

## American Library Association Committee on Organization Report to Council

2016 Midwinter Meeting  
Boston, MA

### ACTION ITEMS:

#### *OLOS Advisory Committee Name, Charge, and Composition Change*

In 2015, the Office for Diversity and the Office for Literacy and Outreach Services (OLOS) merged into one office. The merged office is called the Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services.

Since the Office for Literacy and Outreach Services no longer exists, the OLOS Advisory Committee submitted to COO name, charge, and composition changes that reflect the new merged office structure.

COO recommends the following name, charge, and composition changes to the Office of Literacy and Outreach Services (OLOS) Advisory Committee.

**Action Item #1:** Resolved, that Council approves the revised name, charge, and composition of the Office of Literacy and Outreach Services (OLOS) Advisory Committee, as outlined below:

- Change the name of the OLOS Advisory Committee to the Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services Advisory Committee.
- Approve the charge of the Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services Advisory Committee:

The Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services Advisory Committee provides advice and support to the ALA Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services on the areas of diversity, literacy and outreach. The Advisory Committee is comprised of member groups that represent diverse viewpoints and constituents and will provide a two way forum to communicate member needs to the Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services and for the Office to share information with member groups. The Advisory Committee members will offer dynamic perspectives to help guide the strategic direction of the Office, will assess program effectiveness, encourage the exploration of new ideas and initiatives, and strengthen the growth of equity and inclusion within the American Library Association and the profession as a whole. Members are appointed to the Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services Advisory Committee through recommendations from the Presidents/Chairs of the stakeholder committees and organizations, with an additional three members appointed by the ALA President-elect.

Change the composition of the Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services Advisory Committee, as follows:

**BACKGROUND:**

Historically, the OLOS Advisory Committee has recommended actions to the OLOS and served in a consulting role on various literacy issues and projects. OLOS has now merged with OFD to form the Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services, which will encompass all services previously represented by the two separate offices. The OLOS Advisory Committee will become the Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services Advisory Committee and will recommend actions and serve in a consulting role on issues of both literacy and diversity.

The composition of the new Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services Advisory Committee will be made up of the merger of Diversity Council, a subcommittee of the Committee on Diversity (COD) and the OLOS Advisory Committee. Fifteen members of the Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services Advisory Committee will represent the following groups detailed below. Groups will select their own member representative with the exception of the three designated ex officio members.

- ❖ Current Diversity Council representatives (7 members):
  - American Indian Library Association (AILA)
  - Asian Pacific Librarians Association (APALA)
  - Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA)
  - Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA)
  - REFORMA (the national association to promote library and information services to Latinos and the Spanish speaking)
  - Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Round Table (GLBTRT)
  - Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA)
  
- ❖ Current OLOS Advisory Committee representatives (7 members):
  - Ethnic & Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table (EMIERT)
  - Social Responsibilities Round Table (SRRT)
  - Sustainability Round Table (SustainRT)
  - Association of Bookmobile & Outreach Services (ABOS)
  - Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL)
  - Committee on Literacy (COL)--Chair will serve (ex officio)
  - Rural, Native and Tribal Libraries of All Kinds (RNTLOAK) Committee—Chair will serve (ex officio)
  
- ❖ Committee on Diversity (COD) Chair (ex officio) (1 member)

An additional three members will be appointed by ALA President-Elect for a total of 18 members. All 18 members will have two-year staggered terms, with a chairperson appointed annually by the ALA President-elect.

### **Committee on Accreditation Composition Change**

During 2014-2015, a working group of the ALA Executive Board and ALISE (Association for Library & Information Science Education) met to respond to issues and concerns about the processes for and communication related to ALA accreditation of library and information studies (LIS) programs, as well as questions about the future direction of LIS education.

In June 2015, the ALA Executive Board, in consultation with ALISE, recommended referral to the ALA Committee on Organization of the two composition changes to the Committee on Accreditation, outlined in Executive Board Document #12.38 (2014-2015), as follows:

The ALA Committee on Accreditation is composed of 12 members appointed by the ALA president-elect. Of the 12 members, 10 are personal members of ALA appointed to represent educators – both deans/directors/chairs and faculty – and practitioners. Of those 10 members, one must be Canadian, recognizing that ALA COA accredits programs in both the U.S. and Canada. The remaining two COA members must be appointed from the public-at-large – and may not be members of the profession or members of ALA, to represent the public interest in accreditation.

The Task Force makes three additional recommendations related to the process of appointment and the composition of the committee:

- (1) That the composition of COA include a designation for one slot to be held by a Dean/Director/Chair of a library or information science program. This appointment will be handled informally for the 2016-2017 appointment year, with the ALA President-Elect appointing from a list of recommended nominations submitted by the ALISE Council of Deans/Directors/Chairs.
- (2) That a formal process of approval of a designated slot for a Dean/Director/Chair on the COA be initiated through the Committee on Organization, with approval in place by the 2017-2018 appointment year. Once approved, this slot will be filled by the ALA President-Elect from a list of recommended nominations submitted the ALISE Council of Deans/Directors/Chairs.
- (3) That the process for appointment of a Canadian member be similarly formalized, with nominations to come from the Canadian Library Association (CLA). ***[NOTE: This was done in 2008.]***

COO confirms that item three (3) above is already in place and does not require Council approval. COO recommends the composition change to the Committee on Accreditation, outlined both in item one (1) above and in the action item below.

**Action Item #2:** Resolved, that Council formally designates a Dean/Director position on the ALA Committee on Accreditation, within the current committee structure. Appointment to that position, when vacant, will be made by the ALA appointing officer from a list of recommendations to be made by the ALISE Council of Deans and Directors.

## **INFORMATION ITEM:**

COO approved establishment of the STEM in Public Libraries Membership Initiative Group at the COO meeting held on Sunday, January 11, 2016 as it 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.

Respectfully submitted to the ALA Council, Sunday, January 10, 2016.

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