**ALA Councilor Report for Virginia Library Association, September 2023**

**ALA Council Documents are located here:** [**https://www.ala.org/aboutala/governance/council/documents**](https://www.ala.org/aboutala/governance/council/documents)

**Meetings Attended by ALA Councilor since last report**

       ALA Annual Conference, Chicago, June 2023

o   Chapter Leaders Forum, June 23, 2023, 9:00 – 4:00 PM

o   ALA Membership Meeting, June 24, 2023, 10:00 – 12:00 PM

o   ALA Council I, June 24, 2023, 2:30 – 5:00 PM

o   ALA Council II, June 25, 2023, 9:00 – 11:30 AM

o   ALA Council III, June 26, 2023, 9:00 – 11:30 AM

**Highlights:**

* Committee and Unit reports that were given can be found [here](https://www.ala.org/aboutala/virtual-llx-and-annual-conference-council-meetings).
* Discussion and vote to implement a voting tool that would allow ALA members to vote at meetings without pre-registration (currently required to register a week in advance, by observation about 50% of the room did not have voting access at that time)
* Voted (141 Y / 0 N) to approve the 2023 Edition of the American Library Association [Standards for Library Services for the Incarcerated and Detained](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1uSE_CWUdQRlxzNaXltwNmKazXgBoB1NZ/edit?oui%20d=115568894547945349540#heading=h.1fob9te).
* Discussion on how [Executive Board appointments are made](https://www.ala.org/aboutala/sites/ala.org.aboutala/files/content/ALA%20CD%2035%20Executive%20Board%20Appointments%20FAQ%20_%20June%202023.pdf) and who has ultimate authority; vote (115 Y / 28 N / 6 A) to refer to Policy Working Group and Bylaws Committee.
* Nominating Committee discussed a three-year transition plan for reaching the bylaws change of Council members.
* Council voted to reaffirm ALA’s position on the [Freedom to Read](https://www.ala.org/aboutala/sites/ala.org.aboutala/files/content/Resolution%20to%20Reaffirm%20ALA%E2%80%99s%20Position%20on%20the%20Freedom%20to%20Read.pdf). (148 Y / 1 N)
* Members are working on updating the Intellectual Freedom Manual and would like to hear from diverse voices to assist with rewrite. Contact [erinberman@aclibrary.org](mailto:erinberman@aclibrary.org)
* Voted on a [resolution on virtual participation](https://www.ala.org/aboutala/sites/ala.org.aboutala/files/content/ALA%20CD%2057%20Resolution%20on%20Guaranteeing%20Virtual%20Participation%20in%20ALA%20Governance_Revised_0.pdf) – referred to the Bylaws Committee (139 Y / 8 N / 1 A)
* Voted on [Resolution Condemning Discrimination Against Library Workers](https://www.ala.org/aboutala/sites/ala.org.aboutala/files/content/Resolution%20Condemning%20Discrimination%20Against%20Library%20Workers%20and%20Supporting%20the%20LGBTQIA%2B%20Community.pdf) and Supporting the LGBTQIA+ Community (145 Y / 2N / 2A)
* Discussion and resolution with the objection to the IFLA conference location in Dubai. Many felt strongly that it should be held in an area accessible to MENA (Middle Eastern and North African) librarians but many were concerned with the safety of LGBTQIA+ colleagues
  + - Included [amendment on amendment on amendment](https://www.ala.org/aboutala/sites/ala.org.aboutala/files/content/Resolution%20on%20the%20Selection%20of%20Dubai%20as%20the%20location%20for%20the%20IFLA%202024%20World%20Library%20and%20Information%20Congress%20%28WLIC%29.pdf) to include all considerations – esp. moving from Dubai but staying in the MENA region
    - Vote: 141 Y / 3 N / 5 A
* [Resolution to change dates of future ALA Conferences](https://www.ala.org/aboutala/sites/ala.org.aboutala/files/content/Resolution%20to%20Investigate%20Changing%20Dates%20for%20Future%20Annual%20Conferences%20of%20the%20American%20Library%20Association.pdf) – discussion regarding moving dates so librarians would be able to attend Pride festivities at home with family, however some prefer Pride at ALA. Also the consideration of Summer Reading with PLA, School library schedules, state chapter conferences... What would be a perfect time?
  + Vote: 136 Y / 11 N / 2 A –
    - Conference Committee will investigate and report back at ALA Annual 2024

ALA Conference final attendance numbers:

9,559 standard paid registrations, 15, 842 total

Other info:

The 2024 ALA Nomination period is open until September 30, now is your chance to be ALA President or Councilor-at-Large! <https://www.ala.org/aboutala/governance/alaelection>

*---Submitted by Kerri Copus, September 20, 2023*