

**ALA Committee on Organization (COO)  
Report to Council  
2000 Midwinter Meeting**

**I. DEFINITION OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS TO THE ALA**

At the 1999 Annual Conference in New Orleans the Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE) requested permission to send an official representative to the ALA Committee on Education. Since ALISE is an ALA affiliate, COO recommended and Council approved this request. In exploring the policy manual on this matter, COO found that Policy 9.4.1 addresses formal relationships, including ALA representatives to other organizations, but does not include policy language defining a representative from another organization to ALA. In the course of adding this new defining language, it was necessary for clarity and parallelism to rearrange some wording within the policy.

*Amended by Council, 2000 MW  
Codified by Council, 2000 AC*

VJA

## **ACTION ITEM 1**

COO recommends that Policy 9.4.1 be revised to read:

[New wording is in italics.]

9.4.1 Formal Relationships Official representatives to outside organizations serve either at the request of Council or at the direct request of an ALA unit whose approved budget includes membership dues and whose representative plays an active role in the governance or affairs of the outside organization. Official representatives participate in meetings or in the establishment of Councils, joint committees and other groups, which work together in activities of mutual interest.

Should an outside organization request an official representative from the Association, or should an outside organization submit a request to send an official representative to the Association, the request goes to the Executive Board and Council. If approved by Council, the Committee on Organization identifies the appropriate ALA unit and makes a unit recommendation to the Executive Board.

An official representative to an outside organization is an ALA member who is appointed to an outside organization at the request of Council or an ALA unit. An official representative from an outside organization must be a personal member of the ALA.

A representative to another ALA unit is an appointed member of an ALA unit whose duties include attending meetings of other ALA units for such purposes as communication or information dissemination.

[Previous wording follows]

Official representatives to outside organizations serve either at the request of Council or at the direct request of an ALA unit whose approved budget includes membership dues and whose representative plays an active role in the governance or affairs of the outside organization. Should an outside organization request an official representative from the Association, the request goes to the Executive Board and Council. If approved, the Committee on Organization (COO) identifies the appropriate ALA unit and makes this recommendation to the Executive Board. In the case of potential or actual involvement of more than one ALA unit, COO refers the appointment to the Executive Board Administrative Subcommittee.

An official representative to an outside organization is a member of the Association who is appointed to an outside organization at the request of Council or ALA unit for the purpose of fully participating in their meetings or in the establishment of Councils, joint committees and other groups which work together in activities of mutual interest.

A representative to another ALA unit is an appointed member of an ALA unit whose duties include attending meetings of other ALA units for such purpose as communication or information dissemination.

#### 9.4.1 Formal Relationships

Official representatives to outside organizations serve either at the request of Council or at the direct request of an ALA unit whose approved budget includes membership dues and whose representative plays a active role in the governance or affairs of the outside organization. Should an outside organization request an official representative from the Association, the request goes to the Executive Board and Council. If approved, the Committee on Organization (COO) identifies the appropriate ALA unit and makes this recommendation to the Executive Board. In the case of potential or actual involvement of more than one ALA unit, COO refers the appointment to the Executive Board Administrative Subcommittee.

An official representative to an outside organization is a member of the Association who is appointed to an outside organization at the request of Council or ALA unit for the purpose of fully participating in their meetings or in the establishment of Councils, joint committees and other groups which work together in activities of mutual interest.

A representative to another ALA unit is an appointed member of an ALA unit whose duties include attending meetings of other ALA units for such purpose as communication or information dissemination.

*Amended by Council  
at the 1999 Annual Conference Midwest (see CP# 52) 1997-98  
Codified by Council at the 1999 Annual Conference*

Item 6. ALA Policy 9.4 (Representatives and Liaisons) Based on Council's approval of recommendations made by the Executive Board, the PMC recommends the following revisions:

Revise the section title from "Representatives and Liaisons" to read: "Representatives."

Insert "9.4.1 Formal Relationships" immediately following the section title.

Insert "or" in the first sentence of the first paragraph immediately following "membership dues and"...

Revise the second paragraph of this section to read: "An official representative to an outside organization is a member of the Association who is appointed to an outside organization at the request of Council or ALA Unit for the purpose of fully participating in their meetings or in the establishment of Councils, joint committees and other groups which work together in activities of mutual interest."

Delete the last paragraph of this section (which begins "A liaison is a member...")

2.1 OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE TO OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS:  
A member of the Association who is appointed to an outside organization for the purpose of fully participating in their meetings or in the establishment of Councils, joint committees and other groups which work together in activities of mutual interest.

2.2 OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE TO OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS  
serves either at the request of Council or at the direct request of an ALA unit whose approved budget includes membership dues and whose representative plays an active role in the governance or affairs of the outside organization. Should an outside organization request an official representative from the Association, the request goes to the Executive Board and Council. If approved, the Committee on Organization identifies the appropriate ALA unit and makes this recommendation to the Executive Board. In the case of potential or actual involvement of more than one ALA unit, COO refers the appointment to the Executive Board Personnel Subcommittee.

3. REPRESENTATIVE TO OTHER ALA UNITS: An appointed member of an ALA unit whose duties include attending meetings of other ALA units for such purpose as communication or information dissemination.

4. LIAISON: A member of an ALA unit appointed by the unit to perform networking or coordinating functions with units inside or with organizations outside the Association. The liaison has no formal role in the governing structure of the other unit or organization.

Note: definitions 1, 2.1, 3, and 4 will be in the new definitions section of the ALA Handbook of Organization. Definition 2.2 will appear as the header over the "Representatives" section in the Handbook.

IV. Terminology - "Task Force"

After consultation with appropriate ALA units, the last of the terms defining organizational units has been finalized.

*These definitions were approved by the ALA Council at the 1992 Midwinter Meeting*