

ALA Councilor
Annual Report to the Board
October 1, 2008

As ALA councilor representing the Kentucky Library Association, I attended council forums and council meetings for both ALA and ALA-APA. It is difficult to summarize the many issues that are brought to council and discussed so passionately by equally passionate librarians from across the United States. The issues that I stood out to me were as follows:

At Midwinter a resolution on “**Member Access to Electronic Lists of ALA**” was supported in principle by Council, but was eventually referred to the Task Force on Electronic Member Participation (TFOEMP) for clarification and further consultation on issues of privacy. The resolution was to be brought before the Council at Annual for a vote. At Annual, after much deliberation, it was deferred to MidWinter, 2009.

At Annual, **The Task Force on Electronic Member Participation (TFOEMP)** also reported on the committee’s work of the past six months examining the possible future of much wider and broader virtual participation in ALA at every level. The Task Force hopes to have firm recommendations drafted by about October 2008 so that they can be presented to Council at the January 2009 Mid Winter Meeting in Denver.

The ALA-APA Standing Committee on the Salaries and Status of Library Workers proposed a living wage resolution, which was approved by the ALA-APA Council. This resolution is non-binding and is intended to be useful as leverage for increasing the wages and salaries of library employees. The committee recognized that the salary endorsed in the resolution is more than adequate in some areas of the country and barely a living wage in other areas of the country. The two resolved sections are:

RESOLVED, that the American Library Association-Allied Professional Association endorses a minimum entry-level salary for professional librarians of \$41,680 that is adjusted annually according to the latest cost of living index/CPI data; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that in recognition of the skills and competencies required of all library workers, the American Library Association-Allied Professional Association endorses a minimum wage for all library workers of at least \$13.00 per hour, to be adjusted annually in relation to the Federal poverty guidelines.

It was noted that the Committee intended for the \$13.00 per hour rate to be applicable to all staff *except* for high school students.

The following resolutions were passed at Annual:

“**Resolution on Improving the Federal Depository Library Program and Public Access to Government Information**” was referred by Councilor Larry Romans to the Committee on Legislation for review and moved to Mid Winter.

“**Resolution on Support for Funding for Cataloging and Bibliographic Control at the Library of Congress**” by Councilors Diane Dates Casey and Janet Swan Hill was passed unanimously. It is hoped that LC management will not continue to leave

cataloging behind when it comes to funding and that this resolution will cause the LC administration to recognize that the larger library community recognizes the importance of bibliographic control.

Also passed overwhelmingly were “**Resolution Supporting the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA)**” and “**Resolution Concerning ALA Policy Opposing Sweatshop Labor**” (ALA and its bodies not purchase products for distribution to Membership that have been created by sweatshop labor).

I attended the following meetings:

MidWinter, 2008

Orientation for new councilors, January 12, 2008
 ALA Presidential Candidates’ Forum, January 12, 2008
 ALA Council/Executive Board/Membership Information, January 13, 2008
 ALA-APA Council Information Session, January 13, 2008
 ALA Council I, January 13, 2008
 ALA-APA Council, January 14, 2008
 Executive Board Candidates Forum, January 14, 2008
 ALA Council Forum, January 14, 2008
 ALA Council II, January 15, 2008
 Council Forum, January 15, 2008
 ALA Council III, January 16, 2008

- Items of Action for Midwinter, 2008 can be found at

<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/governance/council/actions/2008mwca.cfm>

- My voting record for Midwinter can be seen at

<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/governance/council/attendanceandvoting/votetally08MW.pdf>

Annual, 2008

ALA Council/Executive Board/Membership Information, June 28, 2008
 ALA-APA Information Session, June 28, 2008
 Membership Meeting #I, June 28, 2008
 ALA Council I, June 29, 2008
 Membership Meeting II, June 30, 2008
 ALA-APA Council, June 30, 2008
 ALA Council II, July 1, 2008
 ALA Council Forum, July 1, 2008
 ALA Council III, July 2, 2008

- Items of Action for Annual 2008 can be found at

<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/governance/council/actions/2008mwca.cfm>

- The voting records for Annual are not yet available.

My quarterly reports to the Kentucky Library Association discuss in more detail some of the actions taken at Council meetings.

In my second year as the Kentucky Chapter's ALA Councilor, I will attend MidWinter, 2009 in Denver, CO and Annual in Chicago.

I am honored to be serving as the ALA Councilor for Kentucky. I am open to your comments and suggestions regarding any items that are before ALA.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carolyn Tassie
ALA Councilor 2007-2010