

**YALSA Board of Directors Meeting  
ALA Midwinter Meeting, Seattle  
January 19-24, 2007**

**Topic:** Request for Board Action: Establish a Conference Scholarship

**Background:** Jami Schwarzwald, YALSA's Student Interest Group Co-Convener, has asked the Board to consider establishing a new conference scholarship for student members. Currently YALSA has two conference grants (Baker & Taylor and Sagebrush Award) that allow for three YALSA members to attend conference; however, YALSA has no grants or awards specifically for student members. YALSA currently has 1,192 student members.

**Action Required:** Action

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NAME = Jami Schwarzwald, Co-Convener Student Interest Group

**Request:**

I request the YALSA Board form a task force to create guidelines for a new conference scholarship available to students to attend an ALA conference.

**Rationale for Request:**

Attending a conference as a student helps one network and obtain a focus for one's studies. It's an opportunity to experience ideas, and gain a passion for librarianship from those who believe the most in it. It's a rare opportunity for a student to attend a national conference. Since a portion of YALSA members are students this would allow those who are considering Young Adult librarianship as a career goal to gain valuable knowledge about the field and possibly get involved as part of the YALSA division.

If you want the Board to form a task force or committee, please indicate the size and make-up of the group you recommend:

I request a task force consisting of a mix of experienced professionals and recent graduates be assigned to consider criteria for submission, sources of funding (possibly selling specific item to raise funds such as a black t-shirt that says "Support the Future" with YALSA logo), eligibility requirements (Do they have to be a current library science student?), and who will evaluate the submissions.