

YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
ALA Annual Conference, Chicago
June 28 – July 2, 2013

Topic: Draft Strategic Planning Committee Handbook

Background: At Midwinter 2013, the Organization & Bylaws Committee provided a report to the YALSA Board (item #35) recommending a Strategic Planning Handbook be developed that provides information for the chair and members that covers activities, tasks and timelines for years in which a plan is in development and “off” years. The board agreed to establish a sub-committee to work on this task. They have provided a preliminary report for the board’s consideration.

Action Required: Discussion

The Committee Charge is to work with the YALSA Board throughout the strategic planning process and in between planning cycles, including but not limited to: connect with members to ensure an inclusive planning process, monitor the implementation strategy for the current strategic plan, to communicate the goals of the plan and the planning process to the general membership and to official member groups, and to encourage members and member groups to take an active role in helping YALSA achieve its goals.

The Organization & Bylaws report cited two key challenges to the work of the Strategic Planning Committee:

- *The amount of work required during the year in which a strategic plan is under development. During the year when a plan is in the works the committee is responsible for a wide-array of activities which includes working on and marketing the plan.*
- *The amorphous nature of the work required in years in which a plan is not under development. In “off” years in the past the Committee has managed the Great Ideas contest but the number of submissions for this contest dwindled over the past several years so its value as an activity of the group (and a useful activity for members) may be minimal.*

These challenges mean that during the “off” years in the strategic planning cycle the work of the group and the workload varies greatly. It can be difficult to keep the group motivated and engaged during these in-between years.

Progress Update:

A committee of volunteers from the YALSA Board was appointed by President Jack Martin following Midwinter. The committee is currently working on two separate timelines: one for the development years and one for “off” years. The committee will complete a survey of recent past Strategic Planning Chairs to help determine the timelines and what they feel would be helpful for

future Chairs in a handbook. We are also seeking past task lists of the committee to evaluate and include on the timelines.

Our goal is to develop a handbook to provide continuity in the activities and tasks performed by the committee and to ensure that none are not lost or forgotten during the transition to new Chairs.

Respectfully Submitted:

Gail Tobin, Chair

Pamela Spencer Holley

Candice Mack

Renee McGrath

Chris Shoemaker

Christian Zabriskie