

**American Library Association
Information Technology Advisory Committee Report to Council
Annual Conference 2025— Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

Recent work by the Information Technology Advisory Committee

The Information Technology and Advisory Committee (ITAC) is a technology focused committee with broad-based representation from divisional and roundtable committees. The committee serves in an advisory capacity to the ALA Information Technology team as well as to the Association.

ITAC has met three times virtually since the last ALA Annual meeting. The work of the committee has focused upon the creation of an Artificial Intelligence and ALA Values Vision Statement that can be used to jump-start discussion and be used as the basis for a unified, critically informed, cross-divisional Working Group Position Paper on AI in libraries, for Council consideration.

The second issue the committee is working on regards the role of Artificial Intelligence in ALA committee meetings e.g. use of AI transcription of meetings. Our work on this issue is ongoing and will take us into next year.

We will be proposing one action item related to that statement. The Artificial Intelligence and ALA Core Values statement is as follows:

Artificial Intelligence and ALA Core Values

Artificial Intelligence will bring previously unimagined social, philosophical and environmental questions and challenges. As library and information professionals, we recognize the perils and promise of this time and technology, as well as the necessity of the American Library Association to lead the way on advocating for a humanistic philosophy, based in our core values, to inform our use of AI now and over time as it continues to develop. Therefore, **ALA advocates that Artificial Intelligence (AI) be used in accord with our Core Values.**

AI & Access

ALA advocates for library workers to provide tools and instruction on AI in ways that advance the positive growth and development of their communities. ALA advocates for the use of AI in a humanistic manner to enable communities to freely access reliable information for learning, growth, empowerment, and to further their continued AI information literacy.

AI & Equity

ALA advocates for the continued closure of the digital divide with regard to accessing AI products. ALA advocates that AI be used in ways that enhance how library workers identify, evaluate, advocate, and address systemic barriers, informational biases, digital literacy and inequalities in their communities.

AI & Intellectual Freedom and Privacy

ALA advocates that AI use is used in a conscientious manner that includes critical digital literacy; that AI is not used to infringe on intellectual property, nor used without a critical viewpoint or as a replacement for accessing information from diverse viewpoints. Rather, ALA advocates that AI use is done in conjunction with other modes of learning and creation to cultivate curiosity and idea formation. All use must be done in a way that protects intellectual freedom and privacy, while respecting the dignity of individuals and groups.

AI & Public Good

ALA advocates for digital inclusion and equitable access to AI technologies to enable communities to develop AI literacy and skills to fully participate in the digital age. Libraries are integral to this process through their public good of promoting education, literacy, and lifelong learning.

AI & Sustainability

Recognizing their ecologically intensive environmental footprint, ALA advocates for energy-efficient AI computing systems to help AI technologies deliver long-term value. Libraries will use AI responsibly in support of sustainable communities and promote equitable access to the benefits of AI, especially for underserved communities.

ACTION ITEM #1—Resolution Proposing an Artificial Intelligence Cross-Divisional Working Group

Whereas artificial intelligence is a vital emerging and recognized aspect of contemporary librarianship;

Whereas ALA is committed to promoting and maintaining the humanistic use of Artificial Intelligence throughout the United States of America;

Whereas the use and integration of Artificial Intelligence in American libraries is currently underway;

Whereas the continued evolution of Artificial Intelligence will become an integral part of many aspects of library operations;

Whereas ALA and American Libraries are stewards of the core ALA values of Access, Equity, Intellectual Freedom and Privacy, Sustainability; and

Whereas the optimal use of Artificial Intelligence is in keeping with the humanistic core values of the American Library Association; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. create a cross-divisional working group, charged with developing a unified, critically-informed ALA position on AI in libraries for Council consideration no later than the Annual 2026 conference. The working group will include representation from these bodies: Executive Board, ITAC, Core, ACRL, Council, RUSA and any others that will contribute to the execution of its charge.
2. refer the attached draft Vision Statement on Artificial Intelligence and Core Values to the cross-divisional working group as a starting point for review and discussion.

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Respectfully submitted,

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