

American Library Association (ALA) Midwinter Meeting 2016 Michigan Chapter Councilor's Report

ALA Council and Committee Reports

A complete list of Council documents from the conference can be found on the [ALA website](#), including Council and Committee reports. An [Implementation Report](#) of previous actions taken by ALA Council at ALA Annual Conference 2015 was presented. A complete list of Council actions will be posted to the [ALA website](#) once available.

ALA Executive Board and Council Elections

ALA Council held a Candidate Forum for those individuals running for seats on the ALA Executive Board. The ALA Executive Board is elected by a vote of the ALA Council. **Karen E. Downing**, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, was elected to the Executive Board for a three-year term. Voting for 2016 elections for ALA President, Treasurer, and Council Members, will open on March 15 and close on April 22. These positions are elected by the ALA membership. **Christine Lind Haig**, Rochester Hills Public Library, Michigan, is running for President of ALA. Forms to run as a petition candidate are due January 29, 2016. More information about petitions and the election can be found on the [ALA website](#).

Resolutions Approved

Council approved several resolutions brought forth at their various meetings. Resolutions included the following (as well as the next report item):

[Resolution Concerning Accessibility of ALA Conferences and Meetings for People with Disabilities](#)

[Resolution Against Islamophobia](#)

[Resolution on Replacing the Library of Congress Subject Heading "Illegal Aliens" with "Undocumented Immigrants"](#)

ALA Council Resolves to Support Advocacy Implementation Plan

“ . . . ALA Council adopted [Resolution Supporting the 2015 Advocacy Implementation Plan](#). This resolution encourages all divisions, round tables, state chapters, school affiliates, other affiliate organizations, and individual libraries and library staff to adopt the [Advocacy Implementation Plan](#) in order to move forward the advocacy goals and ensure the success of libraries and the profession across the nation; and urges cross division and organizational collaboration to galvanize the membership and advance the Advocacy Implementation Plan and Libraries Transform campaign through the power of collective impact.”

The Advocacy Implementation Plan was designed to support the [ALA Strategic Directions Plan](#), adopted by ALA Council June 28, 2015.

ALA Council Forums and Michigan SB571

The night before each of the three Council Meetings held at conference, a Council Forum was held to discuss forthcoming agenda items, resolutions, and other topics of interest. An additional Chapter Councilors Forum was also held so that each state sending a representative Council member, such as Michigan, can bring additional items of interest and information about their represented chapters. Among other topics, the [recently signed](#) Michigan legislation [SB571](#) was discussed. This is the new law that limits communications for local ballot issues in Michigan and which contains some questionable or confusing language that could affect libraries and the dissemination of information. Councilors expressed support for the Michigan library community. Councilors were told that ALA would be kept informed of any developments regarding the legislation and that MLA may call upon action from ALA at a later date if needed.

ALA-APA (Allied Professional Association) Report

ALA-APA is a companion organization of ALA created for the advancement of library employees. Members of ALA Council also constitute the ALA-APA Council. The complete report of the ALA-APA Executive Director can be found on the [ALA website](#). Highlights of the report included a summary of new e-courses for the [ALA-APA CPLA program](#) (Certified Public Library Administrator) and information on [National Library Workers Day and Equal Pay Day](#) coincide this year on April 12, 2016.

Report submitted by

Steven K. Bowers

ALA Chapter Councilor

Michigan Library Association

MLA Board of Directors