

TO: Core Board of Directors

TOPIC: Division Councilor's Report

ACTION / INFORMATION / REPORT: REPORT

ACTION REQUESTED BY: Rachel Fleming, Core Division Councilor

SUBMITTED: August 8, 2024

Summary

This report includes ALA Council and Governance Meetings held in conjunction with ALA Annual Conference from June 18th through July 1st, 2024, and the Special Council Meeting held July 23rd, 2024. 2024-2025 is the final year in my current term as Councilor.

ALA Governance Meeting schedules are available at <https://www.ala.org/aboutala/ala-governance-meetings>.

ALA President-Elect

In the spring 2024 elections, Dr. Raymond Pun was elected President-Elect. Following his selection for this role, he indicated he would not be able to assume the role. When president Emily Drabinski's term ended and current president Cindy Hohl assumed the presidency, this created a vacancy in the president elect position.

Such vacancies are governed by the ALA Bylaws Article 4 Officers, Section 3:

The Executive Board shall fill a vacancy in the office of the president elect or the treasurer within 30 days of any such vacancy, subject to a confirmation vote by Council.

President Drabinski convened, [as indicated in a press release](#), a working group of Board Members from each cohort of the Executive Board, charged with selecting and vetting candidates. Once a candidate was selected by the Executive Board, the decision went before the 2024-2025 Council.

The Executive Board met July 9th, and a Special ALA Council Meeting with the agenda to confirm the President-elect candidate recommended by the ALA Executive Board followed. After due consideration, the Council decided on Tuesday, July 23, 2024, that Sam Helmick will be the 2024-2025 president-elect effective immediately.

Items of Note

- ALA CD#27.1 [Committee on Organization Report](#)
 - Establish a Library Makerspace Round Table pp. 2-4
 - The Committee on Organization brought a proposal for a Library Makerspace Round Table to the Council, which was tabled until January's LibLearnX meeting for further considerations of resource constraints and allocation. The Core Board, Technology Section, and Maker Technology Interest Group have further discussed this proposal. Core's current position is that, unless the proposers are able to offer a compelling argument, the Maker Technology Interest Group can and should be the home for the activities of the proposed Round Table.
- ALA CD#32.1 [Publishing Committee](#)
ALA CD#32.2 [ALA Journal Publication Ethics Policy DRAFT](#)
 - Council approved the draft ALA Journal Publication Ethics Policy. The Publication Committee included recommended actions to be taken following approval and detailed their support of policy implementation in their report. Core Journal editors Ken Varnum and Rachel Scott represented Core journals on the working group that drafted the policy.
- ALA CD#19.3-19.5 [Intellectual Freedom Report](#)
 - The IFC is conducting a review of the Interpretations of the Library Bill of Rights:
 - Restricted Access to Library Materials
 - Diverse Collections
 - Prisoners' Right to Read
 - Access to Library Resources and Services for Minors
 - Access to Resources and Services in the School Library
 - Once the revisions are approved by the Intellectual Freedom Committee, the draft revisions of the Interpretations will be circulated to all divisions, roundtables, and committees, with a request for review and input.
 - The Intellectual Freedom Committee's Privacy Subcommittee has been assisting the Standing Committee on Standards and Name Authority Records Working Group with the development of a principles document to address privacy and security concerns that arise when creating and modifying name authority records.
- ALA CD#41.1 [Committee on Education](#)
 - The COE will place a call for a workgroup to begin an update and revision of the LTA Criteria Report [*Criteria for programs to prepare library technical assistants*] (last approved 2004) with work to commence in Fall 2024.
- ALA CD#39.1 [Membership Committee Report](#) and
ALA EBD#10.11 [Standardized Division Dues WG Report](#)
 - Core Board members should stay apprised of the ongoing work in membership including the standardized division dues report and responses from ACRL and PLA.

- ALA CD#13.1 [ALA Treasurer's Report for Virtual Membership Meeting](#).
ALA CD#13.2-13.4 [ALA Treasurer's Report to Council](#), as well as
[Executive Board Documents for Annual Conference](#), EBD3.20 through 3.24.
 - The Treasurer's report to Council was largely the same as report to the membership meeting. Executive Board budget documents are highly recommended reading for additional perspective on ALA and Core budget conversations.
- Annual Conference Attendance and Revenue
 - Interim Executive Director Leslie Burger Reported 7,928 paid registrants, 116% of target, 13,523 total; revenue at 123% of goal, 5.4m against 4.69m anticipated.
- Executive Board actions included:
 - Core Values Interpretations Working Groups: 5 working groups have been appointed and began work in June 2024. The work to be completed by Annual Conference 2025.
 - Code of Conduct updates approved and implemented August 2024.

Resolutions

- ALA CD#50 RESOLUTION in Defense of Anti-War Protesters' Freedom of Expression and Assembly - Virtual Membership Meeting (DEFEATED)
- ALA CD#51 RESOLUTION to Support AASL School Library Chapters and ACRL Academic Library Chapters
 - Establishes a Task Force to explore how to better support state chapters affiliated with divisions.
- ALA CD#52 RESOLUTION Reaffirming ALA's Commitment to Intellectual Freedom and Issuing a Call to Action
- ALA CD#53 RESOLUTION on the Working Group for ALA Societal Statement Guidelines
 - Establishes a working group to adapt [ASAE Societal Statement Framework](#) for ALA Use.
- ALA CD#54 RESOLUTION to Update Recently Removed Language in the ALA Policy Manual (DEFEATED)
 - The ALA Policy Monitoring Committee reviews the ALA Policy Manual to identify policies that may need updating, revisions or recommendations for deletions. Outdated items to be retired from the manual or to gaps in the presentation of policies contain dated language and reflect specific political issues and interest and do not have a clear sponsoring body. This resolution aimed to address the removal of these policies addressing political issues which are potentially still relevant by replacing them with updated language. Where applicable, new resolutions can propose updated policy positions.
- ALA CD#20.1 [Resolution Urging Library Workers and Supporters to Participate in the 2024 Elections](#)
 - <https://www.ala.org/advocacy/reader-voter-ready>

Recommended Reading

- [National Climate Action Strategy for Libraries](#)
- ALA CD#20.1 [Committee on Legislation Report](#)
 - Keep up to date with the advocacy work related to ALA's legislative agenda. Sign up for ALA Advocacy alerts at <https://www.ala.org/takeaction>
- ALA CD#22.1 [Freedom to Read Foundation Report](#)
 - Keep up to date with ongoing litigation support and advocacy activities. Join the foundation at www.ftfrf.org.
- ALA CD#23.1 [Executive Director's Report for Virtual Membership Meeting](#)
 - ALA Executive Director's Report pp. 2-3.
 - FY 24 Q3 Membership Summary pp. 5-11.
- Division Reports to Council
 - ALA CD#28.1 [American Association of School Librarians \(AASL\)](#)
 - ALA CD#28.2 [Association of College and Research Libraries \(ACRL\)](#)
 - ALA CD#28.3 [Association for Library Services to Children \(ALSC\)](#)
 - ALA CD#28.4 [Core: Leadership Infrastructure, Futures \(Core\)](#)
 - ALA CD#28.5 [Public Library Association \(PLA\)](#)
 - ALA CD#28.6 [Reference and User Services Association \(RUSA\)](#)
 - ALA CD#28.7 [Young Adult Library Services Association \(YALSA\)](#)
- ALA CD#49 [LGBTQIA+ Taskforce Report](#)
 - Recommendations will go to the Executive Board for implementation.

Budget Implications

None

Action Requested

None