

**COUNCIL II**  
**Tuesday, June 29, 1999, 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon**

The second meeting of Council during the 1999 Annual Conference was convened at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, June 29.

**QUORUM.** A quorum was established at the beginning of each meeting.

**ESTABLISHING THE AGENDA, CD#8.5 Revised, Exhibit 3.** By **CONSENT**, Council adopted **CD#70, Exhibit 45**, which extended the life of the Task Force on Foreign Credentialing until the 2000 ALA Midwinter Meeting, when the task force will submit its final report.

By **CONSENT**, Council approved the establishment of the SIRSI Leader in Library Technology Grant, as outlined in **CD#10.1, Exhibit 10**.

By **CONSENT**, Council adopted the remainder of the agenda as presented.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTION ON SUBJECT HEADING REVISIONS RELATED TO THE "POOR PEOPLE'S" POLICY, CD#37, Exhibit 7.** Councilor Sanford Berman moved and Council

**DEFEATED**, The adoption of CD#37, Resolution on Subject Heading Revisions Related to the "Poor People's" Policy as amended to **delete**: "homeless families" and to **add**: "Living wage laws and street newspapers."

Although Council took no formal action, the ALCTS Subject Analysis Committee's Task Force on LCSH Subject Heading Revisions relating to the Poor People's Policy will continue its work and submit its report on the proposed subject changes and on the broader issues of subject headings relating to the poor to ALCTS and Council at the 2000 Midwinter Meeting.

**RESOLUTION ON ALA AND PROFESSIONAL DISPUTES IN LIBRARIES INVOLVING THE INFRINGEMENT OF LIBRARIANS' RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, CD#72, Exhibit 11.**

Councilor Mark Rosenzweig moved that Council adopt CD#72, Resolution on ALA and Professional Disputes In Libraries Involving the Infringement of Librarians' Rights and Responsibilities, which read: "That the association creates a standing committee to deal with egregious violations of professional rights and responsibilities of librarians within libraries themselves; and, that such a committee should be empowered to investigate and come to judgment about appropriate instances brought to its attention; and, that the committee can propose censure, remedies or the mediation of such disputes as involve infringement of librarians' rights as spelled out in our policy manual."

Mal'is Wendt, BARC chair, reported that her committee had reviewed the resolution and noted that there would be significant staff and legal expenses associated with adopting this resolution. Funds have not been allocated for associated expenses.

Councilor Beverly Lynch cited the 1993 disbanding of the similar Standing Committee on Review, Inquiry, and Mediation (SCRIM) and pointed out that because ALA is made up of personal and institutional members, it was never clear whom ALA ought to represent when it was asked to investigate disputes between parties. After hearing varying other opinions,

Council then

**VOTED**, To defeat the adoption of CD#72, Resolution on ALA and Professional Disputes in Libraries Involving the Infringement of Librarians' Rights and Responsibilities, which read: "That the association creates a standing committee to deal with egregious violations of professional rights and responsibilities of librarians within libraries themselves; and, that such a committee should be empowered to investigate and come to judgment about appropriate instances brought to its attention; and, that the committee can propose censure, remedies or the mediation of such disputes as involve infringement of librarians' rights as spelled out in our policy manual."

**RESOLUTION ON ALA MEMBERSHIP MEETING QUORUM, CD#73, Exhibit 12.** Councilor Mark Rosenzweig moved and Council

**VOTED**, To defeat the adoption of CD#73, Resolution on ALA Membership Meeting Quorum, which read: "That ALA modifies the quorum requirements by setting it at 100; and, that ALA schedule membership meetings at a time and place which facilitates the convening of such a meeting; and, that ALA affirm the importance of membership meetings at Annual Conferences by recognizing those quorum rules are meant to facilitate rather than render impossible the convening of such meetings; and, that the Bylaws change on the quorum be re-submitted for a membership vote at the earliest opportunity with a recommendation from Council to adjust the quorum for the purpose of facilitating the holding, once again, of membership meetings."

**RESOLUTION ON COMPENSATION FOR SPEAKERS AT ALA'S ANNUAL CONFERENCES AND MIDWINTER MEETINGS, CD#74, Exhibit 13.** Councilor Stephen Peter LaBash moved the adoption of CD#74, Resolution on Compensation for Speakers at ALA's Annual Conferences and Midwinter Meetings, which read: "That no speaker be provided compensation in the form of payments or honoraria of more than \$15,000 from Association funds; and, that expenditures for travel, housing, food and other incidentals be no more that \$5,000 from Association funds; and, that increases in such funding be limited to 6% per year from the date of implementation of this resolution."

Although this resolution was prompted by General Colin Powell's invitation to be the keynote speaker at the 1999 ALA Opening General Session and the dispute over his speaker fee, LaBash said that CD#74 was not intended as a referendum against Colin Powell. He said it was intended only to direct how much ALA could spend on program speakers, but did not prohibit ALA from seeking private or corporate sponsors for speakers. LaBash denied that offering guidance to the leadership on how ALA funds should be spent in certain areas is micromangement.

**A Resolution on ALA and Professional Disputes in Libraries Involving the Infringement of Librarians Rights and Responsibilities**

**Whereas** the ALA Policy Manual makes clear that the American Library Association is committed to defence of librarians' rights including, but not confined to intellectual freedom rights and

**Whereas** a mechanism for dealing with these crucial professional matters no longer exists since the dissolution of SCRIM

**Be it Resolved** that the association creates a standing committee to deal with egregious violations of professional rights and responsibilities of librarians within libraries themselves and also

**Be it resolved** that such a committee should be empowered to investigate and come to judgement about appropriate instances brought to its attention and

**Be it Resolved** that the committee can propose censure, remedies or the mediation of such disputes as involve infringement of librarians' rights as spelled out in our policy manual.

Moved by Councilor Mark Rosenzweig  
Seconded by Elaine Harger , Councilor-at-Large

**Resolution Committee Notes: Appears to need review by BARC for budgetary implications and Committee on Organization.**

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Statutory support for this resolution:

The citations I make supporting the above resolution are from the 1998-1999 ALA Handbook of Organization.

Two general ones are from page 29-30 ,1.2,on column two and 1.3 (priority section E) on column 3. The first states the general mission of working to improve the profession itself. The second, entitled "Personnel resources" refers to "Librarians [upholding] the ALA Code of Ethics which includes an affirmation of intellectual freedom for librarians. I want to ADD the Priority area C. "Intellectual freedom" which states "ALA will promote the protection of...library personnel...from censorship".

Section 53.1 (page 43) "LibraryBill of Rights".

Section 53.1.12 is on page 44. Also 54.6 #2 (PAGE 45) COLUMN 3 "Fair Employment Practices".

54.7 (pg. 45,column 3) "Security of Employment for Library Employees" which is pertinent in all its subsections but which contains section 4 which states explicitly that "Security of employment [is] an elementary right, [which] guarantees specifically... (4)

REVIEWED FOR CONFORMATION WITH  
GUIDELINES  
by Council Resolutions Committee

The opportunity for the library employee to work without fear of undue interference or dismissal and freedom from discharge for racial, POLITICAL religion OR ANY OTHER UNJUST REASON.

54.16 "On Professional Ethics" whose provision #5 states "We treat co-workers and other colleagues with respect, fairness and good faith, and ADVOCATE conditions of employment that safeguard the rights and welfare of all employees of our institutions to work without fear of undue interference or dismissal...".