Government Relations Committee Meeting: 11/4/2019

*Attendees:*

Co-Chair: Amy Bush

Members: Alyssa Brissett, Melanie Kowalski, Erik Nordberg, Kevin Walker, Kim Copenhaver

Board Liaison: Jacquelyn Bryant

Staff Liaison: Kara Malenfant

Meeting called to order: 10:01 AM

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Review Committee Purpose

Reviewed Charge:

Work with the ACRL Board and staff to formulate the ACRL legislative agenda seeking input from other ACRL committees and leaders. Assists the ACRL Board in efforts to incorporate the ACRL legislative agenda into the ALA legislative agenda. Serves in an advisory role to the ACRL Government Relations Specialist.

1. Review committee Work Plan

This committee will draft and revise the Legislative Agenda to provide background information for ACRL Board, staff, and members, to advocate effectively around national legislative policy issues important to academic libraries and higher education.

Goal/objective - Enabling Programs and Services (education, advocacy, publications, or member engagement): The ACRL Legislative Agenda acts as a road map to support advocacy for legislation and policies which will positively impact higher education, enabling effective programs and services.

Timeline:

See Work Plan for detailed steps & deadlines to complete the Legislative Agenda. Agreed to move up the deadline for submitting the draft to our staff liaison, Kara Malenfant, by no later than February 1st. This will provide her time to share the draft with colleagues in DC and there feedback will be valuable for the final Legislative Agenda.

Agreed upon deadlines:

2/1/2020: Submit Draft Legislative Agenda to Kara Malenfant

4/1/2020: Submit Final Legislative Agenda

1. Review [2019 Legislative Agenda](http://www.ala.org/acrl/sites/ala.org.acrl/files/content/2019%20ACRL%20Legislative%20Agenda.pdf)

There were seven items on last year’s Legislative agenda with nothing on the Watch List.

Kara Malenfant will email examples of previous Legislative Agendas with Watch List items. Kara explained these are often issues important to research and college libraries, but may not have new legislation or may be issues unlikely to see movement for advocacy purposes.

1. Next Steps: To-Dos

Participants agreed to look into the following specified item on the 2019 Legislative Agenda for new legislation to decide (at our next meeting) which issues should be carried forward into 2020:

1. Federal Funding for Libraries - Alyssa Brissett
2. Net Neutrality – Kim Copenhaver
3. DACA/Immigration Issues – Amy Bush
4. FASTR – Melanie Kowalski
5. Education Committee Activities – Amy Bush
6. FDLP Modernization Act – Kevin Walker
7. Affordable College Textbook Act – Erik Nordberg

Participants will also look further into new legislation that affects college and research libraries.

At our next meeting, legislative updates will be given on assigned item and the floor will open to discuss new topics.

Amy Bush will set up the next meeting in approximately three weeks from now.

Meeting adjourned 10:32 AM

Minutes submitted by Amy Bush