

TO: ALA Executive Board

RE: ALA Election Process for ALA President, Treasurer and Council

ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT: The Executive Board is asked to approve the establishment of an Executive Board Special Committee for ALA Election Process for ALA President, Treasurer and Council

ACTION REQUESTED BY: Julie Todaro, ALA President-elect, Sara Kelly Johns, ALA Executive Board

CONTACT PERSON: Julie Todaro, ALA President-elect, jtodaro@austincc.edu
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DATE: 10/25/2015

Background:

ALA President-elect Julie Todaro submitted the document *ALA Election Process* for review to the ALA Executive Board at the Fall 2015 ALA EB Meeting. The document presented information and requested discussion on:

1. The length of voting time is too long. (This coming year is a 5 weeks and I think 4 is better and not ever more than 4.)
2. The length of time people may self-nominate is too long – up to January 29.
3. Lack of clarity on ALA nomination (individual) vs. self-nomination (individual)
4. Number of names needed by petition candidates
5. Scripts needed by committee for clarity of contacts with possible nominees

In addition to preparing this document, ALA P-E Todaro met with Joanne Kempf and Lois Ann Gregory-Wood and gathered election process historical documents (emails, board minutes and documents) from Kempf, Gregory-Wood and a timeline created by Mary Ghikas.

The ALA Executive Board discussed the *ALA Election Process* document categories at length and recommended that a Special Committee be appointed to discuss the election process issues raised and additional ones as necessary. In addition, the Board broadened the discussion to include not only the ALA President's election process but also the Treasurer's and Council election.

The Board directed Todaro and Johns to propose a Committee with charge and a process with a recommended timeline.

Proposed Action:

That the Executive Board approve the creation of a Special Committee to review and submit recommendations regarding revisions to the election process for the ALA President, Treasurer and Council.

1. Charge

To review the process for conducting ALA elections and make recommendations for new and/or revised policies as needed. The review could include but not be limited to:

- a. The timing of the election process from the time of eligibility (or the work of the Nominating Committee) through the final counting of ballots including the length of time people may self-nominate.
- b. Review and possible revision of ALA information on ALA nomination vs. self-nomination process.
- c. Review and possible revision of the number of names needed on petitions by petition candidates.
- d. Review and possible revision of the content of communication re: confidentiality during Nominating Committee contacts with potential nominees.

2. Process

The Special Committee may create its work plan as it deems appropriate but it should provide for the following activities:

- a. Preparation and distribute of a draft report to distribute recommendations and seek feedback.
- b. The submission of a draft report for the Executive Board and Council.

3. Membership

The Special Committee shall be appointed by the President and will consist of 8 to 10 members and should be representative of Council.

4. Timetable

The Special Committee should complete its work by the 2016 Annual Conference.

5. Costs

The Special Committee should include any financial ramifications of Committee recommendations.