ACRL Government Relations Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
Friday, November 19, 2021, 10:00 a.m. Central

Meeting Commenced at 10:02 Central

Present:
- Mark Offtermatt  
- Erik Nordberg  
- Ray Pun  
- Angela Hackstadt  
- Kara Malenfant  
- Jacquelyn Bryant  
- Kaitlyn Tanis  
- HJ Pedelty

1. Introduction

Report on the ALA Legislative Summit in October, a bit more focused on public library advocacy. Erik Nordberg mentioned in the meeting that public libraries can call upon their academic colleagues to support them.

Kara mentioned the follow-up meeting was a mixed bag of librarians from different fields collaborating on many conversations to provide support on a number of issues.

Conversation raised question as to whether our academic institutions deal with similar issues regarding materials use that public libraries do?

ALA Policy Corps is looking for participants.

2. Legislative agenda and Timeline Review

Overview of GRC scheduling, including review of draft legislative agenda to ensure committee meets deadline expectations during present cycle.

Passing of infrastructure bill has to do with digital equity and broadband access. We will have a look at our draft agenda and see if there are some places these topics fit. May consider pulling some of these topics onto our watchlist or agenda, although Kara mentioned funding is likely coming down the pipeline. Erik mentioned wanting to stay on top of advocacy as well.

3. Comments and Concluding Remarks

Jacqueline mentioned board has mentioned some priorities to work on over the next few years including EDI, communication and membership issues. Committees may be engaged in pursuit of larger conversations that can lead to helping committees make changes. GRC has been selected, and may be contacted in the future when they are out of the selection phase.
Committees should aspire to have diverse views on topics of interest. Kara mentioned potential dates for hybridized or in-person meetings, DC in June.

Meeting concluded at 10:22 a.m. Central