

**Topic: Past Presidents' Lecture Funding Confirmation
Item # 2**

**YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
Conference Call
3:30 – 5:00 PM (Eastern) August 19, 2010**

Topic: Past Presidents' Lecture Funding Confirmation

Background: Over the past several weeks YALSA's first Past Presidents' Lecture Planning Committee has been working out details for the first ever lecture, which will take place at the 2011 Midwinter Meeting on Saturday Jan. 8th from 4:00 to 5:30PM. At the All Committee Meeting last month Joan Atkinson, the Committee Chair, asked Linda, her Board Liaison, if the Board would approve up to \$1,500 in funds to support the travel expenses for the speaker they have identified. Because this expenditure is not itemized in the latest YALSA budget, the Board needed to decide if this request for funds should move forward. After discussing the issue via ALA Connect in July, the Board voted to approve this one time expenditure. Including the item as a part of this meeting ensures it will be entered into the official record of the association.

Action Required: Consent

Proposal:

The Board would approve up to \$1,500 in funds to support the travel expenses for the speaker they have identified.

Rationale:

The Committee along with Linda's assistance has presented the following rationale for the Board to support their funding request for the 2011 lecture:

The lecture is something every member can benefit from, as the committee has agreed to record the audio of the lecture and post on YALSA's web site. In a time when many members are dealing with budget constraints, adding value to their membership by providing virtual as well as on-site opportunities to participate in Midwinter can build loyalty and help with member retention.

The lecture fits with YALSA's Strategic Plan:

- #5 Member Recruitment & Engagement: the lecture provides an avenue for past YALSA leaders to stay active in the association and by posting the audio online, access to the lecture can also serve as a benefit of membership
- #4 Continuous Learning: a lecture that provides an opportunity for in-depth exploration of a current topic in YA librarianship can help attendees and members stay up to date on key issues that inform their work

- #2 Research: The topic of the lecture will connect those who hear the speech to current research in areas related to teens and libraries.

While it is possible that YALSA could potentially save the funds or spend these same monies on another project (or projects) because this lecture supports several areas of the association's Strategic Plan, it is a strong candidate for our support.

As ALA moves to re-envision the Midwinter Meeting, offering a Past Presidents' Lecture helps position YALSA as a forward-thinking division by demonstrating that we are developing new ways to connect with members both during Midwinter and virtually.

Requested Action:

The Board approves up to \$1,500 to use to defray travel costs for the speaker for the 2011 Past Presidents' Lecture and directs the Executive Director to work with the committee on finding a funding source for future lectures.

Additional Information:

For background information on the Past Presidents' Lecture, please read the 2009 Annual Board document #16, which laid the groundwork for establishing this new program: <http://tinyurl.com/22lyozu>