

## ARL Statements of Action Task Force

### Charge

In July 2023, the ARL Board engaged Educopia to help it develop a process for when to issue statements or take action with regard to external issues that may have an impact on the research library community. The recommendations of such a process are outlined in the attached [report](#).

This Task Force is charged with testing the approach outlined in the report to determine its suitability for ARL and to evaluate its effectiveness in determining when a statement should be issued or action be taken by ARL. The Board will provide guidance on an issue to be used as a test case.

### Previous charge

*At its January 2024 meeting, the Executive Committee agreed that there is already a developed approach for determining when to take action on an issue based on the outcome of the July 2023 Board retreat. They wanted, however, to test the assumption that the process would work and agreed to revise the charge of the Task Force to do so. The original charge stated:*

*This Task Force is charged with creating an approach for the Board to use to identify ways in which the Association is best positioned to respond and act on issues/events of broad social significance, particularly as ARL considers its public role regarding our [values](#), such as inclusiveness and equity, academic/intellectual freedom, and sustainability. The Task Force is informed by the July 2023 Board Retreat synthesis [report](#), the guidance on [ARL's governance and legal structure from the Spring 2023 Business Membership](#) [login required] and the [July 2022 ARL Board Decision Making Process on Vision/Mission/Guiding Principles-Based Policy Action](#) [login required].*

## **Membership**

Task Force Chair: Board President

Task Force Members:

- Board Vice President/President-Elect,
- at least three additional Board members,
- and up to three members-at-large will be appointed by the Executive Committee, depending on the Task Force's workload

Staff lead: Senior Director, Policy and Scholarship

## **Terms**

A recommended approach to the Board is requested by May 2024.

## **Meetings**

Meetings will be held virtually as determined by the Chair.

## **Decision-Making**

The Task Force will make recommendations to the Board for their approval as to whether this approach sufficiently allows for sound decisions to be made regarding issuing statements or taking action on issues that may affect research libraries.

## **Code of Conduct and Value**

The committee adheres to the ARL Code of Conduct and values in all of its deliberations and activities.

Approved by the Executive Committee  
September 21, 2023  
Revised November 16, 2023  
Revised January 23, 2024