

**American Library Association Committee on Organization
Report to Council
Annual Conference 2015—San Francisco, CA**

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. The Entrepreneurship and Maker Spaces Membership Initiative Group was established at our COO meeting on Sunday, June 28, 2015 as they met all the requirements of ALA Policy A.4.3.12:

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, renewable 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. Once established, a MIG may operate for three years at which point it may re-petition for another three- year term, may request another place within the ALA structure by following the procedures for establishing that type of group, or may request the ALA COO to disband it. The re-petitioning process can be renewed every three years. If the re-petition process is not carried out when due, the MIG will be disbanded.

2. At the 2015 Midwinter Meeting, COO brought to Council a revision of the committee composition description of the Budget Analysis and Review Committee (BARC). Currently, the description does not articulate rules for the ALA Treasurer, who serves in an ex-officio capacity. There have been instances where a member has served on BARC as a member and then has been elected ALA Treasurer, where he or she then serves in an ex-officio capacity. The reverse situation has also occurred where a member has served on BARC as Treasurer and then is later appointed as a member. For clarification purposes, COO felt that language should be added to exempt the Treasurer term to count towards years served on the committee.

The current composition description is as follows:

The Budget Analysis & Review Committee (BARC) consists of nine members serving non-renewable terms. The committee membership consists of the ALA Treasurer (ex-officio, voting), two members of the ALA Executive Board serving staggered two year terms, and six members appointed by the ALA President from the general membership, serving staggered four year terms. The chair of the committee will always be one of the non-board members.

A suggested revision was presented at Midwinter 2015 which after much discussion resulted in COO being asked to:

1. Report back on the history and rationale behind the term limit policy.

2. Clarify the term limits of the two other member types - Members-at-large (serve four-year terms) and Executive Board Members (serve two-year terms) - rather than only clarifying the Treasurer's term limit.

After an exhaustive review of 40 years worth of Council minutes by our excellent and dedicated staff liaison Kerri Price, it was discovered that BARC'S predecessor, the Committee on Program Evaluation and Support (COPEs), was formed in 1969 and that it has been the practice since 1970 that members not be appointed to COPEs/BARC more than once in a lifetime (or in some cases, no more than four years in a lifetime). Past and current reasons cited for this practice are (1) To prevent power blocks and (2) To give as many members as possible the chance to serve on this important and prestigious committee.

From the 1969 Council Minutes, Washington D.C.

Mr. Sheridan replied, "...I can only say that it was our goal to establish a committee that would serve longer and could be chosen more objectively than the present methods that are used to choose PEBCO, and that it would be a small group, that it would not be allowed to stay in office for a long enough time to become a power bloc in the Association. That is one of the reasons that no reappointment is allowed after a person has served a four-year term. The terms are on a staggered basis so that every year you would have at least one or two new members of the Committee, depending on the election of the ALA Treasurer, and it was our feeling that this influx of new blood at least once a year would keep the committee from becoming stagnant or adopting hard and fast positions that could not be changed.

Given this important insight into the original rationale behind the term limits, COO recommends that Council clarify the current committee composition description of the Budget Analysis and Review Committee (BARC).

ACTION item #1: Resolved, that Council approves the following revision of the composition description (changes in bold italics):

The Budget Analysis & Review Committee (BARC) consists of nine (9) Members:

- Two (2) ALA Executive Board Members, with staggered two-year terms
- Six (6) ALA Members, with staggered four-year terms
- ALA Treasurer (ex-officio voting)

A Chair is selected from among the non-Executive Board members.

Executive Board Members and ALA Members may not be reappointed once they have served on the Committee for four (4) years. The maximum four (4) years need not be consecutive and need not be served as the same member type. For example, one could serve as an Executive Board Member for two (2) years and an ALA Member for two (2) years.

Three (3)-year Treasurer terms do not count towards the four (4) years of Committee service outlined above. Therefore, one may serve as Treasurer for three (3) years and a combination of Executive Board Member/ALA Member for four (4) years, for a total of seven (7) years.

Respectfully submitted to the ALA Council, Sunday, June 28, 2015.

Steven K. Bowers	Andrew Pace
Susan Considine	Kevin Reynolds
Jill Dixon	Mary Rzepczynski, chair
Brian J. Doherty	Patricia H. Smith
Janice Leslie Greenberg	Teri Switzer
Latanya N. Jenkins	Angela A. Williams
Frank M. Lester	