

*adopted 2/1/81
membership mg II*

ALA COMMITTEE ON PLANNING

Final Report on ALA Priorities for the 1980's

Any organization as large, diverse, and dynamic as ALA must periodically reassess priorities in order to make progress in selected areas determined to be of prime concern to its members. The diversity of the Membership dictates a wide range of interests that frequently overlap or complement one another. Nonetheless, we can identify overriding priorities that ALA should pursue vigorously within the United States and coordinate with international groups. Only such focusing of efforts and the subsequent allocation of Association funds and evaluation of its activities can assure needed progress within the Association.

The priorities are as follow:

Priority 1. Access to information

ALA will promote efforts to assure every individual access to needed information at the time needed and in a format the individual can use, through provision of library and information services.

Priority 2. Legislation/funding

ALA will promote legislation at all levels that will strengthen library and information services. Means will be developed for facilitating the effective competition of libraries for public funds as well as for funds from the private sector.

Priority 3. Intellectual freedom

ALA will promote the protection of library materials, personnel, and trustees from censorship; the defense of library personnel and trustees in support of intellectual freedom and the Library Bill of Rights; and the education of library personnel, trustees, and the general public of the importance of intellectual freedom.

Priority 4. Public awareness

ALA will promote the use of libraries and their resources and services as well as the awareness of their importance to all segments of society.

Priority 5. Personnel resources

ALA will promote the professional development, rights, interests, and obligations of library personnel.

*amend to
remove ranking
defeated*

Respectfully submitted,

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