

American Library Association (ALA) Annual Meeting 2016 Michigan Chapter Councilor's Report

ALA Council and Committee Reports

A complete list of Council documents from the conference can be found on the [ALA website](#), including Council and Committee reports. An [Implementation Report](#) of previous actions taken by ALA Council is available. A complete list of Council actions will be posted to the [ALA website](#) once available.

Report from President of ALA, ALA Council Document #21.1

Sari Feldman, President of ALA, provided a report of her activities, including a summary of events related to the [Libraries Transform](#) campaign. The President's complete report is [available online](#).

Report from the Policy Monitoring Committee (PMC), ALA Council Document #17.1

Following approval of the document on "User Generated Content in Library Discovery Systems" at Midwinter 2016, the PMC recommended that the statement be added to the ALA Policy Manual. Council approved the manual change. The complete report of the committee is [available online](#).

Report from the Constitution and Bylaws Committee (CBC), ALA Council Document #25.1

The CBC has been reviewing various ALA election related issues, including the ALA election process and how American Libraries publication may be used in the election process. Council voted to approve placing a bylaws amendment on the 2017 ballot that would help to clarify that individuals should only run for one position in any given election. The complete report of the committee is [available online](#).

Report from the International Relations Committee (IRC), ALA Council Document #18.1

The IRC reviewed programming offered at conference and other events, including the forthcoming IFLA conference to take place this year in Columbus, Ohio. Council approved a resolution from the IRC on The Restoration of the United Nations Depository Library System. The resolution and the complete report of the committee is [available online](#).

Report from the Freedom to Read Foundation (FTRF), ALA Council Document #22.1

The FTRF recently signed on to two amicus briefs in support of the right to publish and report on vital matters of public interest. The foundation continues to work on or monitor cases including the school curriculum legislation in Arizona, and privacy and surveillance issues concerning the warrantless

collection of phone use metadata. Developing issues noted include gender identity and bathroom use, and gun violence and libraries. The complete report from the foundation is [available online](#).

Conference Accessibly Task Force (CATF), ALA Council Document #37

The CATF provided a report on their work to identify and address issues concerning accessibility of ALA conferences and virtual meetings. The group has gathered data, scheduled and held meetings, set structured subcommittees, and continues to work defining solutions for implementation. The complete report of the task force is [available online](#).

Report from the Committee on Legislation (COL), ALA Council Documents #20.3-20.7

The COL report included good news, including passage of revised FOIA legislation supported by ALA, and increased funding approved by the Senate. The committee also had several resolutions for Council to consider. The resolutions and the complete report of the committee are [available online](#).

The **“Resolution Concerning the Creation of the Deaf Culture Digital Library”** ([2016 ALA CD#46](#)) was referred to ASCLA and COL for review, to be considered again at Midwinter 2017.

The resolution calling for the **“Immediate Ratification of the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired, or Otherwise Print Disabled”** (2016 ALA CD20.4) was approved by Council. This treaty asks the legislature to approve the treaty, which calls for copyright considerations to allow for open sharing of interlibrary loan materials from one country to another for access to materials for the visually impaired.

Two resolutions were passed concerning equity in school libraries. The **Resolution on Equity for All School Libraries** ([2016 ALA CD#47](#)) stated the position of ALA, and the **Resolution on Equity for School Libraries for the DOE Making Rules** ([2016 ALA CD#48](#)), called for the federal Department of Education to address equity issue in schools, referring back to the first resolution.

The **“Resolution of Appreciation to Congressional Champions for Support of School Libraries and School Librarians in the Every Student Succeeds Act”** was also approved by Council. (2016 ALA CD#20.5)

Report from the Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC), ALA Council Documents #19.3-19.9

The IFC report included updates on activities, book challenges, and projects including [Banned Book Week](#), the [Choose Privacy Week](#), and New Voices Initiative. The complete report of the committee is [available online](#).

The IFC resolution on “**Religion in American Libraries: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights**” was approved by Council. (2016 ALA CD#19.9)

The new “**Journal of Intellectual Freedom and Privacy**” is now available. On June 6, Volume 1, Number 1 became [available on the JIFP website](#).

Other Resolutions

Resolution Concerning the Role of Chapters in the American Library, ALA Council Document #40

A resolution regarding the role of ALA Chapters (Such as the MI State Chapter – Michigan Library Association) was drafted, discussed at council fora, and revised more than once. Ultimately the resolution was referred to a working group for consideration. The ultimate goal of the resolution was to ensure that ALA Chapters are contacted when ALA intends to support an initiative or in some other way take an action that may have relevance to a local Chapter, to make sure the Chapters are informed.

Resolution on Gun Violence Affecting Libraries, Library Workers, and Library Patrons, ALA Council Document #45

A “Resolution on Gun Violence Affecting Libraries, Library Workers, and Library Patrons” proved to be quite contentious. The resolution and its subsequent revisions were reviewed and discussed by several committees, at all Council fora, and in Council II. While there was wide support for a call to the legislature to allow federally funded research on gun violence there were other parts of the resolution that not all persons agreed with. A majority of Council referred the resolution to the Committee on Legislation and Intellectual Freedom and the Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion for possible reconciliation of conflicts, for further consideration again by Council at Midwinter 2017.

Report submitted by

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President Elect

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