

American Library Association
Committee on Organization
Report to Council
ALA Midwinter Meeting 2012

Action Items

1. Modification of the composition of the Committee on Education

The Educators of School Librarians Section (ESLS) of the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) has recommended that one existing seat on the ALA Committee on Education (COE) be permanently allocated to a representative from AASL ESLS.

ESLS's recommendation states:

The purpose of the Educators of the School Library Section (ESLS) of the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) is to focus attention on the education of candidates who wish to become school librarians and to prepare them to develop and manage library and information services in the PreK-12 setting. We also promote, nurture, and disseminate research, provide opportunities for the exchange of information relevant to education of school librarians, develop leaders, provide opportunities for professional development, and share ideas on how to improve the curriculum for our programs. Members of our section teach in both ALA accredited schools and NCATE accredited programs, a segment of library education represented uniquely within AASL. Since membership on the COE shifts with the appointing officer, there has not always been consistent representation from the school library educator community. An ESLS seat on the committee will help ensure that the COE meets its charge: To have responsibility for developing and recommending the Association's policies related to the *full spectrum of education for all library and information studies personnel*.

The Committee on Education consists of nine members. There is precedent for allocating seats to specified groups within ALA. Lorelle Swader, staff liaison for the COE has informed COO that:

- At the 1999 ALA Annual Conference, the ALA Council approved the designation of two liaisons to the Committee on Education, one each from ALISE and CLENERT. They were to be non-voting participants in the work of the committee.
- At the 2004 Midwinter Meeting, the ALA Council voted to add a non-voting liaison to the Committee on Education, and that liaison is to be drawn from the membership of the ACRL Community and Junior College Libraries Section's Library Technical Assistant Education Committee, and to be appointed by ACRL.

The current COE roster (<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/committees/roster.cfm?committee=ala-ed>) lists eight members, including the chair. In addition to two interns, that roster also lists representatives from the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) and Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE). It does not list a representative from the Learning Round Table (<http://www.ala.org/learnrt/aboutclene/aboutclene>), formerly CLENE. These representatives are non-voting members. These precedents create a model for AASL ESLS representation on COE. The AASL representative to COE will be a non-voting position.

Implementation of AASL ESLS recommendation requires Council action:

Resolved, that the ALA Council amends the composition of the Committee on Education by adding a non-voting representative from the AASL Educators of School Librarians Section.

Information Items

2. Creation of the Library Boing Boing Member Initiative Group

COO reports that the requisite number of signatures have been received on a petition to form a new ALA Member Initiative Group, the Library Boing Boing MIG.¹

Library Boing Boing is a collaboration between ALA and Boing Boing (<http://boingboing.net/about>) with the following mission: To bring librarians and Boing Boing readers (aka, Happy Mutants) together to generate support for and raise interest in libraries via projects at local libraries. The goals established for the new Member Initiative Group are as follows:

- Help find and propose content about libraries that could be posted to Boing Boing
- Provide active ways for Happy Mutants (Boing Boing readers) to support and get involved with their local libraries (e.g., toolkits, best practices, ideas for local projects)
- Create dynamic programming at library conferences that Boing Boingers can then take outside of the library community to promote libraries (e.g., SxSW, local community events, etc.)
- Work together to help Happy Mutants advance our shared interests (e.g., copyright reform, net neutrality, game culture, digital divide issues, open government, etc.)
- Coordinate an international community of librarians working with their own Happy Mutant groups

Interested members have signed the necessary petition.

Members have created a community in ALA Connect, with 144 members (as of 1/10/2012).

A Library Boing Boing #alam212 Meetup is planned at the Dallas Midwinter.

Co-conveners for the Library Boing Boing MIG are Andrea Davis, Jason Griffey and Patrick Sweeney. Staff liaison is provided by Jenny Levine (ITTS) and Tina Coleman (Membership).

See ALA Marginalia (<http://discuss.ala.org/marginalia/2011/12/07/ala-happy-mutants-rejoice-library-boing-boing>)

See ALA Connect (<http://connect.ala.org/libraryboingboing>)

Respectfully,

James Rettig, chair
Sandra M. Barstow
Jennifer A. Cassidy
Natalie Clewell, intern
Cynthia N. Cobb
Christopher J. Cronin
John C. DeSantis
Gail K. Dickinson

Joseph M. Eagan
Janice Leslie Greenberg
Daisy Gutierrez, intern
Peter D. Hepburn
William A. McHugh
Diane Srebro
Teri R. Switzer
Delores Yates, Staff Liaison

¹ ALA Policy 6.12 defines Membership Initiative Groups (MIG):

A Membership Initiative Groups (MIG) is formed when a group of ALA members identifies a common concern or interest about librarianship which falls outside the delegated responsibility of a single division, roundtable, or unit, and wishes to establish a short-term mechanism to address this concern or interest. To establish a MIG, which must be approved by COO and reported to Council, a group must submit to the Committee on Organization a statement of purpose, at least one hundred signatures of ALA members in good standing, and the names and addresses of designated organizers.