

ALA American Library Association

Analysis of the following SCOE Recommendation on Round Table Membership:

Recommended Change:

“Increase the minimum number of dues-paying members needed to create a round table to one percent of ALA’s membership unless identified as a strategic priority by the Board of Directors. Membership numbers will be revisited and averaged over a period of three years. Current round tables will be able to remain intact for the first three years to provide them the opportunity to grow their membership. This will provide round tables with more fiscal stability and the resources to accomplish their mission-driven goals.” (SCOE Final Report to Board June 2020 - page 21)

Current ALA Bylaws (Article VII. Section 1.a.)

The Council may authorize the organization as a round table of any group of not less than 100 members of the Association who are interested in the same field of librarianship not within the scope of any division, upon petition of such group which shall include a statement of purpose.

Impact Analysis:

A 3-year average was calculated using the total member counts for ALA and the round tables as of August 31st for years 2017-2019. Round tables that have more than 567 members (1% of 56,734) are noted below in green. EMIERT, FMRT, GAMERT, GNCRT, IFRT, IRRT, LIRT, LRRT, NMRT, RRT, SRRT, and SUSTRT are the 12 round tables that will not be impacted by this recommendation.

The following 8 round tables are noted below in red and are currently at risk as they have less than 567 members, therefore impacted by this recommendation:

1. ERT - Exhibits
2. GODORT - Government Documents (*note: GODORT is missing the threshold by one member*)
3. LearnRT – Learning
4. LHRT - Library History
5. LSSIRT – Library Support Staff Interests
6. MAGIRT – Map and Geospatial Information
7. RMRT – Retired Member
8. SORT – Staff Organizations:

	ALA	EMIERT	ERT	FMRT	GAMERT	GNCRT	GODORT	IFRT	IRRT	LEARNRT	LHRT
2017	56,286	800	478	467	650		602	1244	1641	340	389
2018	57,866	918	408	591	753		551	1254	1698	382	405
2019	56,049	954	374	664	745	788	544	1250	1582	417	431
3 year average	56,734	891	420	574	716	788	566	1249	1640	380	408

	LIRT	LRRT	LSSIRT	MAGIRT	NMRT	RMRT	RRT	SRRT	SORT	SUSTRT
2017	1653	1252	406	297	1262	248	1295	1445	148	362
2018	1769	1354	419	268	1487	295	1414	1809	180	900
2019	1784	1311	418	266	1426	321	1457	1872	188	1141
3 year average	1735	1306	414	277	1392	288	1389	1709	172	801

Assumptions:

- All members are considered “dues-paying members” (personal, organization and corporate).
- The 3-year average is applied to both ALA member counts and round table member counts.
- The membership counts will be captured as of August 31st in alignment with our bylaws (Article IV. Section 2.d.):
“...For the purposes of this section, the Personal Membership of each round table and the Personal Membership of ALA shall be fixed as of August 31st of each year.”