**TO:** PLA Board of Directors

**RE:** ALA Standing Committee on Organizational Effectiveness/Governance Review (SCOE)

**DATE:** March 6, 2019

**ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT:**

Information

**BACKGROUND**

ALA created SCOE “to align ALA’s organizational structure, policies and rules with the association’s 21st century values, key action areas and strategic directions.” See June 2018 release [here](http://www.ala.org/news/press-releases/2018/06/ala-president-jim-neal-announces-new-steering-committee-examine-tomorrow-s). Attached is the latest (as of this writing) [communication from the chair of SCOE](https://connect.ala.org/communities/community-home/digestviewer/viewthread?GroupId=102898&MessageKey=cc9de242-c377-4e3d-9d66-a0c6cc76787d&CommunityKey=927d02c1-673b-4e91-9911-8fdf8dc3407f&tab=digestviewer&ReturnUrl=%2fcommunities%2fcommunity-home%2fdigestviewer%3fCommunityKey%3d927d02c1-673b-4e91-9911-8fdf8dc3407f), which was sent March 14. It includes a report of the committee’s work to date, including an overview of findings to date. The report also includes a listing of webinars that SCOE is hosting over the next few months to inform members and to get feedback.

SCOE also held a webinar for members in February though it was not very well publicized. An archive of the webinar is [here](https://connect.ala.org/communities/community-home/digestviewer/viewthread?MessageKey=02ae06ab-3453-4a18-9aff-160024934cda&CommunityKey=927d02c1-673b-4e91-9911-8fdf8dc3407f&tab=digestviewer). It provides an overview of the SCOE charge and process. Additionally, SCOE encouraged members and staff to [complete this survey](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScw5dUE2csgLZ7CeoTGPl54esKKG7jBzxfHxQQJowRunJsvTw/viewform).

Additionally, committee chair Lessa Kanani'opua Pelayo-Lozada reached out to division executive directors to let us know that the committee wants to keep communication channels open and wondered when division boards and leadership would like to meet at the ALA Annual conference. SCOE also reached out to ALA staff to make note of the fact that there haven’t been opportunities for staff input. As a result, one meeting was held with the consultants and staff on March 22. Other meetings will be scheduled in April and May, dates TBD.

The March 22 staff meeting with consultants was scheduled on short notice. I was unable to attend but some PLA and other division staff attended. At the session, it was confirmed that:

* As part of the SCOE and governance review process, the division operating agreement will be opened and revised. The timeline for this has not been set though it was first suggested that this happen between June-September.
* When the operating agreement is opened, SCOE will not be involved in the negotiations. It likely will be a mix of staff and members but who they will be is TBD.

SCOE will meet in Chicago May 4-5.

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION/ACTION**

Some items to consider:

* PLA board members should plan (and should encourage others) to attend the webinar focused on divisions**: April 29, 11:00 am PT/1:00 pm CT/2:00 pm ET: Prioritization and Member Engagement through Divisions**
* Does the Board want to meet with Lessa at our Board meeting in DC? There may be a separate division meeting with SCOE in DC. We do not have that information yet.
* PLA should urge SCOE to share future dates of all meetings and sessions, those to be held virtually and at conferences, as early as possible so members have time to add them to their schedules. Communication overall needs to improve.
* The implications of changes to the ALA Operating Agreement are significant. The PLA board will want to consider requesting more information; a proposed timeline; and possibly consider a communication plan for PLA membership related to SCOE and ALA’s plans going forward.