

American Library Association
Committee on Organization
Report to Council
ALA Annual Conference 2010

Action Items

COO moves

1. Establishment of a Retired Members Round Table.

The establishment of a Retired Members Round Table, supported by petition by ALA members, addresses both a growing interest and a growing demographic within the Association. The proposal came to COO with draft bylaws and a statement of purpose in place. The statement reads as follows:

The Retired Members Round Table (RMRT) shall exist to develop programs of particular interest to retired persons from all types of libraries and all forms of library service, including formal opportunities for continued involvement and learning; a variety of leadership training and opportunities for mentoring; lifelong professional involvement and networking; and, active engagement in the American Library Association and the profession of librarianship.

2. An increase in the composition of the Conference Committee to include a representative of the Accessibility Assembly:

On the recommendation of the Conference Committee, the Committee will expand to include as a member a representative of the Accessibility Assembly. The size of the committee will thus increase from ten current members to eleven. The ten current members are as follows:

- One representative from the RT Coordinating Assembly
- Three ALA members-at-large
- Two Councilors: one at large, one chapter councilor
- Three division representatives
- One representative from the Exhibits Round Table

New technologies and need for new services have kept accessibility a constant concern for conference planning. The appointment will be made by the ASCLA appointing officer in consultation with the Accessibility Assembly.

Information Items

COO discussed expectations for member participation in committee work. The conversation centered on tools and mechanisms for electronic activity by members or by entire committees, including whether there is an opportunity to pilot mechanisms with certain committees that may lend themselves to such a pilot, such as committees that do not report routinely to Council and that do not have a high level of interaction with and dependence on other groups; and staging training, or an informational session for all ALA committees regardless of whether they'd be suitable for piloting or moving to a new model so that all committee chairs be at the same gathering and get the same information. COO will continue discussion of the issue at the 2011 Midwinter Meetings.

COO discussed committee intern guidelines with Teri Switzer, representing the Training, Orientation and Leadership Development Committee. Several questions arose during the discussion related to voting powers, number of committee members, and terms of service. A COO member will work with TOLD in the months ahead to gather answers to the questions and share back with COO for discussion at the 2011 Midwinter Meetings.