

Committee Information Update (CIU)

Appendix I: Revised Form

COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

Committee Name: ALA Conference Committee

Conference Year: 2022023

Committee Chair: Jennifer Ferriss

Staff Liaison: Earla Jones

Committee Members: Keturah Cappadonia, Kathy Carroll (ALA Exec. Board), Lori Dekydtspotter, Matthew Johnson, Lauren Kehoe, Charles Kratz, Jamie Kurumaji, Ziba Perez, Shellie Rich, Jillian Rudes, Barry Trott, Patty Wong (ALA Board)

Date of meeting(s)	Meeting format (in person or virtual)	Number of members present	Guest Presenters, Speakers
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3. Create and promote a safe and educational in-person experience in Chicago for ALA Annual Conference

Describe interactions with other units within ALA: _____

Synthesis of activities (summarize discussions, decision(s) or motion(s) reached, and notes for action(s) required:

1. The Committee approved a Health Statement for ALA Annual to reduce the spread of COVID for in-person participants. Registrant agrees to follow all health and safety guidelines announced by ALA and/or the facility prior to and during the event. Registrant acknowledges and agrees that they are attending LibLearnX voluntarily and at their own risk, and release and waive any claim they might have against ALA, and its officers, directors, employees, and agents for any and all liability or responsibility for any illness, damages, or injury whatsoever that they may incur in connection with their attendance at LibLearnX, including, without limitation, as a result of exposure to COVID or the manner in which LibLearnX is conducted.

We agreed that Masking is highly recommended.

2. Carbon Neutral Conferences: The Resolution to Achieve Carbon Neutrality for ALA Conferences was passed by council in June 2021 and set a goal to achieve this by 2025. There has already been work done; since 2020 Midwinter, ALA has covered 50% of the carbon offsets as the part of business. Members have had the option to volunteer to offset at the time of registration, but this has yet to get us to 100% offsets.

We are asking for ALA to consider moving from 50% to 100%.

If the offset fee was rolled into registrations, it would probably be about \$10 per registration. A conference that produces 12 metric tons of carbon would cost \$120. A conference that produces 12 metric tons of carbon would cost \$120.

5. Programming juries: This year the ALA Program Jury was not at full capacity which resulted in myself and the Jury Chairs to take time to review several programs so that each submission had at least 3 reviews. ALA Affiliates and Round Table representatives typically make up the Jury which results in content experts evaluating proposals based on innovation and relevance, but the timing for ALA liaisons to get names does not always work with the timeline. Academic and School Librarians may not be working over the summer; August is typically a time of year for vacations or transitioning back to school. If we waited to begin the process in September/October, we would not be confirming programs until March or April. The ALA Conference Committee meets in November for 3-4 hours to determine the schedule for Annual so that registration can open in February.

Resolved, that the American Library Association (ALA):

1. revises the Code of Conduct for conferences and meetings to include harassment towards participants, including but not limited to members, staff, vendors and speakers online and via social media platforms as unacceptable behavior
2. urges conference and meeting participants to refrain from posting content online that might defame, negatively affect or otherwise cause harm to individuals or institutions.

If unable to achieve desired committee outcomes, what hampered the ability to achieve stated goals (lack of resources, member participation, communication issues, procedural delays, etc.?)

Priorities/recommendations for the upcoming year: Our priority for the upcoming year will be to evaluate the direction of digital offerings with conference.

Other comments/information you believe will help the Association in its work: _____

Submitted by: Jennifer Ferriss Date Submitted: 2/28/2023