

ALA Councilor Report-6 December 2, 2005

During the past few months I have been actively involved in the Council listserv and discussion. The Council has spent a great deal of time talking about various issues related to censorship, professional ethics and standards, and library education. One of the most hotly debated issues has been a proposed dues increase for members. This would be the first increase in a number of years and would serve to support some of the current and ongoing initiatives of the organization. However, after reviewing the information provided by ALA and listening to the input of all the NDLA members I find that I cannot support the proposed increase at this time. So far the executive leadership of ALA has been unable to provide me with a list of cutbacks or cost savings that they have affected to this point. Therefore unless additional information becomes available I will be voting no when the issue comes before the Council. Please note that if the increase is approved by the Council it will still require a vote of the membership before it can go into effect.

In other matters, at the request of the President-Elect I contacted Leslie Burger (ALA President-Elect) to see if she would be interested in attending and speaking to our Centennial Conference in Fargo. Unfortunately Leslie had already been contacted by the Georgia Library Association which is meeting at the same time as NDLA. Therefore she will not be able to attend NDLA. I am continuing to search for someone of a high profile from ALA to attend our conference and will keep you all posted on my efforts. I will be attending the Midwinter Conference in San Antonio from January 20-25 and will provide a full report at the March Executive Board meeting, that's all for now.