

51
RUSA Bylaws Changes
2017

Brackets indicate [text to be deleted]. Underlined text indicates new text.

SPRING ELECTION 2017

BYLAWS AMENDMENT ITEM #1:

BYLAW AMENDMENT TO REMOVE THE MEMBERSHIP DUES AMOUNTS

ACTION: To amend the RUSA Bylaw Article III Section 2: DUES, RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES by removing the amounts of dues for personal, student, retired, inactive, non-salaried, and organizational members from the bylaws, and to give the RUSA Board the authority to determine dues amounts.

Current bylaws language:

Article III Membership

Section 2. DUES, RIGHTS, AND PRIVILEGES.

- a. Only personal members shall have the right to vote and hold office.
- b. Personal and organizational members shall receive the periodical publications of the Division.
- [c:
 - (1) The dues for personal members shall be \$60 paid annually.
 - (2) The dues for student personal members shall be \$25 per year.
 - (3) The dues for retired, inactive, or non-salaried members shall be 50% of the personal member rate.
 - (4) The dues for Organizational members shall be \$80 per year. Conditions of such membership shall be in accordance with ALA Bylaws, Article I, sections 1.A.4 and 2.A.4.]
- d. The dues schedule shall be reviewed at least every three years at the discretion of the Board of Directors.]

Proposed bylaws language:

Article III Membership

Section 2. DUES, RIGHTS, AND PRIVILEGES

- a. Only personal members shall have the right to vote and hold office.
- b. The amount of membership dues shall be determined by the RUSA Board of Directors.

BYLAW AMENDMENT ITEM # 2:

BYLAW AMENDMENT TO INLCUDE INTEREST GROUPS AS PART OF THE RUSA STRUCTURE

ACTION: New article, "Interest Groups".

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

N/A

PROPOSED LANGUAGE

Article [No.] Interest Groups

Sec. 1. Establishment.

- a. Any group of ten (10) or more members of RUSA, may petition the Board of Directors or their designee for the establishment of an interest group. The interest group petition shall include:
 - i. the name of the interest group.
 - ii. the name(s) and contact information of the interest group leader or co-leaders,
 - iii. a description of the focus area of the interest group,
 - iv. the names and emails of 10 of the founding members.
 - v. a brief statement describing how the Interest Group is relevant to the mission of RUSA.
- b. The interest group may be established by majority vote of the Board, once the requirements of Article XI, section 1, a, i-v of these bylaws have been met.

Sec. 2. Continuance and Dissolution.

- a. The Board of Directors or their designee may dissolve a Interest Group when in its opinion, the usefulness of the Interest Group has ceased.
- b. The Interest Group may dissolve at the request of the group leader(s) or if evidence indicates the group is no longer actively advancing the purpose of the Association.

BYLAW AMENDMENT ITEM #3:

BYLAW AMENDMENT TO REMOVE DISCUSSION GROUPS FROM THE STRUCTURE OF RUSA. THIS DOES NOT AFFECT DISCUSSION GROUPS AT THE SECTION LEVEL.

ACTION: To remove from the RUSA Bylaws, Article X Discussion Groups. This does not affect discussion groups at the section level.

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

Article X. Discussion Groups

Section 1. ESTABLISHMENT. Any group of 25 or more members of the Division interested in discussing common problems which fall within the purposes of the Division may form a

discussion group upon written petition from the group to the Organization and Planning Committee and upon approval by the Board of Directors or to an appropriate section within RUSA. The petition shall include the purpose of the group and the requirements for membership, if any. Petition signatures must be gathered during one meeting of the Division (either Annual Conference or Midwinter Meeting). In order to continue, each discussion group shall petition for reestablishment every five years, following the procedure outlined in this Section.

Section 2. MEMBERSHIP. Membership is open to members of the Division who are interested in the purpose of the group and who fulfill the requirements for membership as determined by the group.

Section 3. OFFICERS. Each group shall elect a chairperson annually at the Annual Conference of the American Library Association. The chairperson shall keep a roster of the members of the group, be responsible for all communication with them, preside at meetings of the group during the next year and make a report to the President of RUSA after each meeting.

Section 4. ACTIVITIES. A discussion group may:

- a. meet together to discuss common problems,
- b. establish a means of communication among its members,
- c. recommend action to the Board of the Division or to the executive committee of its parent section,
- d. incur no expenses except as authorized and make no declaration of policy.

Section 5. DISCONTINUANCE. Each group shall continue in existence until the group fails to gain the needed signatures for reestablishment as outlined in Section 1, above, or until it be dissolved by action of the Board of Directors.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

[Article X. Discussion Groups

Section 1. ESTABLISHMENT. Any group of 25 or more members of the Division interested in discussing common problems which fall within the purposes of the Division may form a discussion group upon written petition from the group to the Organization and Planning Committee and upon approval by the Board of Directors or to an appropriate section within RUSA. The petition shall include the purpose of the group and the requirements for membership, if any. Petition signatures must be gathered during one meeting of the Division (either Annual Conference or Midwinter Meeting). In order to continue, each discussion group shall petition for reestablishment every five years, following the procedure outlined in this Section.

Section 2. MEMBERSHIP. Membership is open to members of the Division who are interested in the purpose of the group and who fulfill the requirements for membership as determined by the group.

Section 3. OFFICERS. Each group shall elect a chairperson annually at the Annual Conference of the American Library Association. The chairperson shall keep a roster of the members of the

group, be responsible for all communication with them, preside at meetings of the group during the next year and make a report to the President of RUSA after each meeting.

Section 4. ACTIVITIES. A discussion group may:

- a. meet together to discuss common problems,
- b. establish a means of communication among its members,
- c. recommend action to the Board of the Division or to the executive committee of its parent section,
- d. incur no expenses except as authorized and make no declaration of policy.

Section 5. DISCONTINUANCE. Each group shall continue in existence until the group fails to gain the needed signatures for reestablishment as outlined in Section 1, above, or until it be dissolved by action of the Board of Directors.]

VOTE "YES" IN BOX 5 OR "NO" IN BOX 6

Brackets indicate [text to be deleted]. Underlined text indicates new text.

BYLAW AMENDMENT ITEM #4:

BYLAW AMENDMENT TO: (1) REDUCE THE SIZE OF THE BOARD AND DISBAND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN ORDER TO STREAMLINE DECISION MAKING AND INCREASE RESPONSE TIME TO THE NEEDS OF THE ASSOCIATION; (2) REMOVE REFERENCE TO RUSA ANNUAL MEETING WHICH IS NO LONGER A RUSA PROCEDURE; (3) REMOVE EDITORS OF DIVISIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS FROM LIST OF NONVOTING MEMBERS IN RESPONSE TO THE CHANGING NATURE OF PUBLICATIONS; (4) CREATE FLEXIBILITY FOR SECTION REPRESENTATION ON THE BOARD BEYOND THE CHIEF OFFICER.

ACTION: To amend the RUSA Bylaw Article IV Section 3 and Article IV Section 3c to remove reference to the Executive Committee. To amend the RUSA Bylaw Article V Section 1 to create flexibility for section representation on the board by changing "the chief officer of each section" to "a representative of each section"; remove reference to directors-at-large; and remove editors of divisional periodical publications from list of nonvoting members. To amend the RUSA Bylaws Article V by removing RUSA Bylaws Article V Section 4 Executive Committee.

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

Article IV. Officers and Duties

Section 3. DUTIES. Except as otherwise provided in the bylaws, the duties of the officers are such as provided in the parliamentary authority adopted by the division.

a. **PRESIDENT.** The President chairs meetings of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee as well as the annual membership meeting. The President may appoint members of a committee formed during his or her term of office and make appointments to fill vacancies which may occur during the term of office. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all Division committees, with the exception of the Nominating Committee, without the right to vote except in case of a tie. The President shall see that the bylaws are observed by the officers and members of the Board of Directors and that the orders of the Board of Directors and of the Division are carried out. The President will recommend to the Board of Directors and Division such actions as are deemed to be in the interest of the Division. The President shall perform such other duties as the Board of Directors may assign to the office.

b. **VICE-PRESIDENT.** The Vice-President makes committee assignments as defined in Article VIII, sec. 3a of these bylaws. He or she prepares the annual budget for approval by the Board of Directors and performs such other duties as the Board of Directors may assign to that office. The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the president in the absence of the president.

c. **SECRETARY.** The Secretary shall be responsible for the preparation of Executive Committee *and* Board minutes and shall carry out such other duties as may be designated by the president and the Board of Directors.

Article V. Board of Directors

Section 1. The Board of Directors of the Division shall consist of voting and nonvoting members. Voting members shall be the Division officers, the immediate past president of the Division, and a representative of each section. the chief officer of each section, six members elected at large from the Division membership for staggered three-year terms, and the ALA Councilor elected at large from the Division membership to a three-year term. The executive director shall be a nonvoting member. Nonvoting members shall be the executive director and the editors of the divisional periodical publications.

Section 4. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

a. The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers, the immediate past president, the councilor, and the executive director who shall serve without vote.

b. The Executive Committee shall take action necessary in the interest of the Division between meetings of the Board of Directors, shall perform such other duties as are specified by the Board, and shall report upon its work at the regular meetings of the Board.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE

Article IV. Officers and Duties

Section 3. DUTIES. Except as otherwise provided in the bylaws, the duties of the officers are such as provided in the parliamentary authority adopted by the division.

a. **PRESIDENT.** The President chairs meetings of the Board of Directors [and the Executive Committee as well as the annual membership meeting]. The President may appoint members of a committee formed during his or her term of office and make

appointments to fill vacancies which may occur during the term of office. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all Division committees, with the exception of the Nominating Committee, without the right to vote except in case of a tie. The President shall see that the bylaws are observed by the officers and members of the Board of Directors and that the orders of the Board of Directors and of the Division are carried out. The President will recommend to the Board of Directors and Division such actions as are deemed to be in the interest of the Division. The President shall perform such other duties as the Board of Directors may assign to the office.

b. VICE-PRESIDENT. The Vice-President makes committee assignments as defined in Article VIII, sec. 3a of these bylaws. He or she prepares the annual budget for approval by the Board of Directors and performs such other duties as the Board of Directors may assign to that office. The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the president in the absence of the president.

c. SECRETARY. The Secretary shall be responsible for the preparation of [Executive Committee and] Board minutes and shall carry out such other duties as may be designated by the president and the Board of Directors.

Article V. Board of Directors

Section 1. The Board of Directors of the Division shall consist of voting and nonvoting members. Voting members shall be the Division officers, the immediate past president of the Division, a representative of each section, [the chief officer of each section, six members elected at large from the Division membership for staggered three-year terms,] and the ALA Councilor elected at large from the Division membership to a three-year term. The executive director shall be a nonvoting member. [Nonvoting members shall be the executive director and the editors of the divisional periodical publications].

[Section 4. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

a. The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers, the immediate past president, the councilor, and the executive director who shall serve without vote.

b. The Executive Committee shall take action necessary in the interest of the Division between meetings of the Board of Directors, shall perform such other duties as are specified by the Board, and shall report upon its work at the regular meetings of the Board.]