy and education. I will bring strong leadership and extensive professional experience to the ALA presidency."

Video of the Presidential and Treasurer Candidates' Forum at the 2016 ALA Midwinter Meeting can be viewed on [ALA's YouTube channel](#).

The Role of the ALA Treasurer

The individual elected to the position of ALA Treasurer will serve three years on the ALA Executive Board (2016–19). The role of the ALA Treasurer is to:

- » Recommend ALA financial policy to the Executive Board
- » Approve elements of financial plans
- » Suggest measures to build financial resources
- » Review annual budget performance and recommend budget changes to the Executive Board
- » Review the audit process and monitors the audit findings and recommendations
- » Provide the Executive Board with interpretation of financial data needed for decisions
- » Recommend to Council the approval of the annual estimate of income
- » Provide input and raise questions on the preliminary Annual Budget presented by the Budget Analysis and Review Committee
- » Assist in the selection of financial goals
- » Provide guidance in program planning and budget analysis.
- » Create and provide financial reports to members and committees, etc. on ALA's financial status
- » Monitor the Operating Agreement for Council
- » Advise units on fiscal matters
- » Recommend financial planning for the Association
- » Serve as a member of the ALA Endowment Trustees

Recent Activities of the ALA Treasurer

The past three years have seen some exciting developments for ALA in the financial arena. During his term as ALA Treasurer, Mario González has:



- » Renegotiated and reduced ALA's long-term debt
- » Spearheaded the effort to better utilize the Association's excess working capital
- » Refined the use of the Association's five-year financial planning model
- » Enhanced the working capital policy to improve and increase interest income
- » Enabled changes the investment policy to allow new asset classes – private equity, Exchange Equity Funds (EFTs), etc.
- » Helped to increase the number of Spectrum scholarships to be awarded for 2016–18
- » Established the framework for fundraising for the endowment fund

This Year's Candidate for Treasurer

This year's candidate for ALA Treasurer is Susan Hildreth.



Susan H. Hildreth, executive director of the Califa Group, Pacific Library Partnership, Peninsula Library System and administrator of the NorthNet Library System in San Mateo, California,

A member of ALA since 1973, Hildreth is past president of the Public Library Association (PLA) and has served as a member of the PLA Board of Directors and an at-large member of the ALA Council. Previous positions include Seattle City librarian, California state librarian, city librarian of San Francisco and deputy director of the Sacramento Public Library, where she was responsible for multi-million dollar budgets.

In March 2015, Hildreth was appointed a Communication and Society Program Fellow by the Aspen Institute, where she will provide counsel on issues related to public libraries and will represent the institute's Dialogue on Public Libraries as a speaker at outside events. She is a member of the CENIC (Corporation for Education Network Initiatives in California) Board, representing public libraries. She is also a member of the national Reach Out and Read Board, the Library of Congress American Folklife Center and Literacy Awards Boards, the Syracuse University Library Advisory Board and the San Jose State University School of Information International Advisory Council. She was a member of the Freedom to Read Foundation Board from 2009–11.

In 2012, she received the Distinguished Public Service Award from the College of Computing and Information Science at the University at Albany. In 2014, she was recognized as a California Emerging Technology Fund Champion and as the Small and Rural Library Champion by the Association of Small and Rural Libraries.

"I am honored to be a candidate for this important ALA leadership position," Hildreth said. "I have seen first-hand the significant impact that ALA creates for our profession and for libraries both nationally and globally. I hope that I can contribute to the successful continuation and further strengthening of this work by providing fiscal guidance and strategic thinking at a critical time in the life of the organization."

Hildreth holds a BA from Syracuse University, an MLS from the State University of New York (SUNY) Albany and an MBA from Rutgers University.

Visit Hildreth's website at: <http://hildrethforalatreasurer.org>.

Video of the Presidential and Treasurer Candidates' Forum at the 2016 ALA Midwinter Meeting can be viewed on [ALA's YouTube channel](#).

ALA Council

What is Council?

The Council is the governing body of ALA. It delegates to the divisions of the Association authority to plan and carry out programs and activities with policy established by Council. Council determines all policies of the Association and its decisions are binding unless set aside by a majority vote in which one-fourth of the members of the Association have voted.

Council Composition

Council is comprised of 100 councilors-at-large who are elected by the Association membership as provided in Bylaw Article III, Sec. 1(c) and Bylaw Article IV, Sec. 2(e). The slate of councilor-at-large candidates is determined by the ALA Nominating Committee.

Each division of the Association is entitled to one councilor to be elected by members of the divisions as provided in Bylaw Article IV, Sec. 2(c).

Each state and territorial chapter is entitled to one councilor to be elected by members of the chapter as provided by Bylaw Article IV, Sec. 2(b). Chapter representation is through state chapters unless chapters in a region choose to take representation through that regional chapter. In such case, the regional chapter shall elect one representative from each state or provincial chapter within that regional association. There is no current regional chapter representation.



Round tables with personal membership equal to or greater than one percent of ALA's total personal membership shall be entitled to elect one councilor each, and the remaining round tables jointly shall be entitled to one councilor to be elected for a term of three years by the members of the respective round tables. The membership of the round tables, for purposes of this section, shall be fixed as of August 31st of each year. A councilor elected under this Article shall continue to serve without prejudice to any change that might occur in the size of the membership of their round table as provided in Bylaw Article IV, Sec. 2(d).

Councilors serve three-year terms and may run for subsequent terms by filing a petition which must be signed by at least 25 ALA members in good standing. Petition candidates are placed on the ballot along with candidates selected by the Nominating Committee.

Council Responsibilities

The Council meets four times at both the ALA Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference. At these meetings, Council may perform any or all of the following duties (this is a partial list):

- » Review actions of the ALA Executive Board;
- » Receive reports from the ALA President, Executive Director, Treasurer, the Freedom to Read Foundation, and the Endowment Trustees;
- » Originate and act on all proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws before these are submitted to the membership for vote;
- » Establish dues for chapter, organization and corporate ALA members upon recommendation of the Executive Board;
- » Establish or discontinue divisions or round tables;
- » Determine all Association policies;
- » Authorize changes, additions, and deletions in the ALA Policy Manual upon recommendation of the Policy Monitoring Committee.

Council “Mythbusters”

Myth: *Once you’re on Council, you’re on for life, so what’s the point of voting if the same people keep getting re-elected?*

Actually, based on an unofficial census, approximately 26.9% of councilors have served more than four (4) years; and only 6.6% of all councilors between 1992 and the present have served more than nine (9) years. In fact, of the 34 councilors whose terms expire in 2016, only 12 are running for re-election.

Myth: *You have to be an ALA member for many many years before you can be elected to Council.*

In the past three elections, the average length of ALA membership of those elected to Council was 16 years, with the shortest being one year of membership and the longest being 40 years.

Myth: *Councilors get a “free-ride” to Midwinter and Annual Conference.*

Not true! ALA does not pay for councilors to attend conferences; in fact, many councilors receive no financial support from their home institutions and have to pay out-of-pocket to attend conferences and serve on the ALA Council.

Myth: *Council does not address topics that are pertinent to libraries or the profession.*

While it is true that the ALA Council occasionally discusses such matters as the war in Iraq or the crisis in Kenya, most Council actions relate directly to library issues. Following is a partial list of actions taken by ALA Council in recent years.

In 2013 Council voted on:

- » **A Resolution Supporting the Application of the First Sale Doctrine of the Copyright Law to All Materials in Library Collections.** The American Library Association (ALA) reaffirm the essential role of the first sale doctrine in ensuring that the education, research, and library communities continue to support the constitutional purpose of the copyright law by promoting the advancement and sharing of knowledge, innovation, and creativity, wherever made; and, two, urge the United States Congress to pass legislation to remedy any judicial decision that limits libraries' ability to lend copies of foreign-made works under the first sale doctrine.
- » **A Resolution Commending the Freedom to Read Foundation (FTRF) for Defending Videogames as a non-print medium in libraries worthy of First Amendment protections.**
- » **A resolution supporting librarians sued for doing their professional duty and urging publishers to refrain from actions such as filing libel suits when in disagreement with librarians who have publically shared their professional opinions and instead to rely upon the free exchange of views in the marketplace of ideas to defend their interests as publishers.**

In 2014 Council passed:

- » **A resolution on expanding federal whistleblower protections,** which:
 - urges Congress to amend the Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act of 2012 to extend existing legal protections for whistleblowers to employees of all

- national security and intelligence agencies, and to non-federal employees working for civilian contractors;
- urges Congress to establish a secure procedure by which all federal employees, and all non-federal employees working for civilian contractors, may safely share evidence they have discovered of fraud, waste, or abuse with the appropriate oversight committees of Congress, and directly with the press and the American people, with the protection of legally enforceable rights against retaliation or prosecution; and
- commends the courage and perseverance of federal employees, and non-federal employees working for civilian contractors, who risk their livelihoods, their reputations and their liberty to expose evidence of government fraud, waste, or abuse.

- » **A resolution on Curbing Government Surveillance and Restoring Civil Liberties,** and commending Senator Patrick Leahy and Congressman James Sensenbrenner for sponsoring the USA FREEDOM Act, the 143 legislators in the Senate and the House who have co-sponsored it, and the 85 organizations that have endorsed it, as of January 27, 2014.
- » **A resolution on maintaining government websites during a government shutdown** and urging the president to direct the federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the Department of Justice (DoJ) to provide guidance to federal agencies that states that, in the event of a government shutdown or other emergency, continued access by the public to essential information on agency websites is an "excepted" activity that would warrant the retention of paid personnel or the obligation of funds.
- » **A resolution in Support of Stable Funding for Air Force Libraries** and urging the Administration, DoD and USAF to

develop responsible information and budget management strategies for Air Force Base and Command Libraries that aligns them directly with appropriated funds, rather than through base operations, where library funding is vulnerable to additional local cuts.

- » **A resolution granting the District of Columbia Government budget autonomy to allow city services, including libraries, to remain open during a federal government shutdown.**
- » **A Resolution on Digitization of U.S. Government Documents**, which read: "That the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:
 1. supports and encourages a national preservation plan for Federal Depository Library Program materials;
 2. encourages policies that promote digitization with a reasonable number of dispersed preserved copies of print FDLR materials;
 3. supports technologies that guarantee long-term, robust, verifiable, complete, accurate, authentic, preservable, and usable digital formats;
 4. works with the Government Printing Office (GPO) and the FDL community on developing procedures to authenticate and ingest digital and digitized content into FDSys from federal depository libraries and federal agencies; and
 5. supports the creation of a no-fee, searchable, online inventory of digital and digitized government materials with downloadable metadata."

In 2015, Council passed

- » **A resolution denouncing the assaults on the freedom of expression as exemplified in the attack on Charlie Hebdo**, which read: "That the American Library Association, on behalf of its members:
 1. denounces these bloody assaults on fundamental human rights;
 2. expresses its deepest condolences to all those associated with the publication Charlie Hebdo and to the French people;
 3. affirms its solidarity with L'Association des Bibliothécaires de France;
 4. reaffirms in the strongest possible terms its unwavering commitment to the advocacy and defense of intellectual freedom including freedom of the press, freedom of speech and freedom of expression; and
 5. directs Keith Michael Fiels, Executive Director of the American Library Association, to communicate its support and resolve to Francois Hollande, President of the French Republic, for the people of France and to our colleagues of L'Association des Bibliothécaires de France."
- » **A resolution on preserving public access to scientific and technical reports available through the National Technical Information Service**, which read: "That the American Library Association, on behalf of its members:
 1. urges the United States Congress to fund the provision of digital reports held by the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) to federal agencies and the public at no charge through NTIS, as well as the

- preservation of NTIS' print and microform collections so they will remain available for sale to the public on a cost-recovery basis; and
2. urges the United States Congress to ensure that a national repository is selected, statutorily charged, and funded to preserve and provide public access to these important scientific and technical reports if NTIS-enabling legislation is eliminated."
- » **A resolution on the importance of sustainable libraries**, which read: "That the American Library Association, on behalf of its members:
1. recognizes the important and unique role libraries play in wider community conversations about resiliency, climate change, and a sustainable future and begins a new era of thinking sustainably in order to consider the economic, environmental and socially equitable viability of choices made on behalf of the association;
 2. enthusiastically encourages activities by itself, its membership, library schools and state associations to be proactive in their application of sustainable thinking in the areas of their facilities, operations, policy, technology, programming, partnerships and library school curricula; and
 3. directs the ALA Executive Director to pursue sustainable choices when planning conferences and meetings and to actively promote best practices of sustainability through ALA publications, research and educational opportunities to reach our shared goal of vital, visible and viable libraries for the future."
- » **A resolution on gun violence**, which read: "That the American Library Association, on behalf of its members:
1. deplores the gun violence that materially affects libraries and the communities we serve; and
 2. will work with state chapters and affiliates to support legislation that allows the prohibition of the carrying of guns in or near libraries and other educational institutions."
- » **A resolution to improve access to Spanish, bilingual, and books in various languages for children in detention centers**, which read: "That the American Library Association, on behalf of its members:
1. urges ALA members and units to support the REFORMA Children in Crisis project for the continued delivery of books to refugee children and teens;
 2. encourages the director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services to develop a partnership with the United States Customs and Border Protection agency to ensure that unaccompanied refugee children have access to books and programming in those children's native languages, whether they speak Spanish, indigenous languages, or other tongues, and bilingual books;
 3. urges libraries in affected areas to provide services and programs for and with detained minors while they are in the care of government-designated service providers; and
 4. encourages ALA members, the Reference & User Services Association, and other relevant ALA units and affiliates to develop materials that meet the information and recreation needs of refugee children, teens, and their guardians, and to share that information with librarians in affected communities."

And at the 2016 Midwinter Meeting, Council voted on:

» **A resolution for restoring civil liberties and opposing mass surveillance,** which read: "That the American Library

Association, on behalf of its members and the public interest:

1. urges the President and Congress to amend all germane surveillance-enabling authorities, such as Executive Order 12333, the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) as amended, and the USA PATRIOT Act, to:
 - a. require government agencies to obtain judicial warrants before collecting any individual's personal information from third parties and require court approval for National Security Letters;
 - b. raise the standard for government collection of all records under FISA from "reasonable grounds" to "probable cause" and sunset Section 215 of the USA PATRIOT ACT (commonly known as the "library records" section);
 - c. limit the government's ability to use information gathered under intelligence authorities in unrelated

criminal cases, thereby making it easier to challenge the use of illegally obtained surveillance information in criminal proceedings; and

- d. prohibit the government from requiring hardware and software companies to deliberately design encryption and other security features to facilitate government access to information otherwise protected by such features;

5. recommits itself to leadership in the fight for restoration of the public's privacy and civil liberties through statutory and other legal reforms; and
6. commends and thanks all parties, both inside and outside of government, involved in developing and securing passage of the USA FREEDOM Act, resulting in movement away from overbroad surveillance laws and practices for the first time in more than a decade."

» **A resolution on replacing the Library of Congress subject heading "Illegal Aliens" with "Undocumented Immigrants,"** which read: "That the American Library Association, on behalf of its members urges the Library of Congress to change the subject heading Illegal aliens to Undocumented immigrants."

The 2016 Council Ballot

This year, 75 candidates are running to fill 34 vacant Councilor-at-Large seats. Candidate biographies are available here in [PDF format](#). They also are available here in a searchable [Excel spreadsheet format](#).

How Do I Vote?

To be eligible to vote, individuals must be members in good standing as of January 31, 2016. In mid-February, members received notification by email confirming their eligibility to vote.

In 2008, the American Library Association began holding its election exclusively online. The only exception is for members with disabilities and without Internet access. These individuals may obtain a paper ballot by contacting ALA customer service at 1-800-545-2433, ext. 5. Those without Internet access at home or at

work can easily access the election site by visiting their local public (or in many instances, academic or school) libraries. The ballot can also be accessed on your Smartphone and other devices.

The polls will open at 9:00 a.m. CDT on Wednesday, March 15. Over the three-day period of March 15–17, voters will be notified by email and will be provided with a unique passcode and information about how to vote.

The polls close on Friday, April 22 at 11:59 p.m. CDT. On April 29, the Election Committee will meet at the ALA offices to certify the election. Election results will be released following that meeting.

How Do I Run for Office?

The ALA Nominating Committee nominates candidates from among the general membership for the position of president-elect (annually), for the position of treasurer (every three years), and for members-at-large of Council (annually). ALA elections are held in the spring of each year with the results announced in early May.

Running as a Nominee

The 2017 Nominating Committee began its work selecting potential candidates for the 2017 ALA elections for President-elect and Councilor-at-Large at the 2016 Midwinter Meeting.

You may contact any of the committee members listed here if you are interested in being considered for candidacy in the 2017 election.

2017 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

- » **Steven Bell**, Associate University Librarian, Temple University Samuel L. Paley Library, Philadelphia, PA (215) 204-5023, E-mail bells@temple.edu
- » **Jose Aguinaga**, Library Faculty, Glendale Community College, Glendale, AZ, (623) 845-3204, E-mail jose.aguinaga@gccaz.edu
- » **Dr. Theresa S. Byrd**, Dean, University Library, University of San Diego, (619) 260-2370, E-mail tsbyrd@sandiego.edu
- » **Dr. Gail K. Dickinson**, Associate Dean, Graduate Studies & Research, Darden College of Education, Norfolk, VA (757) 683-6777, E-mail gdickins@odu.edu
- » **Vicki Morris Emery**, Media Coordinator, Lake Braddock Secondary School, Burke, VA (703) 426-1049, E-mail vmelibrarian@outlook.com

- » **Carl A. Harvey, II**, Instructor of School Librarianship, Longwood University, Farmville, VA (434) 395-2608, E-mail harveyca@longwood.edu
- » **Dr. Rachel Rubin**, Library Director, Bexley Public Library, Bexley, OH (614) 231-9709, E-mail rrubin@bexleylibrary.org
- » **Felton Thomas**, Director, Cleveland Public Library, Cleveland, OH (216) 623-2827, E-mail felton.thomas@cpl.org
- » **Sandy Wee**, Library Services Manager, San Mateo County Library, San Mateo, CA (650) 312-5276, E-mail wee@smcl.org

Running as a Petition Candidate

Individuals who are not selected by the Nominating Committee may run for office by completing a petition form with the signatures of no fewer than 25 ALA current personal members. [Petitions must be created electronically by logging-in to the ALA website.](#)

The petition form will become available after the Nominating Committee has announced their slate of candidates during the summer of 2016.

All candidates, whether nominated or running by petition, must complete a Candidate Biographical Information form. The information provided on this form provides the basis for the ballot. Once on the ballot, there is no designation as to whether a candidate has been nominated or is running by petition.

Further Information

For further information about running for office, general election information, and links to press releases and various forms, please go to: <http://www.ala.org/aboutala/governance/alaelection>