**ALA Councilor Report for Virginia Library Association, January 2024**

**ALA Council Documents are located here:** [**https://www.ala.org/aboutala/governance/council/documents**](https://www.ala.org/aboutala/governance/council/documents)

**I.**                    **Meetings Attended by ALA Councilor since last report**

* ALA Councilor training meeting on 1/11/24 – virtual
* ALA Membership Information session on 1/17/24 – virtual
* ALA Governance Institute on 1/19/24 – LibLearnX, Baltimore
* APA-ALA on 1/20/24 – LibLearnX, Baltimore
* Council I on 1/20/24 – LibLearnX, Baltimore
* Council II on 1/21/24 – LibLearnX, Baltimore

**II. Highlight of ALA News**

* Council I included:
  + - [Nominations of Executive Board,](https://www.ala.org/aboutala/sites/ala.org.aboutala/files/content/ALA%20CD%2011%20Nominations%20for%20the%20Council%20ALA%20Executive%20Board%20Election_LLX%202024.pdf) elections to be held in February.
    - Update in [ALA dues structure](https://www.ala.org/aboutala/sites/ala.org.aboutala/files/content/ALA%20CD%2039%20Membership%20Committee%20Report_LLX%202024.pdf) beginning FY 25. (Vote: 142 Y, 1N, 1A)
  + Council II included:
    - IRC (International Relations Committee) presented a [resolution](https://www.ala.org/aboutala/sites/ala.org.aboutala/files/content/ALA%20CD%2018%20International%20Relations%20Committee_LLX%202024.pdf) condemning the destruction of libraries and cultural institutions in Gaza. (Vote: 143 Y, 2 N, 3 A)
    - Policy Monitoring Committee present to amend the ALA Policy Manual to not require committees to submit their resolutions to the Resolutions Committee, but rather encourage committees to share resolutions with councilors before meetings via ALA Connect. (144Y, 2N, 3A)
    - Freedom to Read Foundation presented report – note students can join for free!
    - The Core Values Task Force presented [new core values](https://www.ala.org/aboutala/sites/ala.org.aboutala/files/content/ALA%20CD%2034%20Core%20Values%20Task%20Force%20Report_LLX%202024.pdf) – task force had been working on for two and a half years to update ALA’s [current](https://www.ala.org/advocacy/advocacy/intfreedom/corevalues) Core Values. (Vote: 144Y, 2N, 1A)
      * Access
      * Equity
      * Intellectual Freedom & Privacy
      * Public Good
      * Sustainability
    - The CVTF also recommended and was approved to assign working groups, task force, or committees to further define the five new core values.
    - A resolution calling for a ceasefire in Gaza was debated and eventually voted down. (Vote: 28 Y 114N)
  + Leslie Berger announced LibLearnX registration totaled 1,996

**III. Upcoming**

* ALA Virtual Executive Board Forum will be held February 1 at 3:00 pm
  + - Ballots will open after the conclusion of the Executive Board Candidates Forum on February 1, 2024 and close on Monday, February 5, 2024 at 9:00 am CT**.**Results will be shared on the ALA Council Connect.
* ALA Annual Conference will be held June 27–July 2, 2024 in San Diego, CA

**Submitted by Kerri Copus, January 24, 2024**