



Association of College and Research Libraries

**Board of Directors Meeting I**

ALA Midwinter Meeting

Friday, January 24, 2020

1:00–4:00 p.m.

Loews Philadelphia, 1200 Market Street, Howe Meeting Room (33<sup>rd</sup> Floor)

## Board I Proceedings

**Present:** Karen Munro, President; Jon E. Cawthorne, Vice-President; Lauren Pressley, Past-President; Carolyn Henderson Allen, Budget and Finance Chair; Jacquelyn A. Bryant, ACRL Division Councilor; Mary Ellen K. Davis, Ex-Officio Member; Directors-at-large: Faye A. Chadwell, Kim Copenhaver, April D. Cunningham, Emily Daly, Caroline Fuchs, Cinthya Ippoliti, Kelly Gordon Jacobsma

**Not present:** Jeanne R. Davidson, Director-at-Large

**Guests:** Camila Alire, Dennis Clark, Julie Garrison, Kathy A. Parsons, Ray Pun, Patty Wong, Steven Yates

**Staff:** Mark Cummings, CHOICE Editor and Publisher; Sara Goek (virtual), Program Manager; Kara Malenfant, Senior Strategist for Special Initiatives; Tory Ondrla, Conference Manager; Allison Payne, Program Manager for Strategic Initiatives

### 1.0 Call to order (Munro)

ACRL President Karen Munro called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

### 2.0 Opening remarks (Munro)

Munro welcomed the Board and guests, and brief introductions were given.

### 3.0 Adoption of the Agenda (Munro)

The Board proposed to amend the agenda by adding a break at 2:20 p.m.

The Board adopted the agenda as amended.

### 4.0 Report Out from Virtual Board Update (Munro)

Munro thanked the goal-area chairs and staff for their virtual participation during the January 15, 2020, virtual Board Update meeting. During the virtual Board Update, the Board heard from the

chairs of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee; New Roles and Changing Landscapes Committee; and Value of Academic Libraries Committee.

Munro reported that during the virtual meeting, the ACRL Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee Chair Derrick Jefferson shared that the committee has an interest in reducing silos and collaborating across ALA, and that the committee is planning a joint ACRL and ODLOS meetup at the upcoming ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. The committee is also interested in developing ways to support retention of underrepresented librarians, especially those who are looking to complete the tenure process.

Munro reported that the Board also heard virtually from the ACRL New Roles and Changing Landscapes Committee Chair Jolie O. Graybill and Vice-Chair Erin T. Smith. The committee is working on a fishbone model to support library leaders from diverse backgrounds. They are also developing an online change course and an OER RoadShow; both projects are expected to launch in Spring 2020. The committee reported that they were pleased to work on the CUPA-HR job descriptions in August 2019.

Also during the January 15 virtual Board Update, the Board heard from the Value of Academic Libraries Committee Chair Jill Becker and Vice-Chair Amanda L. Folk. Highlights from the committee included an EDI Spotlight series in *ACRL Insider*, VAL travel grants, and a forthcoming special issue of *C&RL News* to highlight new research on the impact of academic libraries on student learning and success in higher education.

## 5.0 Consent Agenda (Munro)

The following items were included on the consent agenda:

### Confirmation of virtual votes #2.0:

- 5.1 Confirmation of virtual vote on 2019 Annual Conference Proceedings
- 5.2 Confirmation of virtual vote on 2019 Fall Board proceedings
- 5.3 Confirmation of votes taken during the November 18, 2019 Fall Virtual Meeting:
  - FY21 Budget Assumptions
  - Board Ground Rules
  - Disband Continuing Education/Professional Development Discussion Group
  - Disband New Members Discussion Group
  - Dissolve Western New York/Ontario Chapter
  - DLS Name Change
  - Plan for Excellence Revision
  - Protocols for Native American Materials)

### Approval of:

- 5.4 ACRL-RBMS/SAA Guidelines on Access to Research Materials #2.1, #2.1a, #2.1b
- 5.5 Language and Linguistics Discussion Group #2.2, #2.2a, #2.2b

- 5.6 ACRL 2021 Conference Fundraising Campaign Goal #2.3
- 5.7 Memorial Resolution Honoring Jennifer Ford Paustenbaugh #2.4

**Motion:** ACRL Director-at-large Emily Daly moved that the ACRL Board of Directors approves the consent agenda as presented.

**Action:** The ACRL Board of Directors approved the consent agenda as presented.

## 6.0 Reports

- 6.1 President's Report (Munro) #1.1
- 6.2 Vice-President's Report (Cawthorne) #1.2
- 6.3 Past-President's Report (Pressley) #1.3
- 6.4 Councilor's Report (Bryant) #1.4
- 6.5 Executive Director's Plan for Excellence Activities Report (Davis) #1.5, #1.6

Munro referred the Board to the written reports in the packet. Munro asked if there were any questions, and there were none received.

ACRL Executive Director Mary Ellen Davis advised that the fiduciary role of the Board will be increasingly important, as ALA and SCOE review the organization's structure, financials, and operating agreement. During the joint meeting on January 25, 2020, the Board and Budget and Finance Committee will receive an update from ALA Treasurer Maggie Farrell, who also serves as ACRL's liaison from the ALA Budget Analysis & Review Committee (BARC) and ALA Executive Board. Davis referred the Board to the joint Board and Budget & Finance packet, and advised that the Board read "Document Y: ALA Financial Planning 2020 and Beyond" (Also 2019-2020 EBD #12.39) to help prepare for their discussion with Farrell.

The Board asked who will manage the review of the ALA Operating Agreement. Davis reported that the process has not yet been announced.

## 7.0 Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (Munro) #15.0, #16.0

In October 2019, the Board, goal-area chairs, EDI chairs, and senior staff met in Chicago for the Strategic Planning and Orientation Session (SPOS). During the meeting, the group held strategic discussions, including discussions on next steps for how ACRL could support its Core Commitment to EDI. Munro referred the Board to Doc 15.0, which included a list of ideas that were brainstormed during SPOS.

### 7.1 EDI Communications Plan Working Group (Munro, Allen, Cawthorne, Cunningham) #11.0

Munro shared that the EDI Communications Working Group met in November 2019 to follow-up on the EDI discussions held at the October 2019 SPOS meeting. The working group acknowledged that there is considerable EDI work currently underway by ACRL and its membership groups. The working group agreed that there is a need for more communication regarding ACRL's Core Commitment, but

wanted to develop meaningful communication, as opposed to a report with a list of activities. The working group has prepared a draft message that seeks to acknowledge the need for cultural change.

The Board noted that ACRL will need to consider the current climate of institutions when developing EDI programs and services. The Board acknowledged the issue of the lack of diverse individuals in the hiring pipeline, and stated that it would be challenging to affect change, but that the association will continue to look for ways to make a difference. The Board expressed an interest in changes that will help the profession long-term.

It was suggested that EDI communications could highlight leadership and libraries that are committed to EDI issues and share their success stories on ACRL marketing channels.

Incoming ALA President Julius C. Jefferson Jr. is planning a bus tour, possibly to include EDI training and certification. The Board wanted to know more about the bus tour to avoid duplication for ACRL products and services.

The Board wanted to know how the ACRL Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee will be involved in future communications. The working group has not yet reached out to the committee, but will contact the committee when next steps, including budgets for potential projects, are more clearly defined.

#### 7.2 EDI Initiatives (Munro) #15.0, #25.0, #30.0

The Board next discussed possible initiatives ACRL could implement to support its Core Commitment to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, and was referred to Doc 15.0 Potential EDI Initiatives for ACRL.

The Board began the discussion by sharing that they'd like to see diversity within the membership, and there was interest in focusing on recruitment and retention of members. There was some concern that focusing on membership diversity may not be enough to create a cultural change within ACRL and the profession. The Board suggested that there could be a climate assessment component in addition to measuring membership numbers.

The Board discussed if it should focus on recruitment and retention within the profession or ACRL membership, and agreed that the organization should focus on membership. The Board discussed how to involve the ALA ethnic caucuses, and one idea included inviting representatives from the ethnic caucuses to future SPOS meetings. The Black Caucus of the American Library Association's (BCALA) National Conference will be held in August 2020 in Tulsa, and that may be another arena for engagement.

The ACRL EDI Committee has expressed interest in reducing silos across the organization, and the Board discussed how it might support this initiative. With the forthcoming changes for membership models and the work of the Steering Committee on Organizational Effectiveness (SCOE), it may be difficult to define how to best collaborate and break down silos.

During the Virtual Leadership Council held in January 2020, updates were given on how the ACRL 2021 Conference proposal process was made more inclusive and equitable, and the Board stated that members appreciated hearing this update. It was recommended that a report out could be shared at future Leadership Council meetings to show the impact of these changes.

The Board wanted to know if there are EDI questions included on the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). The ACRL Academic Library Trends and Statistics Survey Editorial Board submits optional questions, and staff will look into if EDI questions will be included in the next survey.

The Board was interested if there is an existing map of EDI activities across ALA. ACRL currently has an EDI LibGuide with includes a summary of ACRL EDI activities, but it was unknown if a similar resource exists for all of ALA.

*Editor's note: The ALA Office for Diversity, Literacy and Outreach Services (ODLOS) maintains [webpages](#) that include lists of major resources for the profession, including those created by ALA units.*

The Board overall agreed that it would like to focus on how ACRL can impact cultural change at institutions when thinking about EDI initiatives for the organization to undertake.

#### 8.0 Diversity Alliance Task Force report (Cawthorne) #19.0

ACRL President-elect and Diversity Alliance Task Force Chair Jon E. Cawthorne gave an update on the Diversity Alliance. The Diversity Alliance Task Force, which oversees the program, will be ending in June 2020. Cawthorne gave a brief overview of the Diversity Alliance's history. The Diversity Alliance was founded by American University, University of Iowa, Virginia Tech, and West Virginia University, to address the lack of diversity in the profession. In 2017, ACRL began managing the program by offering digital badges and a community to institutions who committed to creating a two or three-year residency.

Cawthorne reported on some of the challenges institutions face, including how to help people of color when they are the only minority at their institutions, how to train directors to best support people of color, and how coordinators can create a welcoming environment.

There have been several successful Library Diversity Institutes for Diversity Alliance residents. Cawthorne reported that there are plans to continue the annual institute at the institutions' expense, and that locations have been selected through 2021.

The Board asked how smaller institutions could support diverse hiring practices when they might not have the budget to hire a full-time resident for two years. Cawthorne advised that there are other ways that smaller institutions could support hiring practices, and stated that it would be helpful to share positive examples and language from job ads.

A recommendation from the task force will be reviewed at Annual 2020, which could include how the program could be updated to broaden the program to include institutions that may not have resources to create a new position. The Board agreed with the idea of broadening the program.

The Board next discussed who might manage the program when the task force ends in June 2020. There was some discussion if the EDI Committee should be asked if they are interested in being the oversight group for the Diversity Alliance. It was also suggested that a new committee could be created by the Board. As the ACRL Residency Interest Group focuses on supporting residents and the DA was intended to support the coordinators, the Board agreed that RIG may not be the best fit for managing the Diversity Alliance. Cawthorne will bring recommendations to the Board at the 2020 ALA Annual Conference.

#### 9.0 Project Outcome for Academic Libraries Editorial Board (Pressley/Goek) #29.0

Sara Goek, ACRL Program Manager and Mellon/ACLS Public Fellow, joined the meeting virtually to give an update on Project Outcome for Academic Libraries (POAL). Goek referred the Board to the report included in the packet, and shared that over 2,600 users and 1,000 institutions in 35 countries have used POAL, which is a free online toolkit designed to help libraries understand and share the impact of essential library programs and services. Most users are in the United States, and there are some geographic areas that are more represented, which is mostly due to the certain areas having more institutions.

Since April 2014, Goek and task force members have held workshops in twenty-one states and four international countries. Based on attendee evaluations, confidence increased with the length of the workshop, which ranged from a webinar to a half-day in-person workshop. The Board thanked Goek for her work promoting POAL, and commended her on the positive press POAL has received.

Goek shared some next steps for POAL. The task force and Goek will continue to promote POAL through in-person workshops and online webinars. The ACRL Project Outcome for Academic Libraries Editorial Board is working on the development of new case studies for the POAL website. A new fee-based, half-day workshop will roll out in FY21. At the upcoming 2020 ALA Annual Conference, ACRL will hold a joint session with the Public Libraries Association (PLA). ACRL modeled its survey after seeing the success of PLA's Project Outcome for Public Libraries.

#### 10.0 ACRL Board Strategic Planning (Cawthorne) #20.0

ACRL Vice-President Jon Cawthorne asked the Board for their feedback on the ACRL Strategic Planning and Orientation Session (SPOS). Overall, the Board shared that they value the meeting, as it provides a good venue for holding in-depth conversations. The Board shared that it is important to include the goal-area and EDI chairs.

With the current budget issues within ALA, it was advised that the Board may want to consider new models for SPOS, as the meeting can cost up to \$65,000 to host over 30 participants for three days. It was proposed that the Board could hold a SPOS meeting in advance of Midwinter or the ACRL 2021

Conference. Other recommendations included holding SPOS every other year, reducing the number of facilitators, or meeting virtually.

## 11.0 Executive Session

*Editor's note: During the Executive Session, ACRL Executive Director Mary Ellen Davis announced her retirement to the ACRL Board. The [ALA press release](#) was posted shortly following Midwinter.*

## 12.0 ALA Candidates: 2021-22 Presidency (Munro)

The Board heard from 2021-22 ALA President Candidates, Patty Wong and Steven Yates, who were allotted up to three minutes each to address the Board.

## 13.0 Adjournment (Munro)

**Motion:** ACRL Budget and Finance Chair Carolyn Henderson Allen moved that the ACRL Board of Directors adjourn its meeting.

**Action:** The ACRL Board of Directors adjourned its meetings at 4:11 p.m.



Association of College and Research Libraries

**Board of Directors Meeting II**

ALA Midwinter Meeting

Saturday, January 25, 2020

Part I: 11:00 a.m. – noon; Part II: 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Loews Philadelphia, 1200 Market Street, Howe Meeting Room (33<sup>rd</sup> Floor)

## Board II Proceedings

**Present:** Karen Munro, President; Jon E. Cawthorne, Vice-President; Lauren Pressley, Past-President; Carolyn Henderson Allen, Budget and Finance Chair; Jacquelyn A. Bryant, ACRL Division Councilor; Mary Ellen K. Davis, Ex-Officio Member; Directors-at-large: Faye A. Chadwell, Kim Copenhaver, April D. Cunningham, Emily Daly, Jeanne R. Davidson, Caroline Fuchs, Cinthya Ippoliti, Kelly Gordon Jacobsma

**Guests:** Robert Barr, Nicole Brown, Julie Garrison, Nathan Hall, Alex Hodges, Kathy Parsons, Brian Rennick, Charlotte Roh, Carrie Russell

**Staff:** Mark Cummings, CHOICE Editor and Publisher; Kara Malenfant, Senior Strategist for Special Initiatives; Tory Ondrla, Conference Manager; Allison Payne, Program Manager for Strategic Initiatives; Mary Jane Petrowski (remote), Associate Director

### 14.0 Call to order (Munro)

ACRL President Karen Munro called the meeting to order at 11:06 a.m.

### 15.0 Opening remarks (Munro)

Munro welcomed the Board and guests to the meeting.

### 16.0 Adoption of the Agenda (Munro)

The Board adopted the agenda as presented.

### 17.0 Board Engagement with Strategic Goal-area Committees (Munro) #3.0, #3.1

#### 17.1 Research and Scholarly Environment Committee (Nathan Frank Hall, Charlotte Roh) #4.0, #4.1

Munro welcomed to the meeting Research and Scholarly Environment Committee Chair Nathan Frank Hall and Vice-Chair Charlotte Roh.



The chairs began the discussion by sharing that they are considering a change to subsidies for the ACRL RoadShows. Currently, subsidized funding is only offered for the *Scholarly Communication: From Understanding to Engagement* RoadShow. The chairs proposed that all RoadShows be eligible for subsidized funding, and that the subsidy is limited to HBCUs, tribal colleges, community colleges, and other institutions that serve underrepresented groups. The Board agreed that this proposed change would support ACRL's Core Commitment to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. It was proposed that the ACRL Professional Development Committee could review subsidy applications. After Midwinter, staff will review the RoadShow budget and determine if these changes would be sustainable for the program.

The chairs next gave an update on the Scholarly Communications Research Grants. Seven grants were awarded in December 2019 to support recommended research included in the research agenda, *Open and Equitable Scholarly Communications: Creating a More Inclusive Future*. The research will be publicized in *C&RL News* in Spring 2022 and a panel will be held at the ACRL 2021 Conference. The draft FY21 budget currently includes \$30,000 for grants next year. The committee and staff will review the grant program and FY21 budget to determine if the same level of funding should be provided in FY21.

The chairs advised the Appointments Committee that they may want to consider reducing the committee size to ensure it can best function. Over the years, the committee has grown to twenty-four members, and the chairs believe that a slightly smaller committee could be more effective. The chairs commended past Appointments Committees for diversifying membership, and would like for this to continue to provide opportunities that can help support the pipeline for diverse individuals.

The Board thanked the chairs for their fantastic work leading the Research and Scholarly Environment Committee.

## 18.0 Budget and Finance Committee (Allen)

### 18.1 FY20 first-quarter report #9.0, #9.1, #9.2

ACRL Budget and Finance Chair Carolyn Henderson Allen began the discussion by sharing that the ACRL Budget and Finance Committee reviewed ACRL's and Choice's FY20 performance to date during their virtual meeting on January 13, 2020. During the meeting, the committee expressed concern for declining membership trends. Highlights in the ACRL budget include consulting, print product ads, and subscriptions. While it is early in the FY, some underperforming areas in addition to membership include book sales, job ads, and licensed workshops. The committee will continue to monitor FY20 financial performance, and Allen will keep the Board apprised.

### 18.2 Brief report out of Joint Board/B&F meeting

During the ACRL Joint Board and Budget and Finance Committee Meeting, which was held before Board II Meeting, the Board received an update from Maggie Farrell, ALA Treasurer and ACRL's liaison from the ALA Budget Analysis & Review Committee (BARC) and ALA Executive Board. Farrell reported during the meeting, that ALA is currently experiencing a cash flow issue and that ALA used divisions' fund balances to pay bills. It was not clear whether the fund balances would be repaid or how divisions would be asked to budget for FY21.

### 18.3 FY21 Draft Budget #10.0, #10.1, #10.2

### 18.4 Strategic Priorities #3.0, #10.0, #15.0, #18.2, #26.0, #27.0, #28.0

With the new information received from Farrell, the Board began a discussion on how ACRL should move forward with its FY21 budget and if it should consider which programs and services to strategically prioritize. The Board asked when ACRL will be given further directions from ALA for FY21. The ALA Budget Analysis and Review Committee (BARC) will meet in April 2020, and it is expected that more information will be available then.

The Board agreed that it should review the budget again when more information is shared. If needed, the Board expressed an interest in conducting financial modeling exercises to identify strategic programs and services, but agreed it was not needed at this time.

The Board discussed how it should report out to ACRL members, and possible next steps included issuing a statement through ACRL communication channels and holding a town hall meeting. The Board acknowledged that librarians on Twitter are currently discussing ALA's financial situation, and that ACRL should consider a communication strategy for engaging Twitter.

There was overall support that the Board should issue a statement on the financial situation. A potential statement could include an overview of the challenges that were shared by Farrell, that the Board is seeking clarity, The Board considered issuing a joint statement with the Public Libraries Association (PLA).

The Board will continue the discussion on next steps during New Business.

### 19.0 Councilor's Update (Bryant)

ACRL Division Councilor Jacquelyn A. Bryant advised that there are no updates at this point from ALA Council. The first council meeting will be held tomorrow, and Bryant will keep the Board informed of agenda items that may impact ACRL members or academic librarians.

**Motion:** ACRL Director-at-large Faye A. Chadwell moved that the ACRL Board of Directors recess from 11:50 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. to honor ALA's no-conflict time.

**Action:** The ACRL Board of Directors recessed from 11:50 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. to honor ALA's no-conflict time.

### 20.0 Board Engagement with Strategic Goal-area Committees (Munro) #3.0

### 20.1 Student Learning and Information Literacy (Nicole Brown) #6.0, #6.1

ACRL Student Learning and Information Literacy Committee (SLILC) Chair Nicole E. Brown was welcomed to the meeting. Brown shared that she enjoyed the opportunity to give a report out during the Virtual Leadership Council, and thought that the new meeting format worked well. The SLILC Forum held on Saturday morning at Midwinter was well attended and focused on defining inclusive pedagogy.

Brown shared that the committee is interested in possibly developing a toolkit related to the topic of inclusive pedagogy. The toolkit could include facilitator's resources and discussion forum for sharing ideas. The Board shared that the New Roles and Changing Landscapes Committee (NRCL) is working on a self-guided change course, and that SLILC may want to work with NRCL to ensure branding is consistent across both products.

Brown reported that SLILC has moved from project teams to a matrix model, which has worked well for completing committee work. The committee is reviewing the Engaging with the ACRL Framework RoadShow,

and considering how to make the RoadShow more inclusive. The committee is working to develop a new RoadShow to support librarians engaging in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL).

Brown asked the Board what the recommendations from ALA Steering Committee on Organizational Effectiveness (SCOE) would mean for ACRL's goal-area committees. It was advised that SCOE is focusing on changes at the ALA level, and that the impact at the division committee level may be determined later in the process.

The Board thanked Brown and SLILC Vice-Chair Alex R. Hodges for their leadership of the committee.

### 21.0 Committee on Legislation (Robert Barr/Carrie Russell) FYI-9

Munro welcomed ALA Committee on Legislation member Robert Barr to the meeting, along with Carrie Russell, Director, ALA Public Policy and Advocacy Office. Barr began his legislative update by thanking the library community for their advocacy efforts for federal library funding. The FY20 federal budget was approved with a \$10 million increase in funding for IMLS, which includes \$6.2 million for the LSTA program. Barr was pleased to share this was the biggest increase in funding in twelve years.

In February 2020, the FY21 draft federal budget will be released, and it is expected that IMLS will again be eliminated. Barr shared that after the budget is released, the ALA Public Policy and Advocacy (PPA) will ask members to advocate through Dear Appropriator letters. He advised that members visit [ala.org/takeaction](http://ala.org/takeaction) for more information.

Barr shared that Crosby Kemper III was confirmed by the US Senate as the new IMLS director. An IMLS director is appointed every four years, and rotates between a library and museum director. Kemper represents libraries, and served as the Executive Director of the Kansas City Public Library for nearly fifteen years.

The ALA Committee on Legislation's Legislative Agenda for 2020 was released in December 2019. Key topics include federal funding, copyright policy, and access to government information. The Board asked if the agenda includes open access. Barr shared that the agenda focuses on current legislation, but that PPA is working on open access issues through other approaches, such as participation in the Open Access Working Group, which ACRL is also a member. Russell noted that ALA looks to ACRL to take the lead on this.

In December 2019, ALA awarded more than \$100,000 to fifty-nine libraries to support their work to ensure a complete count for the 2020 Census.

Barr gave an update on the #eBooksForAll campaign, which is in response to Macmillan Publishers policy that libraries are limited to one copy of a new eBook during the first eight weeks of publication. On October 30, 2019, ALA leaders and members hand-delivered the #eBooksForAll petition, with over 160 thousand signatures, to Macmillan Publishers CEO John Sargent. Also in October 2019, ALA submitted a report and comments advocating for library rights in response to an inquiry made by the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial and Administrative Law. PPA will continue to advocate for libraries' access to digital content, and the Committee on Legislation will keep the Board apprised.

The Board asked Barr if COL and PPA have plans to respond to the purchase of Innovate by Ex Libris. Barr advised that COL and PPA have not heard of a request for comments, but will let the Board know if he hears more information.

The Board asked if there are more details on the 2020 National Library Legislative Day (NLLD). ALA Public Policy and Advocacy Director Carrie Russell shared that NLLD will be held on May 4–5, 2020 at a new venue, Georgetown University Library. The price has increased from \$50 to \$145, but some costs will still be covered by PPA. NLLD will include one day of training and one day of meetings on Capitol Hill. During meetings with representatives, advocates will focus on library funding and an ask to sign the Dear Appropriator letter.

Munro thanked Barr and Russell for their update on ALA's advocacy initiatives.

## 22.0 Membership Dues

### 22.1 Discounted Student Dues Rate (Davis/Petrowski) #17.0, #17.1, #17.2

ACRL Associate Director Mary Jane Petrowski was connected virtually. The \$5 student dues pilot program will complete its three-year period on August 31, 2020. The ACRL Budget and Finance Committee reviewed the recommendations and advised that the student dues program should continue for an additional two years. This extension will give the committee and Board a fuller picture of possible membership trends, including if students became regular members.

The Board overall agreed with the committee's recommendation to continue the discounted student dues program. The Board asked what metrics are currently tracked and wanted to know the current number of student members. Petrowski compiles quarterly membership reports and key performance indicators, which includes month-to-month changes, first-year member data, membership tenure distribution, and renewals. There are currently over 1,000 ACRL student members.

The Board asked if outreach is being completed to non-MLS students, including graduate student in other fields and undergraduate students. Outreach has not been explored with undergraduate students.

The Board discussed how it could review the discounted student dues program, and agreed that further discussion was needed to identify the retention rate and what would indicate a successful program. The Board wanted to know if ACRL could create a report showing how many students become regular members. Petrowski will check with ALA IT and ALA Membership to see how this report could be created.

**Motion:** ACRL Budget and Finance Chair Carolyn Henderson Allen moved that the ACRL Board of Directors approves the ACRL Budget and Finance Committee's recommendation for a \$5 student dues rate for an additional two years, for a total of five years (concludes 8/21/2022).

**Action:** The ACRL Board of Directors approved the ACRL Budget and Finance Committee's recommendation for a \$5 student dues rate for an additional two years, for a total of five years (concludes 8/21/2022).

### 22.2 FY21 Dues Increase #12.0, #24.0, #31.0

The Board was referred to the documents in the packet. The Board asked if ACRL communicates dues increases to membership. Dues increases are included in C&RL News action article, which is posted biannually. The Board also asked how ALA determines dues increases, and it was advised that their dues rate is based off of the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

**Motion:** ACRL Budget and Finance Chair Carolyn Henderson Allen moved that the ACRL Board of Directors approves the ACRL Budget and Finance Committee's recommendation to raise ACRL regular personal membership dues by two dollars (\$2.00) and retired membership rates by one dollar (\$1.00) as permitted by

*the 2019 HEPI. The FY19 HEPI reported a 2.4% increase. This increase permits increasing the ACRL personal dues rates for FY21 to:*

- 1. Personal members: \$70*
- 2. Retired members: \$45*

**Action:** *the ACRL Board of Directors approved the ACRL Budget and Finance Committee's recommendation to raise ACRL regular personal membership dues by two dollars (\$2.00) and retired membership rates by one dollar (\$1.00) as permitted by the 2019 HEPI. The FY19 HEPI reported a 2.4% increase. This increase permits increasing the ACRL personal dues rates for FY21 to:*

- 1. Personal members: \$70*
- 2. Retired members: \$45*

## 23.0 New Business (Munro)

### 23.1 SCOE Divisions Forum Debrief #18.0, #18.2

On Saturday, January 25, 2020, the ALA Steering Committee on Organizational Effectiveness (SCOE) held an open forum for ALA divisions. The Board expressed some concern about SCOE's timeline. The Board also wanted to know more about opportunities for engagement across the association.

The Board appreciated SCOE's new [Forward Together website](#), and expressed a desire for continued communication from SCOE to ALA members. It was recommended that communication from SCOE should address how and who will manage the financial implications of a plan, given ALA's financial issues. The Board wanted ALA leadership to provide more information on how to increase accountability and to prevent a cash flow issue in the future.

As SCOE has mainly focused on ALA structure, the ACRL Board discussed how divisions' structure should be reviewed. During the forum, it was recommended by some that divisions could review their structure and make recommendations. The Board expressed interest in reviewing ACRL's structure, but agreed it should wait until further instruction from SCOE is available for divisions. The Board agreed that ACRL should have a representative on the SCOE implementation group.

The ALA Executive Board has charged the ALA Constitution & Bylaws Committee and Committee on Organizations Analyses to review what areas of SCOE could be implemented without a membership vote. The Board noted that this could be perceived as a lack of transparency. A Board member noted that after attending the Forum, it was clear that there was a trust problem. A report from the committees is expected at the 2020 Spring ALA Executive Board meeting.

### 23.2 Budget scenarios (Munro)

The Board discussed how it should proceed with the FY21 budgets for ACRL and Choice, and agreed that it will wait to review the FY21 budget for strategic spending, until further instructions are provided by ALA.

### 23.3 Letter to ALA EB re finances

The Board discussed its communication plan regarding ALA finances. A joint Board and Budget and Finance Committee working group was formed to work on a response. It was agreed that a statement should be issued by the end of February. The Board discussed if it should create a joint statement with PLA or other ALA

divisions. The Board also discussed if a welcoming letter should be written for the incoming ALA Executive Director.

*Next steps: a joint working group (Karen Munro, Carolyn Allen, Jon Cawthorne, Erika Dowell, Brian Rennick, Kristen Totleben) will work on a draft message to share with ACRL members by the end of February. ACRL Executive Director Mary Ellen Davis will check to see if the PLA Board is interested in issuing a joint statement.*

#### 23.4 VP Luncheon (Cawthorne)

ACRL Vice-President Jon Cawthorne gave a brief report out on the ALA Divisions' VP luncheon. He shares that incoming ALA President Julius C. Jefferson Jr. is planning raise funds to hold a cross-county bus tour to promote discussions and raise awareness about equity, diversity and inclusion.

#### 25.0 Open Mic (Munro)

Former ACRL Budget and Finance Chair Theresa Byrd joined the meeting as a guest during Open Mic. Byrd shared that in December 2019, Ex Libris announced that it had acquired Innovative Interfaces. By adding Innovative, Ex Libris will grow its combined market share for academic libraries to 72%.<sup>1</sup> As mergers and acquisitions can cause prices to increase, Byrd asked the Board if ACRL would consider submitting comments to the FTC.

The Board expressed some concern about the implications of the acquisition, including that Ex Libris products are not compatible with competitors, such as EBSCO. There was also concern for states where Innovative was the preferred product, and what will happen if Ex Libris sunsets Innovative systems.

The Board shared that one open-source alternative is Open Folio, which is being developed by librarians at the Duke University, University of Chicago, and other leading institutions.

It was advised that the ALA Public Policy and Advocacy Office would want to partner with ARL if comments were submitted to the FTC.

The Board agreed that it would like to know if comments are currently being collected.

*Editor's note: Following the meeting, it was shared with the Board and Teresa Byrd that the FTC has requested a non-public investigation and comments from "market participants" are being collected. If public comments are collected at a later date, the Board will revisit this topic.*

#### 24.0 Board Meeting Evaluation (Munro)

Munro reminded the Board to complete the meeting evaluation following the meeting.

#### 26.0 Adjournment (Munro)

**Motion:** ACRL Director-at-large Jeanne Davidson moved that the ACRL Board of Directors adjourn the meeting at 5:36 p.m.

**Action:** The ACRL Board of Directors adjourned the meeting at 5:36 p.m.

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<sup>1</sup> Roger C. Schonfeld. Ithaka S+R. What Are the Larger Implications of Ex Libris Buying Innovative? December 5, 2019. <https://sr.ithaka.org/blog/what-are-the-larger-implications-of-ex-libris-buying-innovative/>