

American Library Association Committee on Organization Report to Council

2017 Midwinter Meeting
Atlanta, GA

INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. ALA Website Advisory Committee Name and Charge Change:

The ALA Website Advisory Committee (WAC) presented a proposal to change the name and charge of WAC.

BACKGROUND: WAC noted that all technology is web-enabled in some fashion now and proposed that the charge of the Committee be expanded to include all ALA technology services and products, whether used by ALA members, staff, or the public. In addition, WAC proposed that the name of the Committee be changed to the ALA Information Technology Advisory Committee, while keeping the current composition structure.

The proposed name and charge changes are as follows:

Current Name: *Website Advisory Committee*

Recommended Name: ALA Information Technology Advisory Committee

Current Charge: *To develop, review and recommend to Council, Association policies for the ALA website. To recommend editorial or structural guidelines for the ALA website. To provide advice to the ALA Executive Director responsible for implementing such policies and guidelines. To provide an ongoing channel for member communication by working closely with other units, committees and offices of the Association. To make recommendations concerning technical issues or changes to the ALA website, including evaluating, testing and implementing web-based products and services used by Association members or by the public. To advise the Association on priorities and strategies that promote utilization and continued development of the ALA website.*

Recommended Charge (changes are bold): To develop, review and recommend to Council, Association policies for the **ALA application of information technology products and services**. To provide advice to the ALA Executive Director responsible for implementing such policies and guidelines. To recommend editorial or structural guidelines for the ALA website. **To recommend guidelines for best practices for software used by ALA**. To provide an ongoing channel for member communication by working closely with other units, committees and offices of the association. To make recommendations concerning technical issues or changes to **ALA's ITTS infrastructure, including evaluating, testing and implementing technology products and services** used by Association members or by the public; **To make recommendations on the reconciliation of differing strategic plans from ALA and its divisions**. To advise the Association on priorities and strategies that promote utilization and continued development of **ALA technology products and services**,

including the ALA website. To advise on priority setting for competing projects. To make recommendations on how the divisions can work together under a more cohesive umbrella.

Composition (no change proposed):

- Sixteen (16) members with two-year, staggered terms. Includes a chairperson appointed annually. Classification of the sixteen (16) members:
 - 1 member from each of the 11 divisions, to be selected by the appointing officer of the divisions;
 - 1 member selected by the Round Table Coordinating Committee rotated among the round tables;
 - 1 member selected by the Publishing Committee;
 - 2 members-at-large selected by the ALA appointing officer;
 - 1 ex officio member - chair of the ASCLA Accessibility Assembly;
- Two (2) interns with two-year, staggered terms.

The primary staff liaison is the Director, ALA ITTS.

The Committee on Organization voted to not recommend the proposed ALA Website Advisory Committee name and charge change outlined above to the ALA Council until the ALA Website Advisory Committee also reviews its composition to ensure it is constructed to effectively carry out the Committee's proposed charge change.

The ALA Website Advisory Committee will present a revised proposal to the Committee on Organization at the 2017 Annual Conference in Chicago.

2. Renewal of Membership Initiative Groups (MIGs)

Two MIGs - Diversity and Programming Librarian - were approved for renewal. Both MIGs met the requirements outlined in 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 or 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.

3. Minor Editorial Revisions to Committee Compositions and Charges

COO approved the following minor editorial revisions to the composition of the Committee on Accreditation and to the charges of the Committee on Diversity and the Committee on Literacy.

a. Committee on Accreditation

The current composition of the Committee on Accreditation is as follows:

Twelve (12) Members, which includes a chairperson appointed annually and drawn from the continuing membership of the Committee:

- Two (2) Public Members with two-year, staggered terms (may be renewed once);
- Eight (8) ALA Members with four-year, staggered terms (non-renewable);
- One (1) Canadian Member with a four-year, staggered term (non-renewable), who is appointed in consultation with the Canadian Library Association;
- One (1) designated Dean/Director position with a four-year, staggered term (non-renewable) made by the ALA appointing officer from a list of recommendations made by the ALISE Council of Deans and Directors

Due to the dissolution of the Canadian Library Association, the Committee on Accreditation's Canadian Member will now be appointed in consultation with the Canadian Federation of Library Associations. The new composition is as follows:

Twelve (12) Members, which includes a chairperson appointed annually and drawn from the continuing membership of the Committee:

- Two (2) Public Members with two-year, staggered terms (may be renewed once);
- Eight (8) ALA Members with four-year, staggered terms (non-renewable);
- One (1) Canadian Member with a four-year, staggered term (non-renewable), who is appointed in consultation with the ~~Canadian Library Association~~ Canadian Federation of Library Associations;
- One (1) designated Dean/Director position with a four-year, staggered term (non-renewable) made by the ALA appointing officer from a list of recommendations made by the ALISE Council of Deans and Directors

b. Committee on Diversity

The current charge of the Committee on Diversity is as follows:

To provide a forum to research, monitor, discuss, and address national diversity issues and trends. To analyze and address the impact of diversity issues and trends on the profession, and the relevance and effectiveness of library leadership, library organizations and library services to an increasingly diverse society. To provide to Council and ALA membership information, needed for the establishment of ALA policies, actions, and initiatives related to national diversity issues and trends. To encourage and facilitate diversity in ALA membership

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and the recruitment and retention of a diverse workforce in the profession as a whole. To encourage and facilitate diversity in ALA leadership and leadership development. To facilitate a broad awareness of how and why diversity is unequivocally linked to all ALA areas of concern such as intellectual freedom, education and continual learning, literacy and equity of access. To work collaboratively with the ALA President, ALA Council, ALA Divisions, ALA Offices and Units, ALA Round Tables, ALA Committees, and ALA Affiliates. To serve in an advisory capacity to the Director of the ALA Office for Diversity. To support the role of the Office for Diversity as the clearinghouse for ALA's diversity resources, contacts, and information exchange. To monitor the implementation, progress and ongoing evaluation of all ALA national diversity initiatives and programs. To plan, support, and encourage conference programs, activities and special events.

Due to the recent merger of the Office for Diversity with the Office for Literacy and Outreach Services into the Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services, the new charge is as follows:

To provide a forum to research, monitor, discuss, and address national diversity issues and trends. To analyze and address the impact of diversity issues and trends on the profession, and the relevance and effectiveness of library leadership, library organizations and library services to an increasingly diverse society. To provide to Council and ALA membership information, needed for the establishment of ALA policies, actions, and initiatives related to national diversity issues and trends. To encourage and facilitate diversity in ALA membership and the recruitment and retention of a diverse workforce in the profession as a whole. To encourage and facilitate diversity in ALA leadership and leadership development. To facilitate a broad awareness of how and why diversity is unequivocally linked to all ALA areas of concern such as intellectual freedom, education and continual learning, literacy and equity of access. To work collaboratively with the ALA President, ALA Council, ALA Divisions, ALA Offices and Units, ALA Round Tables, ALA Committees, and ALA Affiliates. To serve in an advisory capacity to the Director of the ALA ~~Office for Diversity~~ Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services. To support the role of the ~~Office for Diversity~~ Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services as the clearinghouse for ALA's diversity resources, contacts, and information exchange. To monitor the implementation, progress and ongoing evaluation of all ALA national diversity initiatives and programs. To plan, support, and encourage conference programs, activities and special events.

c. Committee on Literacy

The current charge of the Committee on Literacy is as follows:

To develop and recommend the Association's policies related to the promotion of literacy; to develop and encourage the development of programs, educational opportunities, and other resources that assist librarians and libraries in promoting literacy; to raise the awareness of literacy within the Association; to work cooperatively with the Literacy Assembly, the Office for Literacy and Outreach Services and its Advisory Committee, and

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other ALA units, including the Washington Office, on efforts that have a literacy focus; to develop and maintain partnerships with national literacy organizations.

Due to the recent merger of the Office for Diversity with the Office for Literacy and Outreach Services into the Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services, the new charge is as follows:

To develop and recommend the Association's policies related to the promotion of literacy; to develop and encourage the development of programs, educational opportunities, and other resources that assist librarians and libraries in promoting literacy; to raise the awareness of literacy within the Association; to work cooperatively with the Literacy Assembly, the ~~Office for Literacy and Outreach Services~~ Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services and its Advisory Committee, and other ALA units, including the Washington Office, on efforts that have a literacy focus; to develop and maintain partnerships with national literacy organizations.

Respectfully submitted to the ALA Council, Sunday, January 22, 2017.

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