

# 2022 Constitution & Bylaws Amendments Explainer

## **Constitution Amendment**

Previously the Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect was the Conference Chair (in practice, the President ran the conference). Now that we have a separate Conference Chair position, we are adding that position as a non-voting member of the Executive Board. The conference is a year-round planning activity and a significant part of the annual budget. The other amendment is to update the title now that the parliamentarian is also the Administrative Services Liaison.

## **Bylaws Amendments**

### **ARTICLE II. Nomination and Election of Officers**

#### Section 1. Nominations

These amendments allow for more than two nominees per position, update the bylaws to reflect practice on candidate slate announcements, and address how to handle candidate withdrawals.

#### Section 2. Elections.

The section changes election by a majority to election by plurality. If more than two candidates are on a slate, the winner will be the one with the most votes. 50% will not be required. This will avoid the need for run-off elections.

#### Section 4. Divisions, Sections, and Interest Groups.

This section states that these groups hold elections in conjunction with the annual elections. It will override contrary provisions in any group's bylaws and bring all elections into the same calendar and procedure.

#### Section 5.

Election details and procedures are in the GLA Handbook and can guide future Nominations & Elections committees, Divisions, Sections, and Interest Groups.

### **ARTICLE IV. Duties of Officers and Association Board**

#### Section 1. Officers

- a. The President appoints Vice/Chairs – to create continuity in Committees – the Chairs should come into office having been Vice-Chair for a year; the President is no longer Co-Chair of the Conference Committee (updating to reflect current practice)
- b. Updating to reflect current practice.
- c. - g. updating to reflect current practice.

### **ARTICLE V. Committees**

## Section 1. Standing Committees.

“Appointment by President” language struck here because detailed below.

The Advocacy Committee is merging with Georgia Library Friends and Trustees Group to form the Advocacy Division in line with the Strategic Plan - <https://gla.georgialibraries.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/gla-strategic-plan-2022-2027.pdf>. A future amendment is expected to complete that process.

## Section 2. Committee Membership

The changes in this section describe which committees use all volunteers, which committees do not need volunteers, and which are comprised of appointed members.

## Section 3. Terms of Office

The updates in this section remove the list of committees where non-appointed committee members may serve more than two consecutive terms.

# **ARTICLE VII. Expenditures**

## Section 1. Budget Committee

The amendments simplify the committee charge. The committee membership is described in Article V and does not need to be repeated here.

# Shall the GLA Constitution & Bylaws be amended as follows?

## GLA Constitution & Bylaws Amendments 2022

### Constitution Amendment

#### ARTICLE V. Officers, the Association Board, and the Executive Committee

##### Section 2. Association Board

The elected officers of the Association, the chair of each division of the Association, the chair and vice-chair of the Interest Group Council, the ALA councilor, and the SELA Representative are voting members of the Association Board.

The immediate past president, the chair of the Handbook Committee, the chair of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, **the chair of the Conference Committee**, a representative from the Carterette Webinar Team, the **Administrative Services Liaison/Parliamentarian**, the Advisor to the President, and the editor of the official organ of the Association are non-voting members of the Association Board.

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### Bylaws Amendments

#### ARTICLE II. Nomination and Election of Officers

##### Section 1. Nominations

The Nominations and Elections Committee is composed of a Chair or Co-Chairs and as many as four other members, ideally representing public libraries, school media centers, college and university libraries, and special libraries. Pursuant to guidelines approved by the Association Board, the Nominations and Elections Committee shall prepare a slate of candidates for each office for presentation to the membership. **Not more than At least** two names ~~may~~ **will** be submitted by the Committee for each office on the slate, specified in **Constitution** Article V. See also **Constitution** Article VI regarding ALA Councilor and **Constitution** Article VII regarding the SELA Representative. The Committee's slate of candidates shall be published annually in the official organ, and/or ~~through a direct mailing to membership~~ **through posting to the association listserv or website**. Additional nominees may be submitted to the Nominations and Elections Committee via petitions containing a minimum of 10 percent of the membership if submitted by August 10, following the publication of the slate. **If a nominee withdraws prior to August 10, the nominations committee may offer another candidate in their place. The new candidate will be announced to the membership via email and the website. The election can run with one candidate if the Nomination and Election committee is unable to find an alternative candidate.**

##### Section 2. Election

- a. Election ballots shall be made available to the membership by September 1.
- b. A **majority plurality** of the votes cast by September 20 shall constitute an election for each office.

#### **Section 4. Divisions, Sections, and Interest Groups**

Divisions, Sections, and Interest Groups will hold elections in conjunction with the annual elections.

#### **Section 5. Nominations and Election Procedures**

The full procedures, calendar, and details for GLA nominations and elections shall be maintained in the GLA Handbook.

### **ARTICLE IV. Duties of Officers and Association Board**

#### Section 1. Officers

- a. The duties of the President shall be such as are implied by the title, except as modified by the Bylaws. The President shall serve as Chair of the Budget Committee, ~~as Co-Chair of the Conference Committee~~ and as an Ex-officio member of all other committees except the Nomination and Elections Committee. **With the approval of the Executive Board, the President shall appoint a new Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect for committees that do not have a method established elsewhere in the Bylaws for selecting a chair and shall also appoint members of the Nominations and Elections Committee.**
- b. The Vice-President/President-Elect shall assume the duties of the President in his or her absence. **The Vice President/President Elect shall serve as a member of the Budget Committee. and shall serve as Co-Chair of the Conference Committee.**
- c. The Vice-President for Membership shall assume the duties of the Vice-President/President-Elect in his or her absence and serve as Chair of the Membership Committee.
- d. The Vice-President for Marketing and Branding shall ~~oversee the work of~~ **serve as chair of** the Marketing and Branding Committee **and oversee the work of** the Webmaster, and other out-facing aspects of the Association focusing on the public image of the Association.
- e. The Secretary shall take minutes of all sessions of the Association and all Association Board Meetings. **The Secretary serves as a member of the Records Committee.**
- f. The Treasurer shall handle the Association's funds, keeping itemized records of receipts and expenditures. **The Treasurer shall serve as a member of the Budget Committee. The Treasurer shall serve on the Conference Committee and serve as the Treasurer of the Conference.** They shall pay accounts due after the annual conference, turning over the unexpended balance to the incoming Treasurer.
- g. **Duties of officers are further explicated in the GLA Handbook.**

### **ARTICLE V. Committees**

#### Section 1. Standing Committees

Standing committees perform ongoing functions designed to carry out the business of the Association and undertake specific charges by the Executive Board of the Association.

There shall be the following standing committees. ~~appointed by the President with the approval of the Association Board~~. The Executive Board may discontinue any standing committee, subject to approval by the membership. (Constitution Article X Section 2).

~~Advocacy Committee~~

- Awards Committee
- Budget Committee
- Conference Committee
- Constitution and Bylaws Committee
- Georgia Student Media Festival Committee
- Handbook Committee
- Membership Committee
- Nominations & Elections Committee
- Marketing & Branding Committee
- Records Committee
- Scholarship Committee

A new Standing Committee may be proposed by the Executive Board, subject to the approval of the membership. (Constitution Article X Section 2).

Section 2. ~~Appointment Committee Membership~~

~~The President shall appoint a new Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect each year for committees that do not have a method established elsewhere in the Bylaws or Handbook for selecting a chair. The President shall also appoint members for all committees, with the exception of the Conference Committee. The Chairs of the Advocacy, Georgia Student Media Festival, Membership, Marketing & Branding, and Scholarship may allow volunteers in addition to the members appointed by the President.~~

~~Committee membership shall be established in a variety of ways as defined in this section of the Bylaws.~~

~~Non-appointed members or volunteers make up the membership of the following committees. If additional members are needed, they may be appointed by the Chair of the Committee.~~

- ~~Awards Committee~~
- ~~Georgia Student Media Festival Committee~~
- ~~Membership Committee~~
- ~~Marketing & Branding Committee~~
- ~~Scholarship Committee~~

~~Chairs of the following Committees will appoint members as needed:~~

- ~~Constitution and Bylaws Committee~~
- ~~Handbook Committee~~

Membership of the following committees is as specified below.

#### **Budget Committee**

The Budget Committee is chaired by the President. Membership of the Budget Committee consists of the Vice President/President Elect, the Past President, and the Treasurer. The President may appoint additional members to the Budget Committee as needed.

#### **Section 4: Conference Committee**

~~The committee chair is appointed by the President and serves a three-year term.~~ The Association's Treasurer shall serve as a member of the Conference Committee, taking on the role of treasurer of the conference. The Conference Committee shall include **additional volunteers from the membership.** ~~Members of the Conference Committee shall be appointed for a three-year term and may be reappointed.~~ The chair may solicit the help of additional volunteers as needed.

#### **Nominations and Elections Committee**

Members of the Nominations and Elections Committee are appointed by the President ideally representing all divisions of the Association and reflecting the diversity of the Association's membership.

#### **Records Committee**

The Records Committee is chaired by the GLA Archivist. The GLA Secretary serves as a member of the Records Committee. Additional members may be appointed by the chair of the Records Committee as needed.

### Section 3. Terms of Office

The Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect of a committee is appointed for a two-year term serving one year as vice-chair and one year as chair. With the exception of the Conference Committee, all other appointed members of standing committees shall serve during the year for which they are appointed. They may be reappointed for a second term, but not for a third consecutive term. Non-appointed members ~~working on the Advocacy, Georgia Student Media Festival, Membership, Marketing & Branding, and Scholarship Committees~~ may volunteer for an indefinite term.

### Section ~~5~~ 4. Special Committees

The President may at any time appoint other committees as needed for any special work of the Association. A special committee shall normally be dissolved following the completion of the assignment or conclusion of the term of the appointing President but may be continued at the pleasure of the incoming President and Executive Board.

## **ARTICLE VII. Expenditures**

### Section 1. Budget Committee

~~A The Budget Committee (see Article V) will prepare the annual budget, which chaired by the President shall be appointed at the time of the change of officers by the President from the membership subject to the approval of the Board, to prepare the annual budget. The Treasurer shall be one of the appointed members. The budget shall be submitted to the Association Board for approval.~~