

**TO:** ALA Executive Board

**RE:** AASL Board of Directors Resolution

**ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT:**  
See attached resolution.

**ACTION REQUESTED BY:**  
AASL Board of Directors, Nancy Everhart, President

**CONTACT PERSON:**  
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**DRAFT OF MOTION:**  
Move to investigate the feasibility of an ALA Presidential rotation by type of library.

**DATE:**  
March 17, 2011

**BACKGROUND:**

At the 2011 ALA Midwinter Meeting, the AASL Board of Directors spent a half day exploring the Mega Issue, "How should AASL change its volunteer structure to maximize member value and more effectively conduct the association's work?" As a result of these discussions, four Board motions were passed. One of these motions is "to develop a Board resolution to recommend a four-year ALA Presidential rotation by type of library." A complete report of the discussion can be found at [http://connect.ala.org/files/91813/mega\\_issues\\_report\\_pdf\\_81766.pdf](http://connect.ala.org/files/91813/mega_issues_report_pdf_81766.pdf).

**Attachments:**

Attachment 1: AASL Board Resolution 3.16.2011

## AASL Board of Directors Resolution

Whereas a core organizational value in the 2015 Strategic Plan states the Association is committed to all types of libraries - academic, public, school and special;

Whereas equitable representation for all types of libraries should be evident in leadership and the position of ALA President;

Whereas members desire to identify with the leadership of their organization and want to see themselves as potential future leaders;

Whereas members identify more closely to a culture when they participate in the leadership of the organization;

Whereas there are state library associations, chapters of the American Library Association, to serve as models for this issue of leadership representation such as Indiana, Texas, and New York which have a rotating structure for their Presidency;

Whereas in these states each election has two candidates for President representing only one type of library during that election year (a school librarian vs. a school librarian and then the next year a public librarian vs. a public librarian, etc.);

Whereas in states with this structure there is higher representation of librarians from different types of libraries in their membership than there is in ALA;

Whereas this type of rotating structure will provide opportunities for members to be represented at the highest level of ALA leadership;

Whereas a Presidential rotation would provide for a consistent and strong voice for each type of library in the leadership of ALA;

Whereas AASL has been working diligently to get more members involved in ALA;  
Whereas AASL members noted one of the top reasons for joining AASL was to network and gain leadership experiences;

Be it resolved that the AASL Board of directors requests the ALA Executive Board to investigate the feasibility of the ALA Presidency rotating among members of the four major types of libraries (academic, public, school and special).

Adopted in concept at the January 8, 2011 meeting of the AASL Board of Directors  
Approved March 16, 2011 by the AASL Board of Directors