

Policy Monitoring Committee: Report to ALA Council,  
2011 ALA Midwinter Meeting

**ITEM #1. ALA CD#43, A Resolution Reaffirming Equal Employment Opportunity for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Librarians and Library Workers.**

At the 2010 Annual Conference, ALA Council adopted ALA CD#43, A Resolution Reaffirming Equal Employment Opportunity for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Librarians and Library Workers. To bring the *ALA Policy Manual* in agreement with this resolution,

**PMC MOVES** the following changes in the *ALA Policy Manual*:

Change ALA Policy 54.16 from this text:

51.16–Gay Rights. The American Library Association Council reaffirms its support for equal employment opportunity for gay librarians and library workers. The Council recommends that libraries reaffirm their obligation under the *Library Bill of Rights* to disseminate information representing all points of view on this topic.

To this text:

54.16–Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Rights. The American Library Association supports equal employment opportunity for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender librarians and library workers.

**ACTION ITEM #2. ALA CD#45, Revised, A Resolution on Non-Discrimination in Conference Contracts.**

At the 2010 Annual Conference, ALA Council adopted ALA CD#45, revised, A Resolution on Non-Discrimination in Conference Contracts. To bring the *ALA Policy Manual* in agreement with this resolution,

**PMC MOVES** the following changes in the *ALA Policy Manual*:

Change ALA Policy 7.1.1 from this current text:

7.1.1. 2nd Paragraph – Non Discrimination in Conference Contracts

The ALA will enter into conference center site contracts only with organizations and legal bodies in cities, counties, or states that do not by law discriminate against lesbian, gay, and bisexual people.

To this text:

#### 7.1.1 – Non Discrimination in Conference Contracts

There shall be no discrimination, including that based on race, origin, color, sex, sexual orientation, creed or disability, in the use of any facilities used by the American Library Association. This policy shall become a part of ALA contracts for the use of space. The ALA will avoid entering, whenever possible, into convention center contracts with organizations and legal bodies in cities, counties, or states that by law discriminate against gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender people. ALA will provide materials for promoting sensitivity to sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression for all employees on the floor of each convention center, including employees of companies to which the convention center has contracted for services on the floor of the convention.

#### **ACTION ITEM#3. ALA CD#19.3, Prisoners' Right to Read: An Interpretation of the *Library Bill of Rights*.**

At the 2010 Annual Meeting ALA Council approved CD#19.3 Prisoners' Right to Read: An Interpretation of the *Library Bill of Rights*. These interpretations are traditionally represented in the *Policy Manual* by means of an abstract supplied by the originating committee, followed by a reference to the Policy Reference File, where the full text of the Interpretation resides. New interpretations are inserted in the order they are added.

**PMC MOVES** the insertion of

53.1.23 Prisoners' Right to Read as follows:

The American Library Association asserts a compelling public interest in the preservation of intellectual freedom for individuals of any age held in jails, prisons, detention facilities, juvenile facilities, immigration facilities, prison work camps and segregated units within any facility. Those who cherish their full freedom and rights should work to guarantee that the right to intellectual freedom is extended to all incarcerated individuals. Adopted 2010.  
(See Policy Reference File: Prisoners' Right to Read: An Interpretation of the *Library Bill of Rights*: 2009–2010 ALA CD#19.3)

#### **ACTION ITEM#4. EBD #12.19 Electronic Signatures**

At the 2008 Fall Executive Board Meeting, the ALA Executive Board voted to support the use of electronic signatures wherever the American Library Association Constitution, Bylaws, and *ALA Policy Manual* require members to petition for candidacy or other action. To bring the *ALA Policy Manual* in agreement with this resolution,

PMC **MOVES** the following change in the *ALA Policy Manual*:

Change Policy 6.2.1 from this current text:

6.2.1 Petitions for Establishment of New Units of ALA

Minimum acceptable standards for petitions requesting the establishment of new divisions, round tables, and other units of ALA are: 1) The purpose of the petition shall be clearly stated on a single sheet attached to each group of signature pages. 2) Each signature page shall contain this statement: "I favor this petition to..." 3) Petitioners shall sign and give library affiliation legibly. Failure to do so may result in the invalidation of the petition. 4) Information about this format and a sample petition will be supplied from ALA headquarters to anyone inquiring. 5) Petitioners shall be personal members of ALA.

To this text:

6.2.1 Petitions for Establishment of New Units of ALA

Petitions requesting the establishment of new divisions, round tables, and other units of ALA may be filed in electronic or paper format. Minimum acceptable standards for petitions requesting the establishment of new divisions, round tables, and other units of ALA are: For electronic petitions the process found on the ALA website shall be used in the petition process. For petitions using paper format, 1) The purpose of the petition shall be clearly stated on a single sheet attached to each group of signature pages. 2) Each signature page shall contain this statement: "I favor this petition to..." 3) Petitioners shall sign and give library affiliation legibly. Failure to do so may result in the invalidation of the petition. 4) Information about this format and a sample petition will be supplied from ALA headquarters to anyone inquiring. 5) Petitioners shall be personal members of ALA.

**PENDING ITEMS:**

Ambiguity of the term "Headquarters". This will be considered once the Constitution and Bylaws Committee has completed its review of the ALA Bylaws and Constitution.

***In Conclusion:*** The Committee wishes to thank its staff liaison, Lois Ann Gregory-Wood. As always her knowledge, patience, and cheerful willingness to fill any request at short notice was essential to the successful operation of this committee. The committee wishes to acknowledge the void left by the passing of Norman Horrocks. His knowledge, kind and caring guidance, and prodigious memory of ALA Policy and Operations are sorely missed.

Policy Monitoring Committee

Linda Sue Dobb  
Barbara K. Stripling  
John A. Moorman – Chair  
Lois Ann Gregory-Wood, Staff Liaison