

COUNCIL TELLERS REPORT
January 2020

The ALA Council Committee of Tellers for the election of three (3) ALA Executive Board members:

The first **THREE (3)** candidates receiving the highest number of votes will be elected to 3-year terms (2020-2023) and seated on the ALA Executive Board at the conclusion of the 2020 Annual Conference in Chicago. Their terms will end at the conclusion of the 2023 Annual Conference. The ALA Council Committee of Tellers received all ALA Council ballots cast for the election Monday, January 27, at 6:00 pm.

154 Ballots were returned.

0 Ballots were voided.

The following three candidates were elected:

- **Latrice Booker**
- **Alexandra Rivera**
- **Larry Neal**

Election results are attached.

ALA Council Tellers Committee:

kYmberly Keeton
Romelia Salinas
Andrew Wertheimer, Chair

ALA Executive Board Election

ALA Executive Board Member

Vote for 3

Latrice Booker	88	57.1 %
Alexandra Rivera	70	45.5 %
Larry Neal	66	42.9 %
Sara Dallas	49	31.8 %
Susan Jennings	45	29.2 %
Sandy Hirsh	45	29.2 %
Ann Ewbank	37	24.0 %
Eric Suess	26	16.9 %
Total Valid Votes:		154
Unexercised Votes:		0
Total Votes:		154

ALA Council I

Sunday, January 26, 2020; 9:00am-11:00am
Philadelphia Convention Center, Terrace IV Ballroom
Philadelphia, PA

Presiding Officer: Wanda Kay Brown, ALA President
Assisting Presiding Officer: Julius C. Jefferson Jr., ALA President-Elect
Secretary of Council: Mary W. Ghikas, ALA Executive Director
Parliamentarian: Eli Mina

Order of Business

	**Time Allowance
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CALL TO ORDER, Wanda Kay Brown, ALA President- Introductions and Announcements<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Introduction of the New ALA Executive Director- Establishing the Quorum (<i>75 Councilors constitute a quorum</i>)- Adoption of the Rules, ALA CD#5_ action item- Agenda Review, ALA CD#8.1_ action item	5 Mins.
<i>(New Items May be Introduced Here)</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MINUTES- Approval of the 2019 ALA Annual Conference Council Minutes Wanda Kay Brown, ALA President, ALA CD#2_ action item	1 Min
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reports of Officers:- Review of Executive Board Actions since the 2019 Annual Conference Mary W. Ghikas, Executive Director and Secretary, ALA CD#15-15.1- Implementation of the 2019 ALA Annual Conference Council Actions, Mary W. Ghikas, Executive Director and Secretary ALA CD#9	2 Mins 5 Mins
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reports of Special Committees:- Steering Committee on Organizational Effectiveness Lessa Pelayo-Lozada (SCOE, Chair) and Jim Meffert (Tecker International, LLC) ALA CD#35	30 Mins

****The estimated time allowance is for advisory purposes only. If additional time is needed for any item, it will be taken, subject to the wishes of Council.**

***** Bylaw Article III, Section 6(c) provide for nominations from the Council floor.**

****Time Allowance**

- **Reports of ALA/Council Committees:**

- **Nominations for the Council Executive Board Election** **5 Mins**
Julius C. Jefferson Jr., ALA President-Elect and
Chair, Committee on Committees, **ALA CD#11_ action item**
- **Appointment of the Tellers Committee for the** **1 Min.**
ALA Executive Board Election,
Wanda Kay Brown, ALA President, **ALA CD#11.1_inf**
- **ALA Awards Committee** **20 Mins**
Buenaventura B. Basco, Chair, **ALA CD#31_ action item**
- **ALA Resolutions Committee** **10 Mins**
Bill Sudduth, acting Chair, **ALA CD#10.1**

- **NEW BUSINESS**

- RESOLUTION Ensuring Intellectual Freedom and the Right to Peacefully** **10 Mins**
Assemble at ALA Conferences and Meetings, Tara Brady, SRRT Councilor
ALA CD#40_ action item

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mary W. Ghikas, ALA Executive Director and ALA Secretary of Council

ADJOURNMENT

Wanda Kay Brown, ALA President

****The estimated time allowance is for advisory purposes only. If additional time is needed for any item, it will be taken, subject to the wishes of Council.**

***** Bylaw Article III, Section 6(c) provide for nominations from the Council floor.**

Resolution in Opposition to Charging Prisoners to Read

Whereas, the Prisoners' Right to Read: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights declares that "equitable access to information should be provided for people with disabilities" and "The denial of intellectual freedom—the right to read, to write, and to think—diminishes the human spirit of those segregated from society" and

Whereas, the Access to Library Resources and Services document articulates the importance of providing access to resources to every member of the community, particularly in light of existing socioeconomic, racial/ethnic, and other inequities, many of which are exacerbated by the penal system, and

Whereas, people in West Virginia prisons will be charged 3-5 cents/minute to access "free" books on e-readers following similar for-profit programs that exist in New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio and other states, and

Whereas, these per-minute charges are particularly unfair to imprisoned people who are emergent readers or who have print disabilities like dyslexia or low vision, and

Whereas, these charges mean that the average cost of reading a single "free" book such as *1984* is close to \$20, while imprisoned people's wages, if any are paid, are less than \$1 per day, and

Whereas, these for-profit programs are provided access to prison space and resources, which could instead be used for libraries and the free services they provide, including services that promote increased access to higher education programs, which have been proven to help reduce recidivism,
now therefore be it

Resolved, that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. Condemns the existence of for-profit programs that charge incarcerated people for access to reading material, acknowledging such programs only serve to deepen existing inequities barring free access to information for all people.
2. Strongly encourages all library workers, particularly those in states with for-profit prison reading programs, to contact their state legislatures to express their concern over the denial of access to information these programs pose to incarcerated people.

Moved by: Michael A. Golrick, ASGCLA Division Councilor

Seconded by: Sherry Machones, ALA Wisconsin Chapter Councilor (and current ASGCLA President)

Aaron Dobbs, Councilor for Small Round Tables, AWDobbs@ship.edu

Alexandra Rivera, Councilor at Large, alexriv@umich.edu

Roberto Delgadillo, Councilor at Large, rdelgadillo@ucdavis.edu

Eric Suess, Councilor at Large, esuess@marshallpl.org

Kayla Kuni, Councilor At-Large, kkuni@mail.usf.edu

Louis Muñoz, Councilor-At-Large, louismunoz@yahoo.com

Audrey Barbakoff, Councilor-At-Large, albarbakoff@kcls.org

Jayne Blodgett, Colorado Chapter Councilor, Jayne.Blodgett@unco.edu

Christina Rodriques, New Members Round Table Councilor, rodriqum@oclc.org

Rivkah Sass, LLAMA Councilor, rsass@saclibrary.org

Anchalee (Joy) Panigabutra-Roberts, ALA Councilor at-Large, apanigab@utk.edu

Additional issues not specifically addressed in the wording of the resolution include:

Once security is threatened, everyone loses access to for-profit tablets, which happened in Colorado: <https://www.denverpost.com/2018/08/01/colorado-inmate-tablets/>.

At which point the ability to read is then in danger of being revoked for all if the tablets are the only way to access reading material.

Studies show that more than 60% of those incarcerated are functionally illiterate: <https://www.begintoread.com/research/literacystatistics.html>

Paying by the minute to read further penalizes and disincentivizes a skill that is directly linked to life success, especially relevant when recidivism nationwide is 68% within 3 years of release and 83% within 9 years <https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/18upr9yfup0514.pdf>

When these for-profit programs replace facility libraries or public library services to facilities, they limit access to the most needed materials, including:

- High-interest, low-literacy titles that appeal to and help readers improve their skills
- Current nonfiction on any topic, but particularly necessary ones like health, careers and skill development, religious texts, etc.
- Diverse books by non-white authors (and 56% of the incarcerated are African-American and Hispanic - <https://www.naacp.org/criminal-justice-fact-sheet/>)
- A strong variety of materials in languages other than English, particularly Spanish (the most common language after English - <http://critcrim.org/esl-in-corrections.htm>)
- Accessible options for the print-disabled

Tablets-only policies have been proposed very recently. Pennsylvania quickly reversed its decision, but only because of public pressure: <https://slate.com/technology/2018/09/pennsylvania-prisons-ban-book-donations-ebooks.html>

The profit making companies have no mechanisms to appeal censorship, and no reason to provide access to subjects that have even a hint of controversy (like LGBTQ+ information or popular but disputed genres like urban fiction). Having reading materials only accessible through a vendor is an intellectual freedom issue.

There is also no privacy for readers, because it's in the vendor's interest to provide any and all information that corrections officials ask for.

References removed at the request of the Resolutions Committee

<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/interpretations/prisonersrightoread>
<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/access>
<https://reason.com/2019/11/22/west-virginia-inmates-will-be-charged-by-the-minute-to-read-e-books-on-tablets/>
https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/incarcerated-pennsylvanians-now-have-to-pay-150-to-read-we-should-all-be-outraged/2018/10/11/51f548b8-cbd9-11e8-a85c-0bbe30c19e8f_story.html
<https://www.begintoread.com/research/literacystatistics.html>
<https://appalachianprisonbookproject.org/2019/11/20/how-much-does-it-cost-to-read-a-free-book-on-a-free-tablet/>
<http://harvardpolitics.com/covers/covers-spring-2015/stop-revolving-prison-doors-books/>



NJLA Statement on the proposed restructuring of ALA based upon the recommendations of the Steering Committee on Organizational Effectiveness (SCOE).

The New Jersey Library Association (NJLA) Executive Board has reviewed the recommendations from SCOE and is opposed to its acceptance. While we appreciate the considerable thought, significant work, and expense of the SCOE, and we think there are many excellent suggestions contained within its recommendations, we cannot agree with its central recommendation, the replacement of ALA's current governance structure of the ALA Council with a smaller and less diverse Executive Committee.

We believe that, while some of the recommendations have much to offer in terms of increased opportunities for membership engagement in the profession, on the whole they take a big step backwards in terms of opportunities for membership engagement in the governance (including policy setting) of the Association. We do not believe it is wise to vest governance and policy setting in the hands of a small Executive Board of whom 30% are not even elected by the membership.

We understand that the ALA Council can be cumbersome and messy as it debates issues of importance to the Association and the profession. But its size and vast representation are, in reality, its strength. Setting Association policy should, in our opinion, be a formal process with a role for more than 17 people (of which 5 are not elected by the membership). The issues ALA must speak on are complex and can impact various parts of our profession in different ways. As a chapter we are not comfortable with reassigning formal policy-setting and governance to such a small elite group. In fact, we believe that such a small group would, by its definition, be more inclined towards cliquishness and myopic thinking than our current structure.

Also, we are disappointed that the many expressions of this specific shared concern that were heard during the sessions held by SCOE at the Annual Conference were not even addressed in the most recently revised report. We strongly urge a more robust discussion of governance options as we believe that moving from a governance body of 175 members to one of 17 members has the potential to create an Association much more removed from its members' interests than our current structure. The structure proposed strikes us as more akin to decision making in a smoke-filled backroom than a structure that invites diverse debate. We believe the Association's best and most important policy stands have come about only through the robust debate that the current structure requires.

The recommendations for the creation of assemblies seems to us a positive way to create engagement and interaction among members, although we have some concerns about the 'silo' nature of the assemblies. Still, while offering much promise in member interaction and professional engagement, we do not see them as a replacement for the formal responsibility for governance that now rests with Council, nor as a replacement for the involvement of Chapters, Divisions, Sections and Roundtables in ALA governance through their Council representation.

Approved by the NJLA Executive Board January 21, 2020

New Jersey Library Association, PO Box 1534, Trenton, NJ 08607
(609) 394-8032

ALA Council III

Tuesday, January 28, 2020; 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Philadelphia Convention Center, Terrace IV Ballroom
Philadelphia, PA

Presiding Officer: Wanda Kay Brown, ALA President
Assisting Presiding Officer: Julius C. Jefferson, Jr., ALA President-Elect
Secretary of Council: Mary W. Ghikas, ALA Executive Director
Parliamentarian: Eli Mina

Order of Business

	**Time Allowance
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CALL TO ORDER, Wanda Kay Brown, ALA President<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Introductions and Announcements- Establishing the Quorum (<i>75 Councilors constitute a quorum</i>)- Agenda Review, ALA CD#8.3, revised 1-28-20 action item	5 Mins
<i>(New Items May be Introduced Here)</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MEMORIALS, TRIBUTES AND TESTIMONIALS Wanda Kay Brown, ALA President	10 Mins
MEMORIALS:	
Ellen Greenblatt, M-#1	
Willis Bernard "Bill" Lukenbill, M-#2	
Dr. Hilda L. Jay, M-#3	
Bill Ptacek, M-#4	
Carolyn A. Markuson, M-#5	
Learned T. (Dag) Bulman, M-#6	
Jennifer Ford Paustenbaugh, M-#7	
TRIBUTES:	
Resolution Recognizing the Florida Library Association's 100 th Anniversary, T-#1	
Resolution Honoring Dita Kraus, "The Librarian of Auschwitz", T-#2	

****Time Allowance**

- **REPORTS OF ALA/COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

- **ALA Executive Board Election Results** **5 Mins,**
Andrew Wertheimer, Chair, **CD#11.2_inf,**
- **Committee on Legislation** **10 Mins**
Rob Banks, Chair, **ALA CD #20-20.2**
- **International Relations Committee** **10 Mins**
Emily Drabinski, Chair, **ALA CD#18 and 18.1 action item**
- **Intellectual Freedom Committee** **10 Mins**
Julia M. Warga, Chair, **ALA CD #19-19.5 action item**
- **Joint Report from the COL, IRC, and the IFC on the** **10 Mins**
Resolution in Defense of the Free Speech of Supporters of the Movement
for Palestinian Rights Annual 2018-2019 ALA CD#49
Rob Banks (COL); Emily Drabinski (IRC) and Julia Warga (IFC)

- **Reports of Officers:**

- **FY2021 Programmatic Priorities** **5 Mins**
Maggie Farrell, ALA Treasurer, **ALA CD#13.1 action item**

- **New Business:**

- **ALA Financial Discussion** **30 Mins**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mary W. Ghikas, ALA Executive Director and ALA Secretary of Council **5 Mins**

ADJOURNMENT

Wanda Kay Brown, ALA President

**Resolution Ensuring Intellectual Freedom and the Right to Peacefully Assemble at ALA
Conferences and Meetings**

Whereas, ALA is widely known as a strong advocate for intellectual freedom and “intellectual freedom is a core value of the library profession, and a basic right in our democratic society.” (ALA Issues & Advocacy: Intellectual Freedom: Issues and Resources <http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom>);

Whereas, The Universal Right to Free Expression: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights states, “Freedom of expression is an inalienable human right and the foundation for self-government [and] Freedom of expression encompasses the freedoms of speech, press, religion, assembly, and association;” (<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/interpretations/universalright>);

Whereas, the establishment of any policies governing internal free speech and assembly during ALA conferences and meetings must uphold the values of intellectual freedom, free expression, and peaceful assembly;

Whereas, any policies restricting freedoms of expression during ALA conferences and meetings should be implemented only after wide consultation throughout the Association;

Whereas, the ALA Conference Services Office recently posted additional language in the “Statement on Appropriate Conduct at ALA Conferences” establishing a free speech zone called “The Square” during ALA conferences and meetings;

Whereas, the additional language about “The Square” had not been widely shared across ALA before being added to the “Statement on Appropriate Conduct at ALA Conferences;”

Whereas, the “Square” language was quickly removed due to membership opposition to such an abruptly imposed and restrictive policy;

Resolved, that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. requires that the ALA Council approve all internal restrictions to First Amendment rights at ALA Midwinter Meetings and ALA Annual Conferences proposed by all ALA offices, ALA committees, or other ALA bodies.

Mover: Tara Brady, SRRT Councilor

Seconder: Melissa Cardenas-Dow, ALA Councilor-at-Large

Version January 23, 2020

ALA Council II

Monday, January 27, 2020; 10:00am-12:00pm
Philadelphia Convention Center, Terrace IV Ballroom
Philadelphia, PA

Presiding Officer: Wanda Kay Brown, ALA President

Assisting Presiding Officer: Julius C. Jefferson Jr., ALA President-Elect

Secretary of Council: Mary W. Ghikas, ALA Executive Director

Parliamentarian: Eli Mina

Order of Business

****Time Allowance**

- **CALL TO ORDER**, Wanda Kay Brown, ALA President **5 Mins**
 - Introductions and Announcements
 - Establishing the Quorum (*75 Councilors constitute a quorum*)
 - Agenda Review, **ALA CD#8.2_ action item**

(New Items May be Introduced Here)

- **Reports of ALA/Council Committees:**
 - **Committee on Organization** **10 Mins**
James "Jim" Neal, Chair, **ALA CD#27-27.1 action item**
- **Reports of Special Committees:**
 - **Freedom to Read Foundation (FTRF)** **10 Mins**
Jim Neal, FTRF Board of Trustees, Treasurer, **ALA CD#22**
 - **Taskforce on Online Deliberation and Voting for ALA Council** **10 Mins**
Ed Sanchez, Chair, **ALA CD #37_ action item**

- **Time Allowance

- **NEW BUSINESS:**

Affiliate Request – Polish - American Librarians Association **10 Mins**
Julius C. Jefferson, Jr. ALA President-Elect, **ALA CD#39_ action item**

RESOLUTION in Opposition to Charging Prisoners to Read **5 Mins**
Michael Golrick, ASGCLA Division Councilor **ALA CD#41_ action item**

MOTION to, suspend the implementation of 2019-2020 CD#40-as amended **10 Mins**
until the end of the ALA Fiscal Year 2020
Michael Golrick, ASGCLA Division Councilor_ **action item**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mary W. Ghikas, ALA Executive Director and ALA Secretary of Council

ADJOURNMENT

Wanda Kay Brown, ALA President