

### **Resolution on the Education Requirements for Future ALA Executive Directors**

Whereas the ALA Council adopted the Resolution on Requiring a Professional Librarian Credential for the Executive Director of ALA in the year 2000 calling for a Master's Degree from a program accredited by the ALA or a Master's Degree with a specialty in school library media from an educational unit accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) (accredited under CAEP, the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation, as of 2013) for the Executive Director of ALA (<http://lists.ala.org/sympa/arc/alacoun/2016-09/msg00038.html>);

Whereas the 2016 white paper about the value of ALA-accredited master's programs by John Bertot and Lindsay Sarin indicated "MLIS education instills librarians with the values and principles of libraries and librarianship; values that are distinct from other related disciplines" ([http://www.ala.org/educationcareers/sites/ala.org/educationcareers/files/content/ALAWHITEPAPER\\_01September2016.pdf](http://www.ala.org/educationcareers/sites/ala.org/educationcareers/files/content/ALAWHITEPAPER_01September2016.pdf));

Whereas none of the ALA positions advertised in the most recent five years for the association included a requirement for an ALA accredited degree, but 56% advertised of those identified the ALA-accredited degree as being preferred;

Whereas much of the knowledge, skills, and abilities required in the management of an association are not part of the ALA-accredited master's program curriculum;

Whereas recent communications to the ALA Council and Executive Board have requested reconsideration of the requirement for an ALA-accredited degree for the ALA Executive Director to preferred or strongly preferred; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members

1. amends the educational qualification for the ALA Executive Director to make an ALA-accredited Master's Degree or a CAEP-accredited Master's Degree with a specialty in school library media a strongly preferred but not required educational qualification.

Mover: Peter Hepburn, on behalf of the Executive Board. 773.426.8082

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## Resolution E-Form

Submitted on Wednesday, January 18, 2017 - 11:28 Submitted by user:

Submitted values are:

Date: 01/18/2017

Resolution author(s): ALA Executive Board (Peter Hepburn to move resolution on behalf of the Board) E-mail address: [peter.hepburn@canyons.edu](mailto:peter.hepburn@canyons.edu)

1. Title of Resolution: Resolution on the Education Requirements for Future ALA Executive Directors

2. ALA Units and/or Committees Consulted (if any): ALA Council

3. Endorsements by ALA Units and/or Committees (if any): None

4. Fiscal implications: Specify the resources needed to carry out the resolution's directive(s): None

5. List all parties to whom resolution should be sent: ALA Executive Director search committee; ALA Human Resources

6. Impact on ALA Policies and Positions: Explain how the resolution supports ALA's Strategic Plan, its mission, and/or its core values.: The resolution would reverse the decision made by Council in 2000 in the resolution titled "Resolution on Requiring a Professional Librarian Credential for the Executive Director of ALA". There are otherwise no policies in the Policy Manual that this change would affect.

6a) ALA general policy or viewpoint: If the resolution sets forth a general policy or an ALA viewpoint, describe.:

6b) Change in existing policy: If this resolution necessitates a change in existing policy, state the policy number and the change.:

6c) New policy: If this resolution establishes new policy, describe.:

6d) Policy conflicts: If this resolution conflicts with existing policy, state provisions for resolving the conflict.:

7. Initiating Committee or Unit (if any): ALA Executive Board

8. Pertinent Background Information, e.g. bibliography, citations, supportive quotes, URLs, etc.:

9. Mover's Name: Peter Hepburn, on behalf of the ALA Executive Board

9a) Mover's Local Telephone Number: 773.426.8082

10 Seconder's Name:

10a) Seconder's Local Telephone Number: