

YALSA Board of Directors Meeting  
Via Conference Call  
August 29, 2013

**Topic:** Board Member Professional Development

**Background:** Board member development is a tactic in the Action Plan that is meant to support the Capacity Building goal in the Strategic Plan. Board members will want to identify areas for development and then create a learning plan for the coming year. The board may want to discuss particular strategies for their professional development as individuals and as a group.

**Action Required:** Discussion

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### Professional Development Resources

**Board Wiki:** the board wiki includes a page that lists places to go to find both face-to-face and e-learning opportunities:

- [http://wikis.ala.org/yalsagroups/index.php/Professional\\_Development](http://wikis.ala.org/yalsagroups/index.php/Professional_Development)
- Username: board, password: board\_wiki

**BoardSource:** YALSA's Board is an organizational member of BoardSource. In order to get the member discount on webinars, books, etc., each one board member needs to complete the brief sign-up form at [www.boardsource.org/yalsa](http://www.boardsource.org/yalsa) to activate their membership. BoardSource membership opportunities that might be of particular interest include:

- access to BoardSource's governance experts via its ["Ask an Expert" e-mail Q & A service](#) and semi-monthly "Ask the Governance Expert" webinars.
- [free monthly webinars on important issues facing board leaders and chief executives](#)
- Free subscription to *The Spark!*, BoardSource's new, monthly e-newsletter that is full of practical ideas, real-world advice, and thoughtful perspectives on how to increase your board's effectiveness
- member pricing on [assessment tools](#), [books](#), and the [BoardSource Leadership Forum](#), BoardSource's annual conference
- personalized support from a member relations liaison who can help you find and select relevant resources and tools
- [and other special membership benefits](#)

If you have any questions or would like additional information about BoardSource's membership program, please feel free to contact the Member Relations Team at [my-concierge@boardsource.org](mailto:my-concierge@boardsource.org) or 202-349-2580.

**Group Opportunities:** If desired, YALSA's board could participate in professional development as a group via opportunities such as:

- A face to face session at Midwinter and/or Annual
- A virtual book club
- Occasionally use the monthly chats to present some targeted training
- Other?

**Additional Resources:**

- A copy of the Learning Plan is provided on the following page
- Post in Board's space in ALA Connect which includes self-assessment checklist and learning plan form: <http://connect.ala.org/node/184031>
- Board document #23 from the 2012 Annual Conference meeting: <http://bit.ly/SoHCyp>

## YALSA Board Member Learning Plan

Please fill out this plan after you’ve completed the Self Assessment and share the plan with your Executive Committee Liaison (you don’t need to submit the Self Assessment). The purpose of this learning plan is to help you identify a way to demonstrate what you’ve learned and to plan on how to carry that out.

**SAMPLE GOAL**

<b>Learning Goal(s)</b> What skills & knowledge do I need?	<b>Current Status</b> What level of skills & knowledge do I have now with respect to this goal? <i>(refer to your self-assessment)</i>	<b>Learning Strategies</b> How will I reach this learning goal?	<b>Required Resources</b> What resources do I need to achieve this goal?	<b>Key Performance Indicators</b> How can I demonstrate to myself & others that I have achieved this goal? <i>(refer to the self-assessment document for other ideas on how to demonstrate what you learned)</i>
<b>EXAMPLE:</b> Understand the board role in planned giving	A bit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read about planned giving from the Giving section of YALSA’s web site and follow up with the Fiscal Officer and Executive Director if I any questions</li> <li>• As per the self-assessment sheet, read over the PowerPoint Presentation about planned giving</li> <li>• Check the Board Wiki to see what resources are there in regards to planned giving</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access YALSA’s web site and Board wiki</li> <li>• PowerPoint presentation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I might find resources online about planned giving and nonprofits and add links to them to the Board Wiki</li> <li>• I could brainstorm ways that YALSA might enhance its planned giving efforts and present them as a board document for the full board to discuss</li> <li>• I could record a brief podcast about planned giving that other board members could listen to</li> </ul>

**My name:**  
**MY GOAL**

<p><b>Learning Goal(s)</b>            What skills &amp; knowledge do I need?</p>	<p><b>Current Status</b>            What level of skills &amp; knowledge do I have now with respect to this goal?  <i>(refer to your self-assessment)</i></p>	<p><b>Learning Strategies</b>            How will I reach this learning goal?</p>	<p><b>Required Resources</b>            What resources do I need to achieve this goal?</p>	<p><b>Key Performance Indicators</b>            How can I demonstrate to myself &amp; others that I have achieved this goal?  <i>(refer to the self-assessment document for other ideas on how to demonstrate what you learned)</i></p>
<p><b>My goal:</b></p>				