

## ALA Councilors

The ALA Council is the governing body of ALA. It delegates authority to the divisions of the Association to plan and carry out programs and activities in accordance with policy established by Council. Council determines all policies of the Association and its decisions are binding unless set aside by the membership. Any personal member of the Association can be elected to the Council.

ALA Councilors also serve as members of the ALA-Allied Professional Association [ALA-APA] Council.\* The ALA-APA Council is the governing body of the ALA-APA and determines all policies of the ALA-APA.

*\*NOTE: Because the ALA-APA is a 501(c)6 organization and thus is governed by different regulations than ALA, which is a 501(c)3 organization, some employers may impose restrictions on participation in the ALA-APA. Individuals considering ALA/APA office are encouraged to consult with their employer regarding any restrictions regarding lobbying activities or service on the Board of a 501(c)6 organization, and to consult with ALA staff regarding accommodation to any such restriction.*

All Councilors are expected to attend Council meetings (typically during the January/Winter event and Annual Conference). In addition, Councilors are expected to attend Membership Meetings. New Councilors will be asked to attend orientation sessions hosted by the Council Engagement and Training Committee.

## Duties and Responsibilities

Councilors are charged with the following duties:

1. To annually elect Executive Board Members, Council Committee on Committees (COC), and Planning Budget Assembly candidates. Floor nominations are also accepted. The COC works with the President-elect to appoint members to ALA standing committees.
2. To review the actions of the ALA Executive Board; receive the minutes of all Executive Board meetings, receive a report from the President for the Executive Board, from the Executive Director for the Headquarters staff; from the Treasurer, the division presidents, and the Budget Analysis and Review Committee [BARC] on the projected budget for the ensuing year.
3. By directive to receive at each meeting a report from the Freedom to Read Foundation, the Endowment Trustees, and the Policy Monitoring Committee.
4. To receive the views of its Resolutions Committee about all resolutions presented to Council from Councilors, ALA units and the Membership.
5. To originate and act on all proposed amendments to the Bylaws before these are submitted to the membership for vote.
6. To establish dues for chapter, organization and corporate ALA members upon recommendation of the Executive Board.
7. To receive the report of the ALA Nominating Committee and Committee on Committees.
8. To act on petitions from national organizations requesting affiliation with the Association.
9. To act on resolutions referred by the Membership.
10. To review at each meeting information on implementation of actions from previous meetings.
11. To establish state, provincial, regional and territorial library associations as ALA

chapters as provided in the Bylaws.

12. To establish or discontinue divisions or round tables.
13. To establish or discontinue committees and determine their composition, function and size as the Association's needs require.
14. To determine all Association policies; may delegate responsibility to speak for the Association within assigned fields of responsibility in accordance with general Council policies.
15. To authorize changes, additions, and deletions in the ALA Policy Manual upon recommendation of the Policy Monitoring Committee.

### Traits & Attributes of ALA Councilor Candidates

- Committed to advancing the mission and purpose of ALA
- Willing and able to advocate for libraries of all types
- Familiar with or interested in learning about the broad ALA picture, its governing bodies, units, and its procedures and goals
- Committed to ensuring ALA's structure and policies effectively and efficiently align with ALA's strategic goals
- Familiarity with budgeting, strategic planning and governance
- Is aware of the duties and time commitment required of the position and has sufficient organizational and personal support
- Passionate about libraries of all types, our profession and our values and ALA's mission
- No previous experience on ALA Council with a particular emphasis on slating current and previous Emerging Leaders and Spectrum Scholars

Developed by 2016 Nominating Committee