

### **III.2 Composition of the External Review Panel**

An External Review Panel (ERP) typically consists of five members. As much as possible, the composition of the panel reflects any requests for areas of special expertise. Panel members are selected through a cooperative process involving the Program Head, the Committee on Accreditation (COA), and the Office for Accreditation. Each panel includes individuals active in academia and in practice. The OA Director has the final authority on the size and composition of the panel.

One representative of the Canadian Federation of Library Associations (or an alternative professional library and information organization) is permitted to observe reviews of Canadian programs. The observer is not a member of the ERP and shall not influence the evaluation of the program. The observer participates with the approval of the program. The observer is expected to follow the guidelines for conflicts of interest, as stated in section III.4, and confidentiality, as stated in section III.5.4. The ALA is not responsible for the expenses of the observer.

*Revised April 26, 2019*