

by elwags 11 months ago

#critlib + the future of ALA

Discussion questions: Q1. What's your ALA story? How do you feel about ALA and how has your journey caused those feelings? Q2. Do you feel participation in ALA is a/an (explicit or implicit) requirement for library professionals? Should it be? Q3. How could ALA be made more valuable for non-MLIS-holding library workers? Q4. What would you like to see ALA do that it's not doing now?



Violet Fox
@violetbfox

Join [@MaxRenewals](#) & [@bembrarian](#) & me for [#critlib](#) chat on the future of ALA this Tuesday 9pm Eastern/6pm Pacific. critlib.org/future-of-ala/



11 MONTHS AGO



Violet Fox
@violetbfox

We'd love to hear from library workers in public, school, special, or academic libraries during this chat! [#LIS](#) students welcome! [#critlib twitter.com/violetbfox/sta...](https://twitter.com/violetbfox/sta...)



11 MONTHS AGO



Jenna Freedman
@zinelib

On my calendar! This [#critlib](#) about [@ALALibrary](#) is a do-not-miss! twitter.com/violetbfox/sta...



11 MONTHS AGO

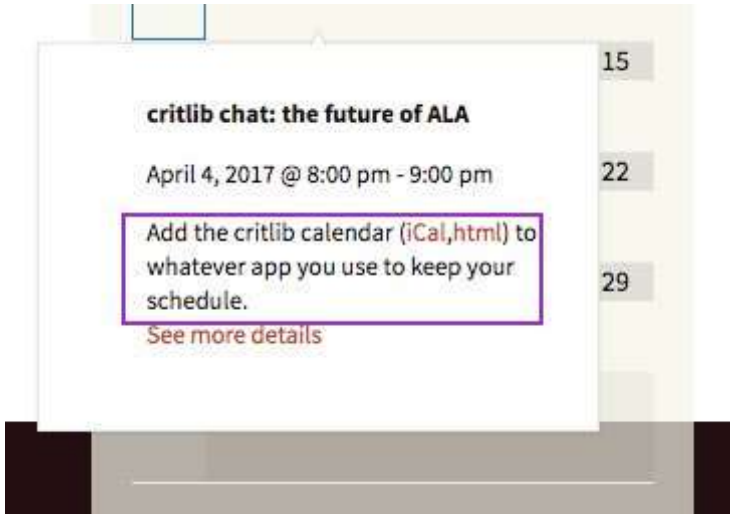


Helene Williams
@bibliorogue


Join [@UW_iSchool](#) [#MLIS](#) grads in this [#critlib](#) chat! I'm hoping to be there! twitter.com/violetbfox/sta...



11 MONTHS AGO




Ooh! [#critlib](#) calendar! Thank you! calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/... [iCal, which Outlook happily added] pic.twitter.com/xVglmsef5i

 FRANNY GAEDE @MFGAEDE · 11 MONTHS AGO


 **Greg Bem** 
@bembrarian

An upcoming conversation about the past, present, future of librarians in association and disassociation. [#critlib](https://twitter.com/violetbfox/sta...) twitter.com/violetbfox/sta...

 11 MONTHS AGO

 **Eamon Tewell**
@EamonTewell


[#critlib](#) chat about [@ALALibrary](#) tonight, 9pm eastern (and if you're a member don't forget to vote in the elections!) critlib.org/future-of-ala/

 11 MONTHS AGO


 **Kevin Seeber**
@kevinseeber

Join me for [#critlib](#) in an hour? Topic is The Future of ALA, which should appeal to library folks of all types. critlib.org/future-of-ala/

 11 MONTHS AGO

 **Violet Fox**
@violetbfox

If we've got any folks joining us for tonight's [#critlib](#) who are brand new to Twitter chats, here's a brief how-to: critlib.org/twitter-chats/

 11 MONTHS AGO



Violet Fox
@violetbfox

Welcome to tonight's [#critlib](#) chat about the future of the American Library Association (ALA)! Find questions at critlib.org/future-of-ala/

11 MONTHS AGO



Violet Fox
@violetbfox

I'm delighted to co-moderate with fellow [@UW_iSchool](#) grads [@bembrarian](#) & [@MaxRenewals](#). They'll be posting tonight's [#critlib](#) questions.

11 MONTHS AGO



Violet Fox
@violetbfox

[.@UW_iSchool](#) [@bembrarian](#) [@MaxRenewals](#) The questions we've come up with are just starting points, we're interested to see where the conversation will take us! [#critlib](#)

11 MONTHS AGO



Violet Fox
@violetbfox

[.@UW_iSchool](#) [@bembrarian](#) [@MaxRenewals](#) If you'd like to post anonymously to tonight's [#critlib](#) chat, you can use [@metageeky](#)'s relay, available here: script.google.com/macros/s/AKfyc...

11 MONTHS AGO



Violet Fox
@violetbfox

[.@UW_iSchool](#) [@bembrarian](#) [@MaxRenewals](#) [@metageeky](#) Let's get started: please introduce yourself! If you're ordinarily a lurker, we'd love to hear from you tonight. [#critlib](#)

11 MONTHS AGO



Greg Bem
@bembrarian

So happy to be here! [#critlib](#) twitter.com/violetbfox/sta...

11 MONTHS AGO



Kate Deibel
@metageeky

Hi [#critlib](#). I'm Kate, a lib techie from the University of Washington Libraries.

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kevin Seeber
@kevinseeber

Hi [#critlib](#) friends! I'm Kevin, an academic instruction librarian in snowy Denver, CO. ALA member since 2009.

 11 MONTHS AGO




Helene Williams
@bibliorogue

Hi! Faculty [@UW_iSchool](#) and long, long, longtime academic librarian [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO

This is Jenna in Brooklyn, NY. I haven't [#critlib](#)-bed in a while. Thanks to the mods for a super compelling topic! pic.twitter.com/jC38IEJ0Fj

 JENNA FREEDMAN @ZINELIB · 11 MONTHS AGO



Violet Fox
@violetbfox

I'm a cataloger with a heart of gold at small academic library in the middle of Minnesota. 😊
Excited for a great discussion! #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



UserHasTooManyHolds!
@radicallibrarian

Hey #critlib! Youth Services consultant from Austin, TX!

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kenny Garcia
@kennygarciamlis

Hi, Kenny, academic librarian in Central Coast, California. Child caring so may lurk tonight.
#critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Diana Moronta
@DianaMoronta

Hi #critlib, recent grad from NYC and library assistant at Columbia U.

 11 MONTHS AGO



Nancy Foasberg
@nfoasberg

I'm an academic librarian from New York, trying to #critlib on my phone from the train, let's see how this goes

 11 MONTHS AGO



Scott Walter
@stwalter123

Hi, I'm Scott, academic library director from Chicago & running for ALA president #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Greg Bem
@bembrarian

@zinelib Greetings Jenna, dearest ol' #critlib co-mod!

 11 MONTHS AGO



Erin Leach
@erinaleach

Hello, #critlib pals. I'm Erin, a cataloger in Georgia.

 11 MONTHS AGO



Alyssa Jocson Porter
@itsuhLEEsuh

@violetbfox @UW_iSchool @bembrarian @MaxRenewals @metageeky I'm Alyssa, a reference & instruction librarian from Seattle Central College. Long-time #critlib lurker and first time speaking up. :)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Erin V.
@MaxRenewals

I'm a humanities librarian who loves to coordinate all the events In ohio & happy to be here!
#critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kaitlin Kehnemuyi
@kaitlinmlk

Hi #critlib recent grad and library assistant.

 11 MONTHS AGO



Greg Bem
@bembrarian

Me, I'm a faculty librarian at @TheLWTech. I also work with the Cambodian Library Association in my free time, and live in Seattle. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



ariana
@aripants

hi, I'm an academic instruction librarian in texas and I *finally* remembered to show up for the #critlib chat!! (it's been a while)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Mandy Henk
@MandyHenk

I'm not sure what I am these days! I'm a US librarian turned Kiwi who is now the public lead for Creative Commons ANZ. [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Maura Smale
@mauraweb

Hi [#critlib](#), I'm Maura, academic lib director at a public college in NYC.

 11 MONTHS AGO



Dr. EB
@LNBel

Hi [#critlib](#) Ellen, Academic Special Collections Librarian in NYC. Was active in ALA circa 1991-1998, no longer.

 11 MONTHS AGO



Erin V.
@MaxRenewals

(keep saying hi as I get started!) What's your ALA story? How do you feel about ALA and how has your journey caused those feelings? [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Caitlin Tormey
@ctorm

Hello there [#critlib](#) friends! I'm a [@UW_iSchool](#) alum and now a youth services librarian at Sacramento public library

 11 MONTHS AGO



Gina Murrell
@GinaMurrell1

Hi! I'm Gina, an early-career librarian who's moving from Oregon to California for contract work. Intrigued by tonight's topic! [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Spencer Brayton
@brayton_spencer

Hello, I'm Spencer. Academic librarian from central Illinois. [#critlib](#)

11 MONTHS AGO



Adam Mizelle
@adammizelle

Hi [#critlib](#). Adam academic [#Nightlibrarian](#) waiting to close the info lit classroom. Lurking with pleasure before I commute home.

11 MONTHS AGO



Ryan P. Randall
@foureyedsoul

Hi [#critlib](#)! I'm Ryan, I do instruction & outreach at a community college in Boise, I'm feeling extra scattered today, & I'm exited to chat.

11 MONTHS AGO



Greg Bem
@bembrarian

A1 My ALA story consists of a lack of involvement post-grad-school. Is it that ALA's too big? Is there a lack of personal interest? [#critlib](#) twitter.com/MaxRenewals/st...

11 MONTHS AGO



Kevin Seeber
@kevinseeber

A1. I joined ALA out of perceived obligation after grad school. Never considered leaving until the bungled Trump response last year [#critlib](#)

11 MONTHS AGO



Jenna Freedman
@zinelib

A1: I was active in ALA (& SRRT) in library school & maybe 10 years after. I was even on ALA Council. I've let my membership lapse. [#critlib](#)

11 MONTHS AGO



Kate Crowe
@kcrowe

Hi #critlib I'm Kate - an academic archivist from Denver.

 11 MONTHS AGO



Violet Fox
@violetbfox

A1. My ALA story: as a cataloger ALA feels impossible to ignore. To stay up-to-date & involved in cataloging, ALA is where it's at. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



UserHasTooManyHolds!
@radicallibrarian

A1 I was a member for one year post grad school. I have attended one ALA conference. MOSTLY reason for not renewing was \$\$... #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Nancy Foasberg
@nfoasberg

I was encouraged to join in library school. When I got a lit librarian job, I found the Literatures in English section. #critlib twitter.com/MaxRenewals/st...

 11 MONTHS AGO



Max Bowman
@maxgbowman

Hi #critlib friends! Academic librarian in NC, just lurking while working. 🙋♂️

 11 MONTHS AGO



Mandy Henk
@MandyHenk

A1: I've been a member off and on. Done some committee work. Written for them. They are big! Overwhelmingly so. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Scott Walter
@slwalter123

A1: Been involved since grad school, mostly ACRL but also Council, needed ALA to be different to remain meaningful to me in 2017 [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Adam Mizelle
@adammizelle

A1: Rotating lapsing/joining/lapsing from grad school til now, depending on funds, events I want to go to, job searches etc. [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kevin Seeber
@kevinseeber

A1.2 The last five months I've been in LOTS of conversations about what the point of ALA is, if not to stand up to this crap? [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Helene Williams
@bibliorogue

Been an active ALA member since 1989, and then had severe doubts when last year's renewal came 1/2 [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Diana Moronta
@DianaMoronta

A1: Active as a student, can't afford it as a grad. [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Dr.EB
@LNBel

Q1- back then, worked in Preservation Admin in L Academic/Research Libraries, thought we decided policy for everyone. Ridiculous. [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



UserHasTooManyHolds!

@radicalibrarian

Texas has a quality conference that I felt was just as beneficial for what I do. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Jenna Freedman

@zinelib

It's prob not ALA's fault I lapsed. I think once I found my niche I didn't need it anymore. I found zine librarians & @RadReference #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Erin Leach

@erinaleach

A1.) I got involved in a Section of ALCTS (the technical services division of ALA) when I won an early-career award from them. 1/3 #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Maura Smale

@mauraweb

A1 Similar, tho I joined in grad school. Am staying for now b/c of ACRL & also cheered by rad folk on/running for council/offices. #critlib twitter.com/kevinseeber/st...

 11 MONTHS AGO



Violet Fox

@violetbfox

I was lucky to fall in with a group of zine folks before my first ALA conference, which has made everything ALA 1,000 times better. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Helene Williams

@bibliorogue

2/2 Used botched ALA election response and my question about renewing in classroom: interesting student responses across spectrum #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kenny Garcia
@kennygarciamlis

A1: ALA member since grad school. Been more active past three years. ACRL professional home, but need to be ALA member to join ACRL. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kate Deibel
@metageeky

A1 Not a member. May think about it as I'll be starting an online MLS program this summer/fall #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Nancy Foasberg
@nfoasberg

I've mainly worked with them & a few other groups and have not been involved in "big" ALA #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



ariana
@aripants

A1: I didn't join ALA until my last semester of grad school, had to get that student rate!! I think I wasn't as aware earlier on #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Spencer Brayton
@brayton_spencer

A1 agree w @kevinseeber. Felt like i was supposed to join during/ post-mls. Realizing it's OK to do things differently. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Greg Bem  
@bembrarian

@DianaMoronta Employer won't pay? (Assuming you're employed.) #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Erin Leach
@erinaleach

A1.) I rose through the leadership ranks until I became Section Chair, a position that gave me a seat on the ALCTS Board. 2/3 [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Caitlin Tormey
@ctorm

A1: Trying hard to be active in ALSC but sometimes it's daunting. [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kevin Seeber
@kevinseeber

[@bembrarian](#) Want to leave bc of Todaro's statements/commitment of the org to support the legislative office, even at the expense of our users. [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kate Crowe
@kcrowe

I come from a lib fam w a fair amount of ALA involvement. I found real connex in ALCTS and ~in RBMS but mostly am involved in SAA. [#critlib](#) twitter.com/MaxRenewals/st...

 11 MONTHS AGO



ariana
@aripants

A1: been a member since 2012 and increasingly involved. def helpful in meeting ppl/getting some experience as an eager early-career [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Adam Mizelle
@adammizelle

[@kevinseeber](#) I'm agnostic about professional associations, but presenting at ACRL is expected and you can't have one w/o the other. [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Erin Leach
@erinaleach

A1.) The more I learned about ALCTS, the more I saw its strengths and its flaws. I want to run for ALCTS President some day. 3/3. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kaitlin Kehnemuyi
@kaitlinmlk

Joined in school for access to scholarships #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



UserHasTooManyHolds!
@radicalbrarian

@aripants The student rate was awesome!! #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kaitlin Kehnemuyi
@kaitlinmlk

@ctorm Nice to hear that someone else thinks jumping in is daunting #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Adam Mizelle
@adammizelle

bye #critlib, wish i could stay

 11 MONTHS AGO



Dr.EB
@LNBel

A1- Quit ALA circa 1997/8 because 1. ALA did nothing about library school closures 2. ALA opened D.C. lobbying office, raised dues #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Greg Bem
@bembrarian

Not sure about other libs, but living in #Seattle's EXPENSIVE. Barely make enough just to afford to live, let alone be in ALA #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Jessica Schomberg

@schomj

A1. I felt lost and unwelcome until I met some ALCTS leaders on here... 10 years after entering the profession. [#critlib](#) [twitter.com/MaxRenewals/st...](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Violet Fox

@violetbfox

[@nfoasberg](#) "Big" ALA feels really overwhelming to me! I have a hard time following what is happening on so many levels. [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Dana Librarian

@DanaVLema

Hi [#critlib](#). I'm an MLIS student [@SJSUiSchool](#). Also currently interning at an academic library [@sjsulibrary](#).



11 MONTHS AGO



Greg Bem

@bembrarian

And my library has a membership, but my school doesn't have the budget to send me to everything or pay for individual membership [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Jen Hoyer

@jenhoyer

Hey [#critlib](#)! Lurking tonight...interested in this chat as former [#CanadianLibraryAssociation](#) member who quit when it stopped being relevant



11 MONTHS AGO



Jessica Schomberg

@schomj

A1. Had previously had better luck with other, smaller orgs though. ALA is a reaaaaally big pond. [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Kevin Seeber
@kevinseeber

@MaxRenewals @adammizelle As an academic librarian, I'm very interested in separating ACRL from ALA membership. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Mandy Henk
@MandyHenk

A1.2 Most of my work was on the RUSA/STARS/CODES. Lots of talking about commas. I came to doubt that we were making an impact #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Dana Librarian
@DanaVLema

#critlib A1: Joined ALA as part of free membership offered by school. Read magazine, follow social media and blogs. No real involvement.

 11 MONTHS AGO



Violet Fox
@violetbfox

@radicallibrarian Heard great things about the TX conference, I wish all state library associations were so valuable! I've had mixed experiences. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Erin V.
@MaxRenewals

@maggiehm real talk. and it feels like such a behemoth, necessary thing, I didn't think much about it at all... #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Erin Leach
@erinaleach

Related to A1.) if you're a member of ALCTS and you feel lost in the division, lmk and I'll do my best to help connect you! #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Greg Bem
@bembrarian

Q2. Do you feel participation in ALA is a/an (explicit or implicit) requirement for library professionals? Should it be? #critlib

11 MONTHS AGO



Helene Williams
@bibliorogue

Big ALA is daunting; many people find home w/in sections, or, increasingly, in other orgs that are less expensive, more diverse #critlib

11 MONTHS AGO



UserHasTooManyHolds!
@radicalibrarian

A1 Definitely feels daunting, in-crowd, hard to break into, etc. #critlib

11 MONTHS AGO



Dr.EB
@LNBel

@kevinseeber @MaxRenewals @adammizelle I'd join ACRL if ALA wasn't coupled to it, RBMS too #critlib

11 MONTHS AGO



Kevin Seeber
@kevinseeber

@bembrarian And where does the money GO? And why? We fund a Washington office to support federal budget initiatives, which, you know, LOL. #critlib

11 MONTHS AGO



Caitlin Tormey
@ctorm

@kaitlinmlk I think it's a combination of being starstruck with all the amazing professionals and my annoying imposter syndrome #critlib

11 MONTHS AGO



Helene Williams
@bibliorogue

@kevinseeber @MaxRenewals @adammizelle #critlib I would love to see this! Was thinking about that at the conference a couple weeks ago

 11 MONTHS AGO



Greg Bem
@bembrarian

I def felt the "in-crowd" effect when I attended my one and only annual. #critlib
twitter.com/radicalibraria...

 11 MONTHS AGO



Jenna Freedman
@zinelib

When I was on Council, I was irritated with how phobic its lawyers were abt its nonprofit status. I want an org to push boundaries. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Ryan P. Randall
@foureyedsoul

A1 Joined ALA in grad school, i.e. just a couple years ago. Honestly not sure yet how I feel, but so far it's short of excitement. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Mandy Henk
@MandyHenk

Implicit requirement for academics. Mixed feelings about whether it should be. ALA needs us. We need them. Need to sort out scale. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kate Crowe
@kcrowe

A1 Felt like it-esp since fac positions put pressure for nat'l involvement & I didn't hv co-workers to connect me to orgs elsewhere. #critlib twitter.com/bembrarian/sta...

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kenny Garcia
@kennygarciamlis

A2: Expected to do committee work and other professional applications for work. Found SRRT and became my ALA home along with ACRL #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Jessica Schomberg
@schomj

A2. Depends on your job. I could have continued on my career path successfully without it. Don't need to be in ALA to join @OLACinc #critlib twitter.com/bembrarian/sta...

 11 MONTHS AGO



Nancy Foasberg
@nfoasberg

Definitely felt that way in library school! I wonder if that's different with more/less experienced people #critlib twitter.com/bembrarian/sta...

 11 MONTHS AGO



Violet Fox
@violetbfox

@schomj Have you? I've always felt that as a someone who does cataloging (and is interested in changing it) ALCTS was unavoidable. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kaitlin Kehnemuyi
@kaitlinmk

@ctorm stop reading my mind! Can I also add the "I can do things but it seems like everyone has it under control already" #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Greg Bem  
@bembrarian

@MandyHenk How does one sort out scale in a country where scale tends to always be a major problem? Can it be sorted? #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Maura Smale
@mauraweb

@LNBel @kevinseeber @MaxRenewals @adammizelle I wonder about this too, I can't afford ALA confs/ALA is so big but I feel connected to ACRL. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Erin Leach
@erinaleach

A2.) I feel like nobody benefits from a forced service opportunity. Bad for the person and bad for the org. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Mandy Henk
@MandyHenk

@zinelib Very much agreed. We need a strong advocate. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Nancy Foasberg
@nfoasberg

Lots of people in my department aren't members #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kevin Seeber
@kevinseeber

A2. Membership is definitely an implied requirement and it definitely shouldn't be. #ALAOpinions #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Jessica Schomberg
@schomj

A2. But I also see so much potential good that could be done with the larger org. And ALCTS does some tremendous work. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Jenna Freedman
@zinelib

A2: In the two non-tenure track academic libraries I've worked in post-MLA, ALA participation is/was not the norm. At All. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Ryan P. Randall
@foureyedsoul

A1.1 My feelings on many things currently is that we need to move from monuments to masses. Not sure how/if can do this in/via ALA. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Spencer Brayton
@brayton_spencer

A2: membership should not be a requirement. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Erin V.
@MaxRenewals

YES and no, esp. if you're not f/t #critlib twitter.com/bembrarian/sta...

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kevin Seeber
@kevinseeber

Same. #critlib twitter.com/nfoasberg/stat...

 11 MONTHS AGO



Spencer Brayton
@brayton_spencer

@mauraweb @LNBel @kevinseeber @MaxRenewals @adammizelle Definitely feel more connected to ACRL #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Helene Williams
@bibliorogue

#critlib Q2. Doesn't feel like the requirement it used to be, which is good: let new professionals explore local/regional options [twitter.com/bembrarian/sta...](https://twitter.com/bembrarian/status...)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Jessica Schomberg
@schomj

@violetbfox I do media cataloging, so for me, groups like OLAC, WAML, Music Lib Assoc provide most of what I needed #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Greg Bem
@bembrarian

Very curious about what certainly seems a more intimate, personable ACRL versus a more disassociated ALA. #irony #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Amanda Meeks
@A_meeksie

Late to the convo, joining now! I don't feel it's req'd & it feels overwhelmingly bureaucratic when I've tried to be more involved #critlib [twitter.com/bembrarian/sta...](https://twitter.com/bembrarian/status...)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Erin V.
@MaxRenewals

@nfoasberg I notice that, too, sometimes, and I think "is this req'd just because i'm new-ish to the field? can i opt out once i get tenure?" #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Dr. EB
@LNBel

@mauraweb @kevinseeber @MaxRenewals @adammizelle Big conferences - I used to really enjoy swimming in all the hotel pools and once the beach in Miami I had wet hair at ALA confs #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO




Maura Smale
@mauraweb

A2 Mine too, I think with little \$ for conference/meeting travel there's not really a requirement for national service to the prof. [#critlib](#) [twitter.com/nfoasberg/stat...](https://twitter.com/nfoasberg/status...)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Чебурашка 
@brinepond

My only feeling about ALA is that it should advocate more for librarians and not libraries [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Gina Murrell
@GinaMurrell1

A2 It's assumed if you're a librarian or want to be, you're an ALA member. Considering cost/unclear benefits, it shouldn't be reqd. [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kate Deibel
@metageeky

A2 I think there's an expectation to know what ALA is up to. I've had other library folks expect me to know/care about ALA actions [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Violet Fox
@violetbfox

Q2. Librarians aren't faculty at my library & there's little ALA participation--some state assoc participation & specialty confs. [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Craig Arthur
@NicestLibrarian

A1 like others, joined ala in grad school bc discount w state assoc. I "have" to be involved w ACRL so there's that. Tepid at best. [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



ariana
@aripants

A2: we're required to do professional service, but that can mean nationally, locally, or a combination. [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Thomas Weeks
@thombrarian

A2: in my current position, yes. But I don't think that has to or should be true. Something has the value we give it. [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Scott Walter
@slwalter123

A2: ACRL membership always expected, thus ALA, but also good for my work across RUSA, AASL. Less expectation of Chapter involvement [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Erin Leach
@erinaleach

It is interesting how many people seem to feel so warmly about ACRL. I have had a not-great volunteer experience there. [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Nancy Foasberg
@nfoasberg

[@mauraweb](#) Being in NY might make a difference there too -- lots of other prof dev available [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



UserHasTooManyHolds!
@radicalbrarian

A2 I feel that professional development IS necessary & ALA participation provides this. But we can't REQUIRE it in current state. [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Jenna Freedman
@zinelib

True story: when I applied to my current library, my father had recently been ALA President and only the cataloger mentioned him. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Violet Fox
@violetbfox

@foureyedsoul Can you explain/elaborate on "monuments to masses"? #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kate Deibel
@metageeky

A2 Honestly, I think this is similar to a lot of fields having a large organization everyone is expected to be a member of #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Helene Williams
@bibliorogue

#critlib So much this: it needs to be about the people not the organizations.
twitter.com/brinepond/stat...

 11 MONTHS AGO



ariana
@aripants

I have colleagues who are *very* involved in our state association, not so much in ALA. Whereas I haven't even joined TLA (yet) #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Katlyn  
@libraringkat

jumping into #critlib late. I always remember the "9pm" but not the "8pm central."

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kevin Seeber
@kevinseeber

@bembrarian Blame also rests w/ library people like me who work w/ MLIS grad students. I've spent two weeks talking up ACRL. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Alyssa Jocson Porter
@itsuhLEEsuh

.@ala_apala I forgot to add #critlib to my A1! I'm such a newbie.

 11 MONTHS AGO



Caitlin Tormey
@ctorm

A2: I feel compelled to be a member because of my adoration of the #ALAYMA and my involvement with Every Child Ready to Read #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Maura Smale
@mauraweb

@nfoasberg For sure, we are lucky that way (even if unlucky w/travel funding). #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Ian Beilin
@ibeilin

Also late- Ian here in nyc! I miss most ALAs 'cause too far away & too much time away from family; other conferences more imp to me #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Jenna Freedman
@zinelib

I am critical of ALA, but I also wonder if it cd event meet our expectations. Is it too big? Can change be sustained w a 1-yr prez? #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Greg Bem
@bembrarian

@kevinseeber I talk up #critlib before any associations :D

 11 MONTHS AGO



Jenna Freedman
@zinelib

Another reason I stopped attending ALA was carbon footprint concerns. I went a couple/few years without flying at all. #offtopic? #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Spencer Brayton
@brayton_spencer

@kevinseeber @bembrarian Great point. I definitely push memberships, especially for networking opps #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kevin Seeber
@kevinseeber

@brinepond Yes! Problem is, it's the American Library Association, not Librarians. Very problematic, but something We can change. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Erin V.
@MaxRenewals

& this, too. money is rarely covers costs (if it's even offered) yet the prestige of nat'l presentations, etc. looms lg. #critlib [twitter.com/mauraweb/statu...](https://twitter.com/mauraweb/status...)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Denisse
@Luna_De

Lib stu here. Implicit I think. For ex. In order to receive a promotion/tenure ALA is the way to get published/professional serv #critlib twitter.com/bembrarian/sta...

 11 MONTHS AGO



Helene Williams
@bibliorogue

I make sure my MLIS students know about range of organizations--ALA not often at top of list anymore #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Maura Smale
@mauraweb

@metageeky Yep, & IME folx find homes in smaller orgs too, when I was an archaeologist I chose the arch org over the all-of-anthropology org. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Alyssa Jocson Porter
@itsuhLEEsuh

Q2: I'm the only librarian at my college who is active in ALA. The others focus on ACRL. Maybe it's good that we spread out though. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Greg Bem
@bembrarian

@zinelib I want to see the electric bills of all those conference/convention centers. #YouKnowTheyDontSolar #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Violet Fox
@violetbfox

@erinaleach I don't get the ACRL love--I never feel like people are as friendly or willing to open up at ACRL--too worried abt being "profesh". #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Craig Arthur
@NicestLibrarian

A2 yes, natl service is v imp in my current role. ACRL seemingly prioritized over other orgs. 1day, I skip ala & just pay ACRL? 🤔 #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kate Crowe
@kcrowe

@kevinseeber @brinepond it's one of the things I like about the name for SAA - Society of American Archivists - not Archives. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Violet Fox
@violetbfox

#critlib twitter.com/itsuhLEEsuh/st...

 11 MONTHS AGO



Ian Beilin
@ibeilin

@zinelib Is all that flying around the country really necessary?? #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Maura Smale
@mauraweb

@zinelib Not #offtopic at all, earlier today I was researching train possibilities to Cleveland! (ACRL's 2019 location) :) #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Violet Fox
@violetbfox

#critlib twitter.com/itsuhLEEsuh/st...

 11 MONTHS AGO



Alyssa Jocson Porter
@itsuhLEEsuh

@violetbfox @erinaleach Interesting. I haven't been to ACRL but colleagues tell me to go. Recent tweets lead me to believe it's not so friendly. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Erin V.
@MaxRenewals

@kevinseeber @brinepond but how to keep other, non-MLIS-holding folks in the convo? i want to advocate for people who love the mission, regardless of degree #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Helene Williams
@bibliorogue

#critlib ACRL has run hot and cold: when I started, was like rushing a sorority, where they had to like you enough to put you on committees [twitter.com/violetbfox/sta...](https://twitter.com/violetbfox/status...)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kate Crowe
@kcrowe

(no). #critlib twitter.com/ibeilin/status...

 11 MONTHS AGO



Erin V.
@MaxRenewals

Q3. How could ALA be made more valuable for non-MLIS-holding library workers? #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Thomas Weeks
@thombrarian

I'd forgo ALA for just ACRL, but I may even forgo ACRL if prof service wasn't expected in academics #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Katlyn  
@libraringkat

I am tenure-track, so I definitely do. some of my colleagues have had success with just doing state & LOEX. #critlib twitter.com/bembrarian/sta...

 11 MONTHS AGO



Greg Bem

@bembrarian

@bibliorogue This sounds so un-librarian. I am choking on my stale coffee over here. #critlib

11 MONTHS AGO



Amanda Meeks

@A_meeksie

@bibliorogue I also feel this in other professional orgs, but especially these ones! #critlib

11 MONTHS AGO

@kevinseeber @bembrarian As a lib stu I feel it's helpful. Lots of networking opportunities, get a feel for the field, but mostly the student \$\$membership! #critlib pic.twitter.com/W9ub9hPo5G

DENISSE @LUNA_DEE · 11 MONTHS AGO



Kevin Seeber

@kevinseeber

Excellent point here, and a really good question. Maybe American Library Workers Association? ALWA? #critlib twitter.com/MaxRenewals/st...

11 MONTHS AGO



Mandy Henk
@MandyHenk

@ibeilin @zinelib Not since we invented the internet. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Violet Fox
@violetbfox

@bibliorogue OH NO I would've been out of there so fast. I definitely don't think it's that bad now, just not really my scene. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Ryan P. Randall
@foureyedsoul

@violetbfox A1.2 Hmm. Sometimes orgs (NAACP, ACRL, etc) seem akin to monuments, where Great Names somehow Make Resistance & Progress Happen. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Max Bowman
@maxgbowman

A3: Never ask "are you a librarian?" This question is extremely alienating. Mirrors academic hierarchies. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Jenna Freedman
@zinelib

THEN AGAIN, I do value F2F convos, connections, & accountability. Cd be why I started traveling again, but ALA Annual is bloated. #critlib twitter.com/MandyHenk/stat...

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kenny Garcia
@kennygarciamlis

A3: lower the membership costs, mandate hybrid meetings; separate mandatory ALA membership to join divisions such as ACRL #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Katlyn  
@libraringkat

Q2.2 some other colleagues have been more explicit about the importance of being involved at the national ALA/ACRL level [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Jessica Schomberg
@schomj

A3. More virtual + free opportunities to participate? Many non-MLS staff don't receive time or money for professional development [#critlib](#) twitter.com/MaxRenewals/st...



11 MONTHS AGO



Erin Leach
@erinaleach

A3.) Make resources available for people who want to learn more and do more to get involved. [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Denisse
@Luna_De

I know some of my libs rotate years they're members of certain organizations since they can't afford all of them. [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Amanda Meeks
@A_meeksie

Provide more travel support/awards and prof. dev. for non-MLIS-holding library workers! More ops for leadership within the org, too [#critlib](#) twitter.com/MaxRenewals/st...



11 MONTHS AGO



Helene Williams
@bibliorogue

[@zinelib](#) [#critlib](#) Top orgs I tell students about: Digital Library Federation, Educause, Modern Lang Assoc (& other discipline-related orgs)



11 MONTHS AGO



(m)(e)(l)

@variouspagings

Coming late to the [#critlib](#) party--lib para & LIS student in TX. Recently joined ALA & TLA & am considering on which to focus energy..



11 MONTHS AGO



Dana Librarian

@DanaVLema

[#critlib](#) A2: I feel ALA membership can be helpful to stay current and develop a network. Also a member of SLA for same reason.



11 MONTHS AGO



Diana Moronta

@DianaMoronta

A3: Maybe non-holding MILS folks don't feel included/not taken seriously because of lack of degree. [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Jessica Schomberg

@schomj

A3. So maybe another part of that would be for ALA to emphasize the importance of prof dev for *all* library workers [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Ian Beilin

@ibeilin

A3: If many 'professional' librarians have trouble affording attending ALA/ACRL, how can 'non-prof' lib workers be able to go? [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Ryan P. Randall

@foureyedsoul

[@violetbfox](#) A1.3 Instead of "history made by Great Men" (ick), things like Occupy & labor history suggest we need dispersed action (masses) [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Alyssa Jocson Porter

@itsuhLEEsuh

@Luna_De @kevinseeber @bembrarian I've been telling our Ref Assistants to try ALA at the student price. If they don't like it, then at least they had the discount! #critlib



11 MONTHS AGO



Erin Leach

@erinaleach

A3.) Advocate for non-MLIS library workers, though I guess that more ALA-APA's wheelhouse. #critlib



11 MONTHS AGO



Helene Williams

@bibliorogue

@violetbfox #critlib ACRL is better at the moment: some strategic retirements of careerists who didn't want to let newbies in...probably cyclical?



11 MONTHS AGO



Maura Smale

@mauraweb

@itsuhLEEsuh @violetbfox @erinaleach I've enjoyed the conf more the longer I've been a libn, catching up w/folx #onhere esp, but I know that's not everyone's exper. #critlib



11 MONTHS AGO



Kate Deibel

@metageeky

@zinelib Yes. I have a mentor who due to health issues can no longer travel. Just giving talks remotely does not compare for him. #critlib



11 MONTHS AGO



Thomas Weeks

@thombrarian

A3: I think part of the onus of that is on MLISers to do less gatekeeping of whose voices we accept in prof orgs #critlib



11 MONTHS AGO



Nicola Andrews
@maraebrarian

Q3. ALA will become more relevant for non-MLIS staff, when non-MLIS staff are deemed worthy of prof. development & investment #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Diana Moronta
@DianaMoronta

A3.2 lower the cost of membership and conferences #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Ian Beilin
@ibeilin

A3, cont: We should all put pressure on our own library admins. to support prof dev of *all* library workers #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



 **Greg Bem**  
@bembrarian

@itsuhLEEsuh @Luna_Deer @kevinseeber We're all "lifelong students" so why can't those who claim that status get the discount 4-eva? #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



 **Greg Bem**  
@bembrarian

@bibliorogue @zinelib @CLIRDLF FTW. My school will never afford it, but the conf costs = totally worth it. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Violet Fox
@violetbfox

@maraebrarian Seems both ALA & state/local organizations could nudge that with more scholarships/programming designed for non-MLIS staff. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



ariana
@aripants

@metageeky @zinelib right, F2F convos & connections are soooo much of what I get from conferences...can't get that from a webinar #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Gina Murrell
@GinaMurrell1

A3 Inclusivity on panels+in publicity/outreach so non-MLS holders can see themselves in libraries, esp bc MLS requirement excludes. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Violet Fox
@violetbfox

@maraebrarian But you're right that underlying issue of not investing in staff is at the heart of the problem. And not easily fixed. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Jessica Schomberg
@schomj

@violetbfox @maraebrarian My state org is actual as expensive to join as ALA 😞 #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Emily Drabinski
@edrabinski

A colleague was note taking intern on a committee & I was all 😊. But I also recognize the power big orgs can potentially wield. #critlib twitter.com/maxrenewals/st...

 11 MONTHS AGO



Dr.EB
@LNBel

A3- As I remember it ALA conf. isn't relevant to anything me or my colleagues do prof or para, beyond free candy, pools, travel #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Nicola Andrews
@maraebrarian

ALA & state chapters need to be financially accessible for non-MLIS. I know so many librarians who find ALA too expensive already #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Jenna Freedman
@zinelib

A3 There r support staff who can & shd be encouraged to attend ALA, but others have diff goals & don't want 2b be nagged 2 Do More. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kate Deibel
@metageeky

This. However, speaking from experience regarding women in CS, don't overload diverse members from having to be on too many panels #critlib twitter.com/GinaMurrell1/s...

 11 MONTHS AGO



Craig Arthur
@NicestLibrarian

A3 like @brinepond said earlier, advocate for library workers as much as or hopefully even more than libraries #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Greg Bem  
@bembrarian

Q4. What would you like to see ALA do that it's not doing now? #critlib (Feel free to keep responding to all the questions! Great convos!)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Nicola Andrews
@maraebrarian

@violetbfox I like the WLA model this year of having 3 separate days of mini-conferences, it makes it more accessible for everyone to attend #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Diana Moronta
@DianaMoronta

A3.3 Include professional development in their union contract. [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Lindsey Hutchison
@lindsbrary

[@MaxRenewals](#) Q3 lead the field in dismantling the assumption that degree = competency // lack of degree = not qualified for advancement. [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Emily Drabinski
@edrabinski

[@foureyedsoul](#) [@violetbfox](#) I think we need structure within which to organize. Maybe ALA could be that structure? [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Violet Fox
@violetbfox

[@NicestLibrarian](#) [@brinepond](#) Do you think it's possible to change ALA to be more member-focused? Or is its orientation essentially unchangeably towards policy? [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Nancy Foasberg
@nfoasberg

[@aripants](#) [@metageeky](#) [@zinelib](#) It's silly, but for me, traveling to a conference helps me actually put the time aside for conference content. [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kate Crowe
@kcrowe

Support more regionally based/focused programming, more remote access to programming at tiered levels. [#critlib](#) [twitter.com/bembrarian/sta...](https://twitter.com/bembrarian/status/1111111111)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Jenna Freedman
@zinelib

@jenhoyer Same. But I do like ALA as an umbrella. Some folks can get their jobs to pay them to go to a @RadReference meeting for example. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kevin Seeber
@kevinseeber

A4. I desperately want an email from ALA that doesn't start with "Act Now to Stop X from Happening." All we do is react these days. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Greg Bem  
@bembrarian

@violetbfox @NicestLibrarian @brinepond American Librarians Are Real People Association? #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Nancy Foasberg
@nfoasberg

@aripants @metageeky @zinelib If I were trying to watch things online from my office... I couldn't. Too many demands. when I say I'm at a conference ppl get it #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Ian Beilin
@ibeilin

A4: I'd like to see ALA be more openly self-critical (bite the hands that feed it?) #wishfulthinking #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Ryan P. Randall
@foureyedsoul

@edrabinski @violetbfox A1.4 Same. My ALA Q is "can it be 'both/and' or do monuments only/always obstruct masses?" (Also I meant ACLU not ACRL earlier.) #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Erin Leach
@erinaleach

A4.) Better cross-division communication, better recruitment and retention of volunteers, move to a 1-conference-per-year model. [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Emily Drabinski
@edrabinski

I was all, "This exists simply to perpetuate itself." But hey! Maybe we could just take it over!
[#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Helene Williams
@bibliorogue

[#critlib](#) Would love ALA to be proactive, not reactive. Listen to members, actively recruit all levels. And stop privileging white men. [twitter.com/bembrarian/sta...](https://twitter.com/bembrarian/status/1111111111)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Lindsey Hutchison
@lindsbrary

[@MaxRenewals](#) Q3 push libs to (& support in) developing internal skill-building programs & pathways to more responsibility, varied work, \$. [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Dr.EB
@LNBel

A3 HOWEVER, how amazing would it be if all library workers in ALA conference city got free passes to exhibits & time off to go [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kate Crowe
@kcrowe

thisisthisthisthis. Proactive, not reactive. [#critlib](#) [twitter.com/kevinseeber/st...](https://twitter.com/kevinseeber/status/1111111111)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Violet Fox
@violetbfox

@edrabinski @foureyedsoul ALA is not currently set up to have that structure (too hierarchical), but we could make it more member-focused and -activated. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



ariana
@aripants

@nfoasberg @metageeky @zinelib oh, same! I put webinars on my calendar, then do something else instead. harder to fit in the day-to-day, confs are dedicated time #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kate Deibel
@metageeky

For those saying be proactive, proactive about what exactly? #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Jen Hoyer
@jenhoyer

A4 what about taking some time to rethink the relationship between ALA and vendors, esp. with regard to conferences? #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Greg Bem
@bembrarian

@bibliorogue I'm curious of white patriarchal presence in contemporary ALA. Any good reads on this? #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Nicola Andrews
@maraebrarian

Just a reminder that if you are an MLIS student, you may be able to join ALA & yr state chapter for \$38: ala.org/groups/joint-m... #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kevin Seeber
@kevinseeber

A4.2 Also, let's defund and close the Washington office. ALA existed for 100+ years without it, and it's not helping us today. [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Jessica Schomberg
@schomj

A4. My head keeps thinking about unions, so... more emphasis on unionizing and collective action [#critlib](#) twitter.com/bembrarian/sta...

 11 MONTHS AGO



UserHasTooManyHolds!
@radicalibrarian

A4 What I have found most disappointing of late is reacting far too late to issues that are extremely important to our core values. [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Scott Walter
@slwalter123

All good, plus stronger collaboration across Big ALA & Chapters & new partnerships w/grassroots groups that share our interests [#critlib](#) twitter.com/erinaleach/sta...

 11 MONTHS AGO



Ian Beilin
@ibeilin

A4: If we want ALA to better represent librarians, won't it have to distance itself from the corporate bodies that finance it? [#critlib](#)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Amanda Meeks
@A_meeksie

I was thinking the same thing--if enough of us can get more involved and shape how it is run [#critlib](#) twitter.com/edrabiniski/sta...

 11 MONTHS AGO



Liz McGlynn Bellamy

@thelizbrarian

[@metageeky](#) I for one would LOVE to see a big ALA campaign that wasn't about banned books
[#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Greg Bem

@bembrarian

Seriously hoping [@alanews](#) and all related accounts are reading [#critlib](#) tonight. Should have asked everyone to cc them to draw attention.



11 MONTHS AGO



Erin Leach

@erinaleach

A4.) I also want the Association to better represent its core values and the values of its members.
[#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Erin V.

@MaxRenewals

[@lindsbrary](#) yes, we can love a current job & know we want more & dif. things to do in the future. don't make me job hunt b/c i want new skills [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Kevin Seeber

@kevinseeber

[@metageeky](#) Privacy. I'd love an email from Todaro that reads "INSTALL TOR BROWSER ON ALL PUBLIC MACHINES TODAY." cc: [@libraryfreedom](#) [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Violet Fox

@violetbfox

And that ALA student price lasts for up to five years! Use as long as you're able! [#critlib](#)
twitter.com/maraebrarian/s...



11 MONTHS AGO



Helene Williams
@bibliorogue

#critlib Say what we DO do, what we CAN do, not just "help, save libraries." Tell our story. Not wait for a crisis (\$, policy) to act. [twitter.com/metageeky/stat...](https://twitter.com/metageeky/status...)

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kevin Seeber
@kevinseeber

This. #critlib twitter.com/ibeilin/status...

 11 MONTHS AGO



Maura Smale
@mauraweb

A4 I think there shld be an advocacy org for all librarians & libraries (ALLA?). Fewer confs = lower dues? Easier virtual cmmtes? #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Erin Leach
@erinaleach

A4.) I also want the Association to start thinking of the value of membership beyond its providing access to volunteer work. #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Jessica Schomberg
@schomj

A4. Also, the idea that a one-year association president is going to swoop in and do much of anything is unreasonable #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Dr.EB
@LNBel

@bembrarian @bibliorogue ALA conf. = library directors sessions - that's where the white dudes in suits are, women, POC everywhere else #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Jessica Schomberg

@schomj

A4. Not to mention deeply unsettling for permanent staff. That part of the org should be reexamined [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Jen Hoyer

@jenhoyer

[@ibeilin](#) Or, can ALA recognize the power it wields over corporate bodies who exist only because of ALA? Let's rethink power structures. [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Erin Leach

@erinaleach

A4.) I try to remember, though, that the membership is the Association and Association is the membership. [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Gina Murrell

@GinaMurrell1

A4. In my dreams, ALA is a proactive, militant org fiercely advocating for all library workers and shaking its fist at Tr-mp. Sigh. [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Dr.EB

@LNBel

[@violethfox](#) ALA Student price disappeared for me as my library school closed the year I graduated [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Jenna Freedman

@zinelib

2b self-critical of [#critlib](#) ALA critiques, \$ does have to come frm somewhere. ALA confs r relatively cheap. Thanks Elsevier & ProQuest. 1/2



11 MONTHS AGO



Helene Williams
@bibliorogue

#critlib And Big Heads meetings, where you're not allowed to sit at the table unless you are one: hierarchy and patriarchy rule those mtgs. twitter.com/LNBel/status/8...

 11 MONTHS AGO



Mandy Henk
@MandyHenk

@GinaMurrell1 I think lots of us want that. How do make it happen? #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Kenny Garcia
@kennygarciamlis

A4: become more fiscally transparent (socially responsible investments, transparency with members, unionized ALA staff #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Jenna Freedman
@zinelib

2/2 #critlib How do we square costs & values on the scale of 50K members? Is ALA too big to succeed critically?

 11 MONTHS AGO



Helene Williams
@bibliorogue

Not counting them out at all: but look at proportional representation on panels. #critlib twitter.com/ppayne510/stat...

 11 MONTHS AGO



Ian Beilin
@ibeilin

@schomj In the case of some these presidents, tho, that might be a good thing... #critlib

 11 MONTHS AGO



Emily Drabinski

@edrabinski

Todaro put out a statement on behalf of locked [#BlackbirdNation](#) librarians. Took major pressure from allies, but the org moved. [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Max Bowman

@maxgbowman

[@bibliorogue](#) So much this - that was my very first experience with ALA. It was intimidating. It's still intimidating. [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Scott Walter

@slwalter123

This has happened in Council in the past & can happen again; we just need the right people in place & we're on the way [#critlib](#) twitter.com/erinaleach/sta...



11 MONTHS AGO



Helene Williams

@bibliorogue

[#critlib](#) Nothing like being asked to leave the table, being told "you don't belong" twitter.com/bembrarian/sta...



11 MONTHS AGO



Amanda Meeks

@A_meeksie

[@maxgbowman](#) [@bibliorogue](#) I agree, every meeting has felt very uncomfortable and intimidating [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Gina Murrell

@GinaMurrell1

[@MandyHenk](#) It took lib/info workers & librarians to start [#NotMyALA](#) to hold ALA's feet to the fire. Def a grassroots (not top-down) effort. [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Violet Fox
@violetbfox

A4. This may be naive, but I have faith in [#critlib](#) (& like-minded folks) to change ALA to be more responsive & transparent.

11 MONTHS AGO



Greg Bem
@bembrarian

[@bibliorogue](#) Damn. Again, that sounds completely un-librarian. The irony of it all's mind-blowing but I shouldn't have assumed ALA was better. [#critlib](#)

11 MONTHS AGO



Violet Fox
@violetbfox

Nearing the end of our hour together--thank you to EVERYONE who was able to participate! Let's mix it up, friends! [#critlib](#)

11 MONTHS AGO



Ryan P. Randall
@foureyedsoul

[@mauraweb](#) I'd be into this! I imagine finding reliable virtual conference software/infrastructure would be one of the biggest expenses? [#critlib](#)

11 MONTHS AGO



Emily Drabinski
@edrabinski

No other prof association got it together. Solidarity messages driven by library unions, faculty unions headed by librarians. [#critlib](#)

11 MONTHS AGO



Helene Williams
@bibliorogue

[#critlib](#) Yes, this was great (and good teaching opportunity): students who hadn't looked at ALA critically were forced to do so, in my class twitter.com/GinaMurrell1/s...

11 MONTHS AGO



Violet Fox
@violetbfox

Huge thanks to my [#critlib](#) co-conspirators/co-moderators [@bembrarian](#) & [@MaxRenewals](#), I'm grateful for their thoughtful inspiration.

11 MONTHS AGO



Kevin Seeber
@kevinseeber

[@violetbfox](#) But maybe we could do more change outside of ALA? Maybe? (I have no answer, but think about it often.) [#critlib](#)

11 MONTHS AGO



Greg Bem
@bembrarian

Thanks to all who participated :D Fastest [#critlib](#) I think I've experienced. So... what's the next step for revolutionizing the ALA? twitter.com/violetbfox/sta...

11 MONTHS AGO



Erin V.
@MaxRenewals

My heart is full, y'all. THANK YOU [#critlib](#) twitter.com/violetbfox/sta...

11 MONTHS AGO



Violet Fox
@violetbfox

[@kevinseeber](#) I've thought about it too--actually think the scale has come down on being able to accomplish more good via ALA. Mileage may vary! [#critlib](#)

11 MONTHS AGO



UserHasTooManyHolds!
@radicalbrarian

Thank you [#critlib](#)! Great chat! :)

11 MONTHS AGO



Emily Drabinski

@edrabinski

Now, if ALA could go grab my laundry from the dryer in the basement, that would be great.

[#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Kate Deibel

@metageeky

[@kevinseeber](#) [@violetbfox](#) You can do this, but how much of a change is it if you create a new giant organization that becomes inflexible in new ways? [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Dr.EB

@LNBel

Thanks [#critlib](#) amazing hour of solidarity and hope for the future. Change. Lets go get it!



11 MONTHS AGO



Helene Williams

@bibliorogue

[@maxgbowman](#) [@A_meeksie](#) [#critlib](#) It can be a confusing process, and harrowing. Glad to talk in other venue and advise!



11 MONTHS AGO



Ryan P. Randall

@foureyedsoul

[@mauraweb](#) Agreed! Poor phrasing on my part; I meant the most prohibitive cost would likely be for conf., but for comm.s, seems quite doable. [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Rusty Shackelford

@RShackelford

I would like to see ALA cease to exist. It's remarkably ineffective and out of touch for a membership driven org. [#critlib](#)



11 MONTHS AGO



Maura Smale

@mauraweb

Great #critlib! Thanks @violetbfox @MaxRenewals @bembrarian for modding and everyone for chatting.



11 MONTHS AGO



Kevin Seeber

@kevinseeber

@metageeky @violetbfox Size is definitely a concern, but we need to recognize ALA was poisoned at its founding by Dewey. We can (maybe?) redo it better. #critlib



11 MONTHS AGO



Ian Beilin

@ibeilin

Thanks @violetbfox @MaxRenewals @bembrarian for helping ALA to get more #critlib



11 MONTHS AGO



Kevin Seeber

@kevinseeber

Thanks @MaxRenewals @bembrarian and @violetbfox for modding tonight's #critlib! And everyone for participating!



11 MONTHS AGO