YALSA Board of Directors Meeting ALA Midwinter Meeting, Seattle January 19-24, 2007

Topic: Proposed Guidelines for White Papers

Background: At the 2006 Annual Meeting the Board directed the Executive

Committee to create guidelines for YALSA white papers. A white paper typically argues a specific position or solution to a problem. They can be powerful advocacy tools which are used to help key decision-makers and influencers justify implementing solutions. ALA as well as some of its Divisions, such as AASL and ACRL,

create and issue these types of documents, as do other

organizations such as the IRA. Creating white papers may help the association meet its advocacy goal in its strategic plan, while at the same time providing its members and other library workers with a valuable resource to support the work that they do. The

proposed guidelines are presented below.

Action Required: Action

I. What Is a White Paper?

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III. How to Determine if a White Paper is Necessary and Feasible:

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IV. Who Should Write the White Paper?

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V. How Does the White Paper Get Published?

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