

**Wyoming Chapter Councilor to ALA  
Report to the WLA Board of Directors  
February, 2014**

ALA's Midwinter Meeting was held January 24-28, 2014 in Philadelphia, PA. ALA's Council meets three times at each conference. I have included below a list of links to the various documents and information that are involved in Council. There's even an audio recording of each Council meeting if anyone is interested in hearing the actual discussions.

Council Actions [http://www.ala.org/aboutala/governance/council/council\\_actions](http://www.ala.org/aboutala/governance/council/council_actions)  
Council Agendas [http://www.ala.org/aboutala/governance/council/council\\_agendas](http://www.ala.org/aboutala/governance/council/council_agendas)  
Council Documents <http://www.ala.org/aboutala/governance/council/councildocuments>  
Council Recordings <http://www.ala.org/aboutala/governance/council/councilaudio>

Details of the following are attached:

- 1) A number of resolutions were discussed by Council in these sessions. Resolutions that were passed include:
  - a. *Resolution on Electronic Communications for ALA Council* (CD #34)
  - b. *Resolution to Improve Member Access to ALA Unit Governing Information* (CD #35).
- 2) Also passed was a new ALA Award, *The Lemony Snicket Prize for Noble Librarians Faced with Adversity* (CD #36)
- 3) The *Resolution to allow programs at American Library Association (ALA) Midwinter Meetings* (CD# 38) was sent to ALA's Budget Analysis & Review Committee for review before it is discussed by Council. This resolution seeks to change current ALA policy to allow programs (instead of discussion groups and other types of sessions) to happen at all Midwinter meetings. I welcome feedback on this issue, as it is likely to come up for discussion in the Council sessions held during the ALA Annual Conference June 26 – 30, 2014 in Las Vegas NV.

ALA has struggled with its budget over the last few years. Drops in income from publishing and the same issues libraries have been facing are the primary cause. Staffing in the ALA Office and ALA Washington Office were cut in the last few years. They are breaking even.

Memorial and Tribute resolutions were passed honoring Augusta "Gussie" Clark, Major Owens, Dr. Nasser Sharify, Dr. Bohdan Stephan Wynar and Giovanni's Room Bookstore and Owner Ed Hermance.

Also discussed was the *Resolution on Whistleblower Edward Snowden* (CD #37). This resolution did not pass.

Maggie Farrell, ALA Presidential candidate, campaigned for office while at ALA. Along with several of Maggie's colleagues from throughout the country, I assisted her at her campaign table. She spoke at an open candidate forum and also attended the Chapter Council Forum. She was articulate, intelligent and poised. Her opponent is a past president of PLA and is

currently co-chair of the Digital Content and Libraries Working Group that has made some headway with publishing companies regarding ebooks and libraries. Maggie is very well known and respected among academic librarians and has served as the ACRL ALA Councilor and is Chair of the ALA Legislative Committee Federal Depository Library Task Force. Both are highly qualified, but Maggie is a more dynamic speaker and would do a much better job of representing ALA to the outside world.

If there are questions about the information here, any of the emails that I have sent to the listserv, or about ALA and Council in general, please let me know! I can be reached via email at [ta.alacouncilor@gmail.com](mailto:ta.alacouncilor@gmail.com).

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carey D. Hartmann". The signature is written in black ink and has a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

Carey Hartmann  
Wyoming Library Association Chapter Councilor to ALA

**ALA CD# 34** Resolution on Electronic Communications for ALA Council, which read:  
*Resolved, that*

- 1) The ALA President shall appoint a task force of the Council to work with ALA HQ staff to
  - a. Examine and revise as needed the guidelines for the Council email lists and electronic communications,
  - b. Determine when various Council Documents should be available to the membership-at-large and the public-at-large,
  - c. Determine what options are available for sharing Council Documents and what are the capabilities, requirements, and consequences of each option,
  - d. Make recommendations to Council regarding which options(s) should be adopted,
  - e. Determine a schedule for re-examining these issues.
- 2) The task force shall prepare an interim report for Annual 2014.
- 3) The task force shall prepare a final report and recommendations for Midwinter 2015.

**ALA CD#35 (revised 1/26/14)** Resolution to Improve Member Access to ALA Unit Governing Information, which read:

*Resolved, the American Library Association (ALA)*

- 1) Adjust policy to include, “the governing bodies of ALA Divisions and Round Tables shall make drafts of their meeting minutes or other reports of actions taken available via the unit’s ALA-hosted web page within 30 days of the meeting;”
- 2) Adjust policy to include, “the governing bodies of ALA Divisions and Round Tables shall make final versions of meeting minutes or other reports of actions taken available via the unit’s ALA-hosted web page within 30 days of their approval;”
- 3) Require governing bodies to maintain an easily-available historical record of these meetings and action reports; and
- 4) Exempt sub-units of the divisions and sub-units of round tables from the policy.

## **ALA Award Proposal**

### **Name of Award: The Lemony Snicket Prize for Noble Librarians Faced With Adversity**

#### Definition, Purpose and Criteria:

It is of the opinion of Lemony Snicket, author, reader, and alleged malcontent, that librarians have suffered enough. Therefore he is establishing an annual prize honoring a librarian who has faced adversity with integrity and dignity intact. The prize will be a generous amount of cash from Mr. Snicket's disreputable gains, along with an odd, symbolic object from his private stash, and a certificate, which may or may not be suitable for framing. It is Mr. Snicket's hope, and the ALA's, that the Snicket Prize will remind readers everywhere of the joyous importance of librarians and the trouble that is all too frequently unleashed upon them.

#### Number and Frequency of Award

One award will be given annually to a librarian. If a suitable candidate is not found, the award will not be presented that year.

#### Selection of Jury to Administer the Award:

The award jury will consist of five people: a chair and four jury members. A staff member of the ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom will act as a non-voting liaison to the award jury. The members of the jury shall consist of ALA members with at least one member from any of the youth divisions (ALSC, AASL, YALSA) and at least one member from IFC or IFRT.

#### Deadline for Nomination of Candidates:

The deadline for the first year is May 1. Subsequent years will be December 1.

#### Screening of Candidates and Recommendations:

- 1) The nominee must be a librarian.
- 2) The following information must be addressed in the application:
  - a. A narrative describing the adverse incident the librarian faced and a description of their response, result, and resources utilized
  - b. Name and contact information of the nominee
  - c. Name and contact information of the nominator (if applicable)
  - d. Other supporting documentation (if applicable)
- 3) If the jury determines that no suitable candidate has been received, no award will be given.

#### Presentation of the Award:

The award will be presented during the Awards Reception at the ALA Annual Conference.

#### Form and/or Type of Award:

	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18
Cash award for honoree	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
Travel, hotel, air to conference	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Administrative costs	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000

Contact Person:

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Promotional plans:

ALA OIF will work with Lemony Snicket and his publisher, Little Brown, to promote the award and its recipient via press releases, social media, blog posts, and websites.

Evaluation:

The ALA Awards committee will evaluate the award after the third (3rd) year. Lemony Snicket will provide a check each year for the first 5 years if approved. After that, Mr. Snicket will fund an endowed award to be managed by the ALA/OIF—in an amount sufficient to provide at least \$5000 per year going forward.

**Resolution to allow programs at American Library Association (ALA) Midwinter Meetings. (currently under review to determine cost implications)**

- Whereas the purpose of Midwinter Meetings (A.7.4.11) states “The ALA Midwinter Meeting is convened for the primary purpose of expediting the business of the Association through sessions of its governing and administrative delegates serving on boards, committees, and Council. Programs designed for the continuing education and development of the fields of library service shall be reserved for Annual Conference except by specific authorization of the Executive Board acting under the provisions of the ALA Constitution. Hearings seeking membership reactions and provisions for observers and petitioners at meetings of Council, committees, and boards are to be publicized; programs of orientation or leadership development to Association business are encouraged; assemblies of groups of individuals for information sharing vital to the development of Association business shall be accepted as appropriate to the purpose of the Midwinter Meeting;”
- Whereas the nature of Midwinter Meetings has evolved as a consequence of virtual business meetings;
- Whereas Midwinter Meetings attract members from different geographical regions than Annual Meetings;
- Whereas the number of programs at ALA Annual Conferences is limited;
- Whereas the prohibition against conducting programs at Midwinter meetings has led to the use of discussion groups as an alternative;
- Whereas public librarians have difficulty claiming that participating in discussion groups is a part of their professional development; and
- Whereas all librarians face more difficulty getting credit for presenting at discussion groups rather than at programs: now therefore, be it

Resolved that the American Library Association (ALA) should:

- 1) Change policy A.7.4.11 to allow for programs designed for continuing education and development in the fields of library service.