ALA’s Midwinter Meeting was held January 30 – February 3, 2015 in Chicago, IL. 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
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

A number of resolutions were discussed by Council in these sessions. The revised Standards for Accreditation of Master’s Programs in Library and Information Studies were accepted (CD #10_12315_act). Information about communication from ALA Committees and Council Committees and the lifespan of Membership Initiative Groups (MIGS) was added to the ALA Policy Manual as well as information about the new interpretation of the Code of Ethics (CD #17_act). Council also requested clarification from the Committee on Organization on the reappointment policy to the Budget Analysis & Review Committee (BARC).

One action that was subject to much discussion was the vote to present a Bylaws amendment to the ALA Membership on the spring 2015 ballot. The language is as follows:

Amend Article XII of the ALA Bylaws to state:

[Sturgis Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure] Robert’s Rules of Order, in the latest edition, shall govern the Association in all cases to which it can be applied and in which it is not inconsistent with the Constitution, the Bylaws, or special rules of order of the Association. (ALA Constitution and Bylaws Committee Report, ALA CD#25_2115_act)
Also adopted was the Resolution Urging Library Directors to Encourage and Support United for Libraries Memberships for Each of Their Trustees (CD #35 Revised), the Resolution Recognizing and Supporting United Nations, Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on its 70th Anniversary (CD #18.1_2215_act), the Resolution Denouncing Recent Assaults on the Freedom of Expression as Exemplified in the Attack on Charlie Hebdo (CD #19.1_2215_act), and the Resolution on Preserving Public Access to Scientific and Technical Reports Available through the National Technical Information Service (CD #20.1_2215_act).

The Resolution on the Destruction of Libraries and Schools in Gaza in 2014 (CD #32_Revised_2315_act) was defeated after extensive discussion.

Memorial resolutions were passed honoring Diane P. Monnier, Jean E. Lowrie, Roger C. Greer, Chris Olson, Ruth V. Bell, Ferol Ann Accola Foos, Miriam Drake, Lois Mai Chan, Judith Hopkins, Mary Woodley, Julia Claire Blixrud, Vivian Blache Cazayoux, Ernest A. DiMattia, Jr., John H. Hunter, Donald J. Sager, Leslie Feinberg, and Paul Kay Sybrowsky. Tribute resolutions were passed honoring Nathan Scott, The Ferguson Municipal Public Library, Linda H. Lord, Charles Wilt, and Tom Wheeler.

I have also passed along information received through the various ALA listservs to the TLA listserv.

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 tla.alacouncilor@gmail.com.

Respectfully submitted,

Courtney Fuson

Tennessee Chapter Councilor
**REFERRED**, ALA CD#27, Item#1, **Clarification of reappointment policy to the Budget Analysis & Review Committee (BARC)**, back to the Committee on Organization. The referred motion read:

“That Council approves the following revision of the composition description (changes in bold italics): The Budget Analysis & Review Committee (BARC) consists of nine members serving **no more than four (4) years on the committee in a lifetime. Treasurer terms do not count towards the four years of service.** The committee membership consists of the ALA Treasurer (ex-officio, voting), two members of the ALA Executive Board serving staggered two year terms, and six members appointed by the ALA President from the general membership, serving staggered four year terms. The chair of the 3 committee will always be one of the non-board members.” (Committee on Organization Report, ALA CD#27_2115_act)

**ADOPTED**, ALA CD#35 Revised, 2215_act, Resolution Urging Library Directors to Encourage and Support United for Libraries Memberships for Each of Their Trustees, which read: “That the American Library Association, on behalf of its members: urges all library directors to encourage and support United for Libraries memberships for each of their Trustees.”

**ADOPTED**, ALA CD#18.1_2215_act, Resolution Recognizing and Supporting United Nations, Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on its 70th Anniversary, which read: “That the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. recognizes UNESCO’s 70 years of achievement, as well as encourages its members to join in support of anniversary activities; and

2. continues to urge Congress to approve the national interest waiver so the United States can again pay its dues, and become a fully functioning member of UNESCO.” (International Relations Committee Report, ALA CD#18-18.1_2215_ac)

**ADOPTED**, ALA CD#19.1_2215_act, Resolution Denouncing Recent Assaults on the Freedom of Expression as Exemplified in the Attack on Charlie Hebdo, which read: “That the American Library Association, on behalf of its members:

1. denounces these bloody assaults on fundamental human rights;

2. expresses its deepest condolences to all those associated with the publication Charlie Hebdo and to the French people;

3. affirms its solidarity with L’Association des Bibliothécaires de France
4. reaffirms in the strongest possible terms its unwavering commitment to the advocacy and defense of intellectual freedom including freedom of the press, freedom of speech and freedom of expression; and

5. directs Keith Michael Fiels, Executive Director of the American Library Association to communicate its support and resolve to Francois Hollande, President of the French Republic for the people of France and to our colleagues of L’Association des Bibliothécaires de France. (, Intellectual Freedom Committee Report, ALA CD# 19-19.1_2215_act)

ADOPTED, ALA CD#20.1_2215_act, Resolution on Preserving Public Access to Scientific and Technical Reports Available through the National Technical Information Service, which read: “That the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. urges the United States Congress to fund the provision of digital reports held by the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) to federal agencies and the public at no charge through NTIS, as well as the preservation of NTIS’ print and microform collections so they will remain available for sale to the public on a cost-recovery basis; and

2. urges the United States Congress to ensure that a national repository is selected, statutorily charged, and funded to preserve and provide public access to these important scientific and technical reports if NTIS-enabling legislation is eliminated.” (Committee on Legislation Report, ALA CD#20-20.1_2215_act)

DEFEATED, ALA CD#32_Revised_2315_act, Resolution on the Destruction of Libraries and Schools in Gaza in 2014, which read: “That the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. deplores the destruction and damage of cultural institutions, including schools and libraries, in Gaza during the recent conflict there;

2. again calls for the protection of libraries and cultural resources in Gaza, and urges the US Government to support the United States Committee of the Blue Shield in upholding the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict”; and

3. calls upon the government of the United States, as well as other governments, intergovernmental organizations, and nongovernmental organizations to provide material assistance for the reconstruction and restoration of these libraries and schools.