

TO: THE ASCLA MEMBERSHIP
FROM: Jeannette Smithee, President
DATE: February 2018
RE: **PROPOSED CHANGES TO ASCLA BYLAWS**

The following amendments to the ALA Constitution & Bylaws have been approved by the ASCLA Board of Directors for referral to the Membership for ratification in accordance with the ALA Constitution, Articles XI and XII. Any text to be deleted is shown in [brackets]; new text to be inserted or substituted is underlined.

ITEM #1 - Article I. Name

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

Sec. 1. The name of this division of the American Library Association shall be the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies. The word "Association" wherever used shall mean the Association of Specialized, and Cooperative Library Agencies unless otherwise specifically identified.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

Sec. 1. The name of this division of the American Library Association shall be the Association of Specialized, Government, and Cooperative Library Agencies. The word "Association" wherever used shall mean the Association of Specialized, Government, and Cooperative Library Agencies unless otherwise specifically identified.

PRO:

The name "Association of Specialized, Government, and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASGCLA)" was selected via an online vote in October-November 2017 to reflect the upcoming merger with the Federal and Armed Forces Libraries Round Table (FAFLRT).

CON:

None.

ITEM #2 - Article II. Object

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

Sec. 1. The object of the Association shall be to strengthen the usefulness, efficiency and services of state library agencies, specialized library agencies, and library cooperatives and to provide a focus for addressing the needs and interests of individual members as they relate to the Association's area of responsibility.

Sec. 2. In the discharge of this purpose the Association shall do all possible to further the aims of the American Library Association and to assist in the discharge of its responsibilities.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

Sec. 1. The object of the Association shall be to strengthen the usefulness, efficiency and services of state library agencies, federal and armed forces libraries, specialized library agencies, [and] library cooperatives, and independent librarians and consultants. [and to] The Association will provide a focus for

addressing the needs and interests of individual members as they relate to the Association's areas of responsibility.

PRO:

The changes to Sec.1 reflect the upcoming merger with FAFLRT and the past merger with ILRT. The old Sec. 2 is unnecessary.

CON:

None

ITEM #3 - Article III. Interest and Responsibilities

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

Sec. 1. The Association represents the interests of the following types of library organizations and agencies:

- a. State library agencies, which are those organizations created or authorized by state government to promote library services in the state through the organization and coordination of a variety of library services.
- b. Library agencies and individuals which provide library materials and service to populations with special needs. These populations include but are not limited to, those with sensory, physical, health or behavioral conditions or those who are incarcerated or detained.
- c. Library cooperatives, which are combinations, mergers, or contractual associations of one or more types of libraries (academic, public, special, or school) crossing jurisdictional, institutional, or political boundaries, working together to achieve maximum effective use of funds to provide library and information services to all citizens above and beyond those which can be provided through one institution. Such cooperative organizations or agencies may be designated to serve a community, a metropolitan area, a region within a region, or may serve a statewide or multi-state area.
- d. Independent librarians who work outside of traditional library settings.

Sec. 2. Within the interests of these types of library organizations, agencies and individuals, the Association has specific responsibility for:

- a. Development and evaluation of goals and plans [for state library agencies, specialized library agencies, and library cooperatives] to facilitate the implementation, improvement, and extension of library activities designed to foster improved user services, coordination such activities with other appropriate ALA units.'
- b. Representation and interpretation of the role, functions, and services of state library agencies, specialized library agencies, and library cooperatives within and outside the profession, including contact with national organizations and government agencies.
- c. Development of policies, studies, and activities in matters affecting state library agencies, specialized library agencies, and library cooperatives relating to (1) state and local library legislation, (2) state and other grants-in-aid and appropriations, and (3) relationships among state, federal, regional, and local governments, coordinating such activities with other appropriate ALA units.
- d. Establishment, evaluation, and promotion of standards and service guidelines relating to the concerns of the Association.

- e. Identifying the interests and needs of all citizens, encouraging the creation of services to meet these needs within the areas of concern of the Association, and promoting the use of these services provided by state library agencies, specialized library agencies, and library cooperatives.
- f. Stimulating the professional growth and promoting the specialized training and continuing education of library personnel at all levels in the areas of concern of the Association and encouraging membership participation in appropriate type-of-activity divisions within ALA.
- g. Assisting in the coordination of activities of other units within ALA that have a bearing on the concerns of the Association.
- h. Granting recognition for outstanding library service within the areas of concern of the Association.
- i. Acting as a clearinghouse for the exchange of information and encouraging the development of materials, publications, and research within the areas of concern of the Association.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

Sec. 1. The Association represents the interests of the following types of library organizations and agencies:

- a. State library agencies, which are those organizations created or authorized by state government to promote library services in the state through the organization and coordination of a variety of library services.
- b. Federal and armed forces libraries which are libraries established to serve federal agencies and armed forces installations.
- c. Library agencies and individuals which provide library materials and service to populations which include, but are not limited to, people with sensory, physical, health, developmental, learning, attention, or behavioral conditions, and people who are incarcerated or detained.
- d. Library cooperatives, which are combinations, mergers, or contractual associations of one or more types of libraries (academic, public, special, or school) crossing jurisdictional, institutional, or political boundaries, working together to achieve maximum effective use of funds to provide library and information services to all, above and beyond those which can be provided through one institution. Such cooperative organizations or agencies may be designated to serve a community, a metropolitan area, a region within a region, or may serve a statewide or multi-state area.
- e. Independent librarians and consultants who work outside of traditional library settings.

Sec. 2. Within the Association's interests and types of library organizations, agencies and individuals, and in coordination with appropriate ALA units, the Association has specific responsibility for:

- a. Development and evaluation of goals and plans to promote the implementation, improvement, and extension of library activities provided by libraries and agencies within the interests of the Association.
- b. Representation and interpretation of the role, functions, and services of the Association's interests within and outside the profession, including contact with national organizations and government agencies.
- c. Development of policies, studies, and advocacy in matters affecting the Association's interests, specifically relating to (1) library legislation, (2) grants-in-aid and appropriations, and (3) relationships among state, federal, regional, and local government library services.
- d. Establishment, evaluation, and promotion of standards and service guidelines relating to the concerns of the Association.
- e. Identifying the interests and needs of all, encouraging the creation and promotion of inclusive services to meet these needs.

- f. Promoting the specialized training and continuing education of library personnel at all levels in the areas of concern of the Association.
- g. Granting recognition and awards for outstanding library service within the areas of concern of the Association.
- h. Promoting the exchange of information and encouraging the development of materials, publications, research and development within the areas of concern of the Association, including establishment, evaluation, and promotion of standards and service guidelines.

PRO:

The changes to Sec. 1 reflect the upcoming merger with FAFLRT and update definitions of existing interests in the division. The changes to Sec. 2 simplify and update the responsibilities of the division.

CON:

None

ITEM #4 - Article IV. Membership

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

Sec. 1. Any state or provincial library agency, specialized library agency, unit within organizations providing specialized library services, library cooperative organization or agency, or any person related to or interested in such organizations or agencies, by becoming a member of the American Library Association and selecting divisional membership in the Association may be a member of the Association.

Sec. 2. Any person or institution engaged in library work or interested in libraries and librarianship is eligible for membership upon becoming a member of the American Library Association and selecting membership in the Association.

Sec. 3. Members of the Association may participate in its programs and interest groups.

Sec. 4. Only personal members of the Association may vote or serve as officers or on committees of the Association.

Sec. 5. The membership year of the Association shall be twelve consecutive months, effective the first day of the month following receipt of dues payment.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

Sec.1. Members of the American Library Association with an interest in the purposes and responsibilities of the Association of Specialized, Government, and Cooperative Library Agencies may elect to become members of the Association. Membership in the Association includes personal members and organizational members.

[Sec. 2. Any person or institution engaged in library work or interested in libraries and librarianship is eligible for membership upon becoming a member of the American Library Association and selecting membership in the Association.]

[Sec. 3. Members of the Association may participate in its programs and interest groups.]

[Sec. 4. Only personal members of the Association may vote or serve as officers or on committees of the Association.]

Sec. 2. Members of the Association have the rights and responsibilities of membership.

- a. Members of the Association may participate in its programs, activities, and interest groups.
- b. Only personal members of the Association may vote or serve as officers or on committees of the Association.

[Sec. 5. The membership year of the Association shall be twelve consecutive months, effective the first day of the month following receipt of dues payment.]

Sec. 3. The amounts of dues for Association membership will be set by the Board of the Association.

PRO:

Sec. 1 and Sec. 2 are replaced with a new Sec. 1. Sec. 3 and Sec. 4 are replaced with a new Sec. 2. A new Sec. 3 is added. These updates reflect wording used in other division bylaws.

CON:

None.

ITEM #5 - Article V. Officers and Duties

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

Sec. 1. The officers of the Association shall be a president, a vice-president/president-elect, a secretary, and the past president.

Sec. 2. Except as otherwise provided in the bylaws, the duties of the officers are such as provided in the parliamentary authority adopted by the Association.

1. The president shall preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors; shall appoint all standing, special, and ad hoc committees and be an ex officio member of such committees, with the exception of the Nominating Committee, without the right to vote except in the case of a tie. The president shall see that the bylaws are observed by the officers and members of the Board of Directors and that decisions of the Board of Directors and of the Association are carried out. The president will recommend to the Board of Directors and to the Association such actions as are deemed to be in the interest of the Association.
2. The vice-president/president-elect shall perform the duties of the president in the absence of the president. In addition to regular duties, the vice-president shall perform such duties as the Board of Directors may assign to that office. The vice-president shall present and justify the Association's budget.
3. The past president shall serve as adviser to the president and the Board of Directors.
4. The secretary shall be a member of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee. The secretary shall be responsible for accurately recording official actions of the Executive Committee and the Board for their approval. The executive director shall distribute approved minutes as directed by the president.

Sec. 3. The president and vice-president/president-elect shall be elected from the membership, and with the past president shall serve for one year or until their successors are elected and qualified.

Sec. 4 The secretary shall be elected from the membership and shall serve for a two year term or until a successor is elected and qualified. The secretary may not serve more than two consecutive terms.

Sec. 5. The term of office for elective and appointive positions of the Association filled annually shall be the period beginning with the adjournment of the Annual Conference and ending with the adjournment of the next succeeding Annual Conference. Terms of office for elective positions occupied longer than one year shall be calculated from the adjournment of the Annual Conference.

Sec. 6. There shall be an executive committee whose members shall be the president, the vice-president/president-elect, the secretary, the past-president, and the ALA divisional councilor. The executive committee shall be responsible for management of the Association between Annual and Midwinter meetings of ALA. The Association executive director shall be an ex officio member of the committee. All decisions of the committee shall be reported to the Board of Directors at its next regular meeting.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

Sec. 1. The officers of the Association shall be a president, a vice-president/president-elect, a secretary, and the immediate past president.

Sec. 2. Except as otherwise provided in the bylaws, the duties of the officers are such as provided in the parliamentary authority adopted by the Association.

1. The president shall preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors; shall appoint all standing, special, and ad hoc committees and be an ex officio member of such committees, with the exception of the Nominating Committee, without the right to vote except in the case of a tie. The president shall see that the bylaws are observed by the officers and members of the Board of Directors and that decisions of the Board of Directors and of the Association are carried out. The president will recommend to the Board of Directors and to the Association such actions as are deemed to be in the interest of the Association.
2. The vice-president/president-elect shall perform the duties of the president in the absence of the president. In addition to regular duties, the vice-president shall perform such duties as the Board of Directors may assign to that office. The vice-president shall serve as the Association's fiscal officer, present and justify the Association's budget to the Board of Directors. The vice-president shall serve as an appointments officer to name members to serve on the Association's committees,
3. The immediate past president shall serve as adviser to the president and the Board of Directors.
4. The secretary shall be a member of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee. The secretary shall be responsible for accurately recording official actions of the Executive Committee and the Board for their approval. The executive director shall distribute approved minutes as directed by the president.

Sec. 3. The president and vice-president/president-elect shall be elected from the membership, and with the past president shall serve for one year or until their successors are elected and qualified.

Sec. 4 The secretary shall be elected from the membership and shall serve for a two year term or until a successor is elected and qualified. The secretary may not serve more than two consecutive terms.

Sec. 5. The term of office for elective and appointive positions of the Association filled annually shall be the period beginning with the adjournment of the Annual Conference and ending with the adjournment of the next succeeding Annual Conference. Terms of office for elective positions occupied longer than one year shall be calculated from the adjournment of the Annual Conference.

Sec. 6. There shall be an executive committee whose members shall be the president, the vice-president/president-elect, the secretary, the immediate past-president, and the ALA divisional councilor. The executive committee shall be responsible for management of the Association between Annual and Midwinter meetings of ALA. The Association executive director and the editor of the Association's publication[,] shall be [an] ex officio members of the committee. All decisions of the committee shall be reported to the Board of Directors at its next regular meeting.

Sec. 7. There shall be a finance and planning committee co-chaired by the vice-president/president-elect and the immediate past-president. The finance committee shall be responsible for reviewing the budget and financial reports and informing and advising the Board about Association finances.

PRO:

Changes include clarifications of the roles and duties of officers, especially the vice-president/president elect.

CON:

None

ITEM #6 - Article VI. Board of Directors

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

Sec. 1. The Board of Directors shall have general responsibility for the affairs of the Association. It shall consider and make all decisions pertaining to the Association as a whole at annual and other meetings, or between such meetings. This will include decisions on budget, programs, projects, and adoption of rules and regulations for the conduct of the Association and its subordinate units, such rules and regulations not to contravene the Constitution and Bylaws of the American Library Association and these bylaws. The Board of Directors is authorized and directed to create such committees, interest groups and other subordinate units as may be required to discharge properly the responsibilities and functions of the Association, and to disestablish such group s when their usefulness or reason for being has ceased.

Sec. 2. Allocation of designated director positions: The five (5) designated directors shall represent the types of library organizations and agencies as defined in Article III—state library agencies (1), library agencies and individuals who serve special populations (2), library cooperatives (1), and independent librarians (1).

Sec. 3. Voting members of the Board of Directors shall consist of the officers, the ALA divisional councilor, and eight directors, five of whom are designated directors.

Sec. 4. The executive director and the editor of the Association publication shall be ex officio non-voting members of the Board. Other non-voting members may be appointed by the president, with approval of the Board of Directors.

Sec. 5. The directors shall be elected from the membership of the Association for two-year terms, which shall expire in alternate years. They shall not serve more than two consecutive terms.

Sec. 6. Voting members of the Board of Directors who fail to attend Board meetings at two consecutive ALA conferences, without prior notification to the ASCLA executive director, shall be deemed to have vacated their positions following a majority vote of the Board of Directors of the Association.

Sec. 7. Any act of the Board of Directors, accomplished or contemplated within the authority granted in preceding sections of this article, may be reviewed by the Association membership at Annual Conference.

The Board shall execute any directive, recommendation, or proposal adopted by a three-quarters majority vote of the members present and constituting a quorum, unless such directive, recommendation, or proposal is in conflict with other articles of these bylaws or with the Constitution and Bylaws of the American Library Association.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

Sec. 1. The Board of Directors shall have general responsibility for the affairs of the Association. It shall consider and make all decisions pertaining to the Association as a whole at annual and other meetings, or between such meetings. This will include decisions on budget, programs, projects, and adoption of rules and regulations for the conduct of the Association and its subordinate units, such rules and regulations not to contravene the Constitution and Bylaws of the American Library Association and these bylaws. The Board of Directors is authorized and directed to create such committees, interest groups and other subordinate units as may be required to discharge properly the responsibilities and functions of the Association, and to disestablish such groups when their usefulness or reason for being has ceased.

Sec. 2. Allocation of designated director positions: The [five (5)] seven (7) designated directors shall represent the types of library organizations and agencies as defined in Article III—state library agencies (1), federal libraries (1), Armed Forces libraries (1), library agencies and individuals who [serve special] represent underserved populations (2), library cooperatives (1), and independent librarians and consultants (1).

Sec. 3. Voting members of the Board of Directors shall consist of the officers, the ALA divisional councilor, and [eight] ten directors, [five] seven of whom are designated directors.

Sec. 4. The executive director and the editor of the Association publication shall be ex officio non-voting members of the Board. Other non-voting members may be appointed by the president, with approval of the Board of Directors.

Sec. 5. The directors shall be elected from the membership of the Association for two-year terms, which shall expire in alternate years. They shall not serve more than two consecutive terms.

Sec. 6. Voting members of the Board of Directors who fail to attend Board meetings at two consecutive ALA conferences, without prior notification to the ASCLA executive director, shall be deemed to have vacated their positions following a majority vote of the Board of Directors of the Association.

Sec. 7. Any act of the Board of Directors, accomplished or contemplated within the authority granted in preceding sections of this article, may be reviewed by the Association membership at Annual Conference or through a petition signed by no fewer than fifty personal members. The Board shall execute any directive, recommendation, or proposal adopted by a three-quarters majority vote of the members present and constituting a quorum, unless such directive, recommendation, or proposal is in conflict with other articles of [these bylaws] the bylaws of the Association or with the Constitution and Bylaws of the American Library Association.

PRO:

Changes reflect the upcoming merger with FAFLRT by increasing the Board of Directors to 15 members and adding designated director positions for federal libraries and for armed forces libraries. Sec. 7. Identifies a petition method for members to review actions of the board as an alternative to an in-person membership meeting.

CON:

None

ITEM #7 - Article VII. Nominations and Elections

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

Sec. 1. The vice-president/president-elect shall appoint a Nominating Committee to nominate candidates for elective positions for the Association. It shall be appointed prior to the annual meeting preceding the one at which results of the election are to be announced. The Committee shall include a chair and four members-at-large representing the diverse interests of the association, and shall include no members of the Board of Directors.

Sec. 2. The Nominating Committee shall present the names of candidates for elective Association offices in accordance with ALA procedures. In making its selections, the Nominating Committee shall keep in mind the following objectives: (1) the importance of developing leaders among the new members of the association; (2) the desirability of rotating offices among the various interests of the Association; (3) the representation of various interests of the Association; (4) the representation of a geographical distribution of its members. Members of the Nominating committee may not be nominated. Written consent must be obtained from each candidate nominated. Candidates must be members, in good standing, of the ALA and the Association. Candidates should be presented in blocks of two names for each office. Designated director candidates should represent the interests as indicated in Article VI, section 2. The executive director shall arrange for publication and distribution of the official ballot in cooperation with the ALA following a schedule in line with that followed in the election of ALA officers.

Sec. 3. Additional nominations may be made through petitions signed by no fewer than twenty-five personal members and filed with the executive director, not less than three months before ballots are available, in accordance with ALA procedures. Nominees by petition must be personal members of the Association; their written consent must be on file with the Nominating Committee.

Sec. 4. Interest Group Nominations and Elections: Interest groups will not utilize the formal nomination and election process. Interest Groups will establish their own process for nominating and electing their leadership, supporting their structure.

Sec. 5. The election shall be held in accordance with ALA procedures. A plurality of all votes cast shall constitute an election. In case of a tie vote, the Election Committee of the ALA shall decide the winner by lot. All elections shall be certified by the ALA Election Committee.

Sec. 6. All personal members of the Association shall be eligible to vote on the elective positions of the Association.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

Sec. 1. The vice-president/president-elect shall appoint a Nominating Committee to nominate candidates for elective positions for the Association. It shall be appointed prior to the annual meeting preceding the one at which results of the election are to be announced. The Committee shall include a chair and [four] members-at-large representing the diverse interests of the association as defined in Article III, and shall include no members of the Board of Directors.

Sec. 2. The Nominating Committee shall present the names of candidates for elective Association offices in accordance with ALA procedures. In making its selections, the Nominating Committee shall keep in mind the following objectives: (1) the importance of developing leaders among the new members of the association; (2) the desirability of rotating offices among the various interests of the Association; (3) the representation of various interests of the Association; (4) the representation of a geographical distribution of its members. Members of the Nominating committee may not be nominated. Written consent must be obtained from each candidate nominated. Candidates must be members, in good standing, of the ALA and the Association. Candidates should be presented in blocks of two names for each office. Designated

director candidates should represent the interests as indicated in Article VI, section 2. The executive director shall arrange for publication and distribution of the official ballot in cooperation with the ALA following a schedule in line with that followed in the election of ALA officers.

Sec. 3. Additional nominations may be made through petitions signed by no fewer than twenty-five personal members and filed with the executive director, not less than three months before ballots are available, in accordance with ALA procedures. Nominees by petition must be personal members of the Association; their written consent must be on file with the Nominating Committee.

Sec. 4. Interest Group Nominations and Elections: Interest groups will not utilize the formal nomination and election process. Interest Groups will establish their own process for nominating and electing their leadership, supporting their structure.

Sec. 5. The election shall be held in accordance with ALA procedures. A plurality of all votes cast shall constitute an election. In case of a tie vote, the Election Committee of the ALA shall decide the winner by lot. All elections shall be certified by the ALA Election Committee.

Sec. 6. All personal members of the Association shall be eligible to vote on the elective positions of the Association.

PRO:

The change reflects the upcoming merger with FAFLRT and requiring that the number of members-at-large on the Nominations Committee reflect the division's diverse interests as defined in Article III

CON:

None

ITEM #8 - Article IX. Meetings

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

Sec. 1. A meeting, including at least one business session, shall be held annually during the Annual Conference of the American Library Association. Other meetings may be called by the president or the Board of Directors.

Sec. 2. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at the ALA Midwinter meeting, Annual Conference, and at other times at the call of the president or of three members of the Board.

Sec. 3. Committee meetings or subcommittee meetings may be held at any time in the course of the Annual Conference of the American Library Association and at such other times as the chairperson may decide, upon the approval of the Board of Directors.

Sec. 4. Interest Groups may meet in whatever manner best facilitates the objectives of the group, following ALA procedures.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

Sec. 1. A membership meeting may be held at the ALA Annual Conference. Other meetings may be called by the president or the Board of Directors. If a quorum is present, an affirmative vote of a simple majority of the voting members will be required to pass a motion. If a quorum is not present, a motion cannot be passed.

Sec. 2. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at the ALA Midwinter meeting, Annual Conference, and at other times at the call of the president or of three members of the Board.

Sec. 3. Committee or subcommittee meetings may be held at any time in the course of the Annual Conference of the American Library Association and at such other times as the chairperson may decide[, upon the approval of the Board of Directors].

Sec. 4. Interest Groups may meet in whatever manner best facilitates the objectives of the group, following ALA procedures.

PRO:

The updates reflect wording used in other division bylaws. Sec. 1 indicates that a membership meeting may be held at the ALA Annual Conference (rather than shall be held). The option of other meetings may include virtual meetings. Sec 3 removes the need for Board approval for committee meetings at times other than at Conference.

CON:

None

ITEM #9 - Article X. Executive Director and Headquarters of the Association

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

Sec. 1. The headquarters of the Association shall be located at the headquarters of the American Library Association.

Sec. 2. There shall be an executive director of the Association who shall be appointed by the executive director of the American Library Association with the concurrence of the Board of Directors of the Association and who shall be accountable to and under the supervision of that officer. The executive director shall be responsible for the general administration and execution of the Association's affairs in accordance with the general policies properly established by the American Library Association, the Constitution and Bylaws of the American Library Association and these bylaws.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

Sec. 1. The headquarters of the Association shall be located at the headquarters of the American Library Association.

Sec. 2. There shall be an executive director of the Association who shall be appointed by the executive director of the American Library Association [with the concurrence of the Board of Directors of the Association] following a search process which includes representatives from the Association, and who shall be accountable to and under the supervision of that officer. The executive director shall be responsible for the general administration and execution of the Association's affairs in accordance with the general policies properly established by the American Library Association, the Constitution and Bylaws of the American Library Association and [these bylaws] the bylaws of the Association.

PRO:

The updates clarify the role of the division Board in the appointment of the executive director.

CON:

None

ITEM #10 - Article XI. Interest Groups

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

Sec. 1. Establishment. Any group of ten (10) or more members of the Association, having a defined area of interest which falls within the scope of the Association, may petition the Interest Group Coordinating Committee for the establishment as an interest group. The interest group petition shall contain the name of the interest group, the name(s) and contact information of the interest group leader or co-leaders, a description of the focus area of the interest group, the signatures of all interest group members, and a desired output for the first year. The interest group exists upon approval of the Coordinating Committee.

Sec. 2. Interest Group Coordinating Committee

1. Committee Membership: The Division shall establish a six (6) member Interest Group Coordinating Committee to be chaired by the vice-president/president-elect. The remaining members shall be the five (5) designated directors who represent the types of library organizations, agencies, and individuals as defined in Article III.
2. Term of Service: The term of service shall be the same as their term on the ASCLA Board of Directors, except the ASCLA vice-president/president-elect, who shall serve only a one year term.
3. Roles and Responsibilities:
 4.
 - Establish policies and procedures for the creation, ongoing support and dissolution of ASCLA Interest Groups
 - Represent the various interest groups' interests at the Board.
 - Serve as the official conduit between the ASCLA Interest Groups and the ASCLA Board
 - Report to the Board on activities of the interest groups including but not limited to programs and products, policies, guidelines, and services,

Sec. 3. Operation.

1. Interest groups will establish their own process for nominating and electing their leadership. Interest group leaders must be Association members. No leader shall serve more than four (4) consecutive years in office. Leaders shall notify the Association office of changes in leadership. The leader/co-leader is responsible for coordinating the overall activities of the interest group and for reporting on group activities.
2. Any member of the Association may join as many interest groups as desired by contacting the interest group leader or by participating in interest group activities.
3. Each interest group shall define its own functions, subject to the approval of the Interest Group Coordinating Committee, and shall manage its own affairs, provided that no interest group shall adopt rules for the transaction of its business inconsistent with those of the Association, or engage in any activity in conflict with the program of the Association. Interest groups may plan and sponsor programs at conferences, may sponsor pre-conferences, prepare publications, or carry out other activities with the approval of the Interest Group Coordinating Committee and the Board of Directors.
4. Interest group elections shall be conducted during the Midwinter Meeting. Unless otherwise approved by the executive director, interest groups will conduct their own elections and not utilize the formal ALA election system

Sec. 4. Continuance and Dissolution. Established Interest groups are reauthorized by the Interest Group Coordinating Committee. The Committee may dissolve an interest group at the request of the group leader(s) or if evidence indicates the group is no longer actively advancing the purpose of the Association.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

Sec. 1. Establishment. Any group of ten (10) or more members of the Association, having a defined area of interest which falls within the scope of the Association, may petition the Interest Group Coordinating Committee for the establishment as an interest group. The interest group petition shall contain the name of the interest group, the name(s) and contact information of the interest group leader or co-leaders, a description of the focus area of the interest group, the signatures of all interest group members, and a desired output for the first year. Operational guidelines for Interest Groups are included in an Interest Group Orientation Manual. The interest group exists upon approval of the Coordinating Committee.

Sec. 2. Interest Group Coordinating Committee

1. Committee Membership: The Division shall establish [a] an [six (6) member] Interest Group Coordinating Committee to be chaired by the Association vice-president/president-elect. The remaining members shall be the [five (5)] designated directors who represent the types of library organizations, agencies, and individuals as defined in Article III.
2. Term of Service: The term of service shall be the same as their term on the [ASLCA] Board of Directors, except the [ASCLA] vice-president/president-elect, who shall serve only a one year term.
3. Roles and Responsibilities:
 - Establish policies and procedures for the creation, ongoing support and dissolution of [ASCLA] Interest Groups
 - [Represent the various interest groups' interests at the Board.]
 - Serve as the official conduit between the [ASCLA] Interest Groups and the [ASCLA] Board
 - Report to the Board on activities of the interest groups including but not limited to programs and products, policies, guidelines, and services.

Sec. 3. Operation.

1. Interest groups will establish their own process for nominating and electing their leadership. Interest group leaders must be Association members. No leader shall serve more than four (4) consecutive years in office. Leaders shall notify the Association office of changes in leadership. The leader/co-leader is responsible for coordinating the overall activities of the interest group and for reporting on group activities.
2. Any member of the Association may join as many interest groups as desired by contacting the interest group leader or by participating in interest group activities.
3. Each interest group shall define its own functions, subject to the approval of the Interest Group Coordinating Committee, and shall manage its own affairs, provided that no interest group shall adopt rules for the transaction of its business inconsistent with those of the Association, or engage in any activity in conflict with the program of the Association. Interest groups may plan and sponsor programs at conferences, may sponsor pre-conferences, prepare publications, or carry out other activities with the approval of the Interest Group Coordinating Committee and the Board of Directors.
4. Interest group elections shall be conducted during the Midwinter Meeting. Unless otherwise approved by the executive director, interest groups will conduct their own elections and not utilize the formal ALA election system

Sec. [4.] 3. Continuanace and Dissolution. Established Interest groups are reauthorized by the Interest Group Coordinating Committee. The Committee may dissolve an interest group at the request of the group leader(s) or if evidence indicates the group is no longer actively advancing the purpose of the Association.

PRO:

The updates clarify the establishment of Interest Groups and the role of the Interest Group Coordinating Committee. The operational details of Interest Groups are deleted from the bylaws in favor of more easily updated guidelines in the orientation manual.

CON:

None

ITEM #11 - Article XII. Committees and Subcommittees

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

Sec. 1. Standing, special, ad hoc, joint and interdivisional committees may be authorized by the Board of Directors and may be discontinued in the same manner. Special committees may also be authorized by the president to meet emergency needs. All committees shall report to the Board of Directors of the Association.

Sec. 2. Committee chairperson shall be appointed by the president. Members of committees shall be appointed by the president in consultation with the committee chairperson. Vacancies on committee shall be filled in the same manner.

Sec. 3. Standing committees are established to carry on the work of the Association. The vice-president/president-elect shall appoint committee members to fill the vacancies due to occur during his or her term as president. Members shall be appointed to committee assignments for two-year terms, which shall expire on alternate years and which shall overlap so as to ensure continuity. Members may be reappointed for a second term but not for a third consecutive term.

Sec. 4. Special committees as authorized in Section 1 shall be appointed to study and evaluate various aspects of policy, programs or projects and will recommend courses of action to the Board of Directors of the Association. A special committee may exist as long as there remains concern by the Board for the committee's area of interest.

Sec. 5. Ad hoc committees shall be appointed to perform limited functions. The life of ad hoc committees shall not exceed two years, unless it is reauthorized by the Board of Directors of the Association.

Sec. 6. Joint committees, either standing or special, may be established with other organizations when functions of the proposed committee cannot appropriately be related to a single division or interest group. The establishment of a joint committee shall be recommended to the Committee on Organization of the American Library Association. Joint committees with organizations outside of the American Library Association shall be established only as provided for in the Bylaws of the American Library Association.

Sec. 7. Interdivisional committees may be established in order to promote projects or programs in which there is overlapping interest among two or more divisions of the American Library Association. Such committees shall be composed of members representing all cooperating divisions.

Sec. 8. All committees shall have not less than (3) members. The president shall be a member ex officio of all committees except the Nomination Committee.

Sec. 9. Subcommittees may be formed by a parent committee to carry out specific duties. Subcommittee must report to the parent committee for action and may be abolished by decision of the parent committee. The chairperson of the parent committee shall be an ex officio member of all subcommittees without vote except in the case of a tie.

PROPOED LANGUAGE:

Sec. 1. Standing, special, ad hoc, joint and interdivisional committees may be authorized by the Board of Directors and may be discontinued in the same manner. Special committees may also be authorized by the president to meet emergency needs. All committees shall report to the Board of Directors of the Association.

Sec. 2. Chairs and members of special and ad hoc committees shall be appointed by the president. Chairs and members of standing committees shall be appointed by the vice-president/president elect in consultation with the committee chairperson to fill vacancies due to occur during his or her upcoming term as president.

Sec. 3. Standing committees are established to carry on the work of the Association. [The vice-president/president-elect shall appoint committee members to fill the vacancies due to occur during his or her term as president.] Members shall be appointed to committee assignments for two-year terms, which shall expire on alternate years and which shall overlap so as to ensure continuity. Members may be reappointed for a second term but not for a third consecutive term. Committees of the Association may include the executive committee, nominating committee, finance and planning committee, and others required to discharge properly the responsibilities and functions of the Association.

Sec. 4. Special committees as authorized in Section 1 shall be appointed to study and evaluate various aspects of policy, programs or projects and will recommend courses of action to the Board of Directors of the Association. A special committee may exist as long as there remains concern by the Board for the committee's area of interest.

Sec. 5. Ad hoc committees shall be appointed to perform limited functions. The life of ad hoc committees shall not exceed two years, unless it is reauthorized by the Board of Directors of the Association.

Sec. 6. Joint and interdivisional committees, either standing or special, may be established with other organizations when functions of the proposed committee cannot appropriately be related to a single division or interest group. The establishment of a joint committee shall be recommended to the Committee on Organization of the American Library Association. Joint committees with organizations outside of the American Library Association shall be established only as provided for in the Bylaws of the American Library Association. Interdivisional committees shall be composed of members representing all cooperating divisions.

Sec. [8] 7. All committees shall have not less than (3) members. The president shall be a member ex officio of all committees except the Nomination Committee.

Sec. [9] 8. Subcommittees may be formed by a parent committee to carry out specific duties. Subcommittee must report to the parent committee for action and may be abolished by decision of the parent committee. The chairperson of the parent committee shall be an ex officio member of all subcommittees without vote except in the case of a tie.

PRO:

The revision deletes and replaces Sec. 2, clarifying that the president is responsible for special and ad hoc committees and that the vice president/president elect is responsible for filling standing committee vacancies in consultation with the committee chairperson. Sec. 6 and Sec 7 are combined to include joint and interdivisional committees, similar to the ALA bylaws.

CON:

None

ITEM #12 - Article XIII. Voting

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

Sec. 1. Each personal member of the Association shall have one vote.

Sec. 2. Each personal member of the Board of Directors, any interest group, any committee or subcommittee, and other subordinate units of the Association shall have one vote in the respective body.

Sec. 3. Unless otherwise provided in the bylaws, questions under consideration shall be decided by majority vote.

Sec. 4. Votes may be authorized by the Board of Directors or on petition of twenty-five (25) personal members of the Association. The Board of Directors shall set a time limit during which votes will be recorded but if no such time limit is set, no vote shall be counted unless received within sixty (60) days from the day of the vote on the matter involved. In no case shall the voting period be less than thirty (30) days.

Sec. 5. The Association will utilize the ALA approved voting methods including but not limited to mail votes, electronic mail, and online voting.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

Sec. 1. Each personal member of the Association shall have one vote.

Sec. 2. Each personal member of the Board of Directors, any interest group, any committee or subcommittee, and other subordinate units of the Association shall have one vote in the respective body.

Sec. 3. Unless otherwise provided in the bylaws, questions under consideration shall be decided by majority vote.

Sec. 4. Votes may be authorized by the Board of Directors or on petition of twenty-five (25) personal members of the Association. The Board of Directors shall set a time limit during which mail or electronic votes will be recorded but if no such time limit is set, no vote shall be counted unless received within [sixty (60)] thirty (30) days from the day [of the vote on the matter involved] the text of the matter was distributed. [In no case shall the voting period be less than thirty (30) days.]

Sec. 5. The Association will utilize the ALA approved voting methods including but not limited to mail votes, electronic mail, and online voting.

PRO:

The update in the timeline for electronic voting is changed to reflect language used in ALA's bylaws

CON:

None

ITEM #13 - Article XVI. Procedures and Rules

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

Sec. 1. Whenever these bylaws are in conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of the American Library Association the latter shall take precedence. Whenever these bylaws are silent on any matter, the American Library Association Constitution and Bylaws shall be consulted and followed.

Sec. 2. Sturgis Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure (latest revised edition) shall govern the transaction of Association affairs and the transaction of the affairs of any of its subordinate bodies in all cases in which they are not inconsistent with the bylaws of the Association or with the Constitution and Bylaws of the American Library Association.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

Sec. 1. Whenever these bylaws are in conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of the American Library Association the latter shall take precedence. Whenever these bylaws are silent on any matter, the American Library Association Constitution and Bylaws shall be consulted and followed.

Sec. 2. [Sturgis Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure (latest revised edition)] The parliamentary rules of the American Library Association shall govern the transaction of Association affairs and the transaction of the affairs of any of its subordinate bodies in all cases in which they are not inconsistent with the bylaws of the Association or with the Constitution and Bylaws of the American Library Association.

PRO:

The update states that the current parliamentary rules of the American Library Association will govern the transaction of the division's affairs.

CON:

None

ITEM #14 - Article XVII. Amendments

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

Sec. 1. The membership of the Association may adopt bylaws, or amend or repeal existing bylaws, at any annual meeting of the Association by a three-quarters majority vote of the members present and constituting a quorum, or by a majority vote of the ASCLA members voting in any balloting held in accordance with ALA procedures. Voting shall be determined by the ALA or ASCLA executive director who shall be responsible for ensuring the integrity of the ballot. Unless otherwise specified, amendments or suspension of the bylaws shall become effective when approved by the membership.

Sec. 2. The text of any proposed bylaw adoption, amendment, or repeal shall be filed in writing with the president and the executive director at least sixty days prior to the annual meeting or balloting which it is to be acted upon or considered. The executive director shall provide the text of all such proposals to the Board of Directors within fifteen days of receipt, and to all members of the Association within thirty days prior to the annual meeting or balloting. The proposed text shall be published notice may be given] in any official ASCLA publication or communication tool.

Sec. 3. A bylaw, an amendment to, or repeal of, an existing bylaw may be proposed by the Board of Directors, a committee authorized for that purpose by the Board of Directors or the president of the Association, by the majority vote of the members present at an annual meeting, or by a petition signed by no fewer than twenty-five members. Such proposed bylaw, amendment, or repeal shall be filed and presented for adoption in accordance with the preceding sections of this article.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

Sec. 1. Amendments to these bylaws shall be proposed by the Board of Directors, or a written petition signed by not less than 50 members. Amendments to the bylaws require a vote by members in

accordance with ALA procedures. The ALA Executive Director shall be responsible for ensuring the integrity of the ballot and will determine the appropriate means of polling members. Bylaws amendments shall be passed by a majority of those voting. Unless otherwise specified, amendments to the bylaws shall become effective when approved by the membership.

[Sec. 2. The text of any proposed bylaw adoption, amendment, or repeal shall be filed in writing with the president and the executive director at least sixty days prior to the annual meeting or balloting which it is to be acted upon or considered. The executive director shall provide the text of all such proposals to the Board of Directors within fifteen days of receipt, and to all members of the Association within thirty days prior to the annual meeting or balloting. The proposed text shall be published notice may be given] in any official ASCLA publication or communication tool.]

Sec. 2. The complete text of any proposed amendment shall accompany the ballot.

[Sec. 3. A bylaw, an amendment to, or repeal of, an existing bylaw may be proposed by the Board of Directors, a committee authorized for that purpose by the Board of Directors or the president of the Association, by the majority vote of the members present at an annual meeting, or by a petition signed by no fewer than twenty-five members. Such proposed bylaw, amendment, or repeal shall be filed and presented for adoption in accordance with the preceding sections of this article.]

PRO:

The updates reflect simpler wording used in other ALA division bylaws. Sec.1 replaces voting on amendments at a membership meeting with voting by members in accordance with ALA procedures. The number of signatures on a petition is equivalent to the number needed for a quorum at a membership meeting.

CON:

None