

**TO:** ALA Executive Board

**RE:** ACRL 2023 Conference Recommendation: Pittsburgh, PA, March 15 – 18, 2023  
ACRL 2027 Conference Site Recommendation: Portland, OR, April 7 – 10, 2027

**ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT:**

At the 2018 ALA Midwinter Meeting, the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Board of Directors is expected to approve Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania as the official location for the ACRL 2023 Conference on the dates of March 15 – 18, 2023, and Portland, Oregon, as the official location for the ACRL 2017 Conference on the dates of April 7 – 10, 2027. *Note: Email and verbal confirmation of the ACRL Board's action at MW will be conveyed to the ALA Executive Director, Director, ALA Office of Governance, and the ALA President prior to the ALA Executive Board's Monday meeting at Midwinter.*

Per the ALA Policy Manual section 6.4.1 Policies of the American Library Association in Relation to its Membership Divisions the ACRL Executive Director and President are submitting these decisions to the ALA Executive Board for approval.

Policy 6.4.1: "Proposals for Division National Conferences should be made to the ALA Executive Board at least two years in advance of the anticipated meeting date following a prescribed proposal outline. ALA state and regional chapters in the geographical area of a proposed conference shall be notified in writing of a desired conference prior to submitting the request to the Executive Board."

**ACTION REQUESTED BY:**

Cheryl Middleton, ACRL President 2017-2018  
Mary Ellen Davis, ACRL Executive Director

**CONTACT PERSON:**

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**DRAFT OF MOTION:**

The ALA Executive Board approve the official dates and location of ACRL 2023 Conference in Pittsburgh, PA, March 15 – 18, 2023 and ACRL 2027 Conference in Portland, OR, April 7 – 10, 2027.

**DATE:** January 30, 2018

**BACKGROUND:**

ACRL has a strong 39-year history of conferences, beginning with our first in Boston in 1978 and most recently with our 18th (and second largest ever) in Baltimore in 2017. Following the process described in the ACRL Guide to Policies & Procedures, staff researched future sites that fit the date availability, conference criteria, and regional rotation. ACRL 2023 calls for the conference to be held in the east and the 2027 conference to be held west. ACRL 2025 is already confirmed for the central U.S. in Minneapolis. Based on each city's proposal and costs, the ACRL Board has approved Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania as the host city for ACRL 2023 and Portland, Oregon as the host city for ACRL 2027 on the aforementioned dates.

Both cities are former hosts of successful ACRL Conferences (Pittsburgh, 1995 and Portland, 2015) and are recommended based on best fit with the major criteria; appropriate meeting and exhibit space, adequate hotel rooms close to the convention center, accessibility for air and ground transportation, reasonable rates for meeting space and hotel rooms, and date availability.

The biennial ACRL Conference is one of the most important professional development events for ACRL members and represents a critical revenue stream for the Division (average of \$515,088 in net revenue over the last three conferences). Additionally, overhead revenue earned by ALA on the ACRL conference has averaged \$602,380 for the last three conferences. ACRL has a sufficient net asset balance to support the conference planning.

ACRL looks for conference dates in March or April that avoid spring holidays and similar conference's dates as much as possible, while avoiding repeating too closely ALA and other major division's conference locations. As demonstrated by the chart below this recommendation meets those requirements.

Site Comparison per year with ALA & major divisions:

ALA	AASL	ACRL	PLA
2015 Midwinter, Chicago 2015 Annual, San Francisco	2015 Columbus, OH (C)	2015 Portland (W) March 25-28, 2015	

2016 Midwinter, Boston 2016 Annual, Orlando			2016 Denver (W)
2017 Midwinter, Atlanta 2017 Annual, Chicago	Phoenix, AZ (W)	2017 Baltimore (E) March 22 – 25, 2017	
2018 Midwinter, Denver 2018 Annual, New Orleans			2018 Philadelphia (E)
2019 Midwinter, Seattle 2019 Annual, D.C.	Louisville, KY (E)	2019 Cleveland (C) April 10 – 13, 2019	
2020 Midwinter, Philadelphia 2020 Annual, Chicago			2020 Nashville (C)
2021 Midwinter, Indianapolis 2021 Annual, Chicago	Salt Lake City, UT (W)	2021 Seattle (W) April 14-17, 2021	
2022 Midwinter, San Antonio 2022 Annual, DC			2022 Portland (W)
2023 Midwinter, New Orleans 2023 Annual, Chicago	TBD (E)	<b>2023 Pittsburgh (E) March 15 – 18, 2023 proposed</b>	
2024 Midwinter, Denver 2024 Annual, San Diego			2024 East – TBD
2025 Midwinter, TBD 2025 Annual, Philadelphia	St. Louis, MO	2025 Minneapolis (C) April 2 – 5, 2025	
2026 Midwinter, TBD 2026 Annual: Chicago			
2027 Midwinter, Philadelphia 2027 Annual: New Orleans		<b>2023 Portland (W) April 7 – 10, 2027 proposed</b>	
2028 Midwinter, TBD 2028 Annual: TBD			

In accordance with ALA’s “Organizational and Operational Practices,” Policy 6.4.1, Section VIII, ACRL contacted in writing ALA state and regional chapters in the geographical areas of the proposed conferences and sought the cooperation of these chapters in respect to programming and scheduling. All chapters in the geographic regions responded positively to ACRL holding a conference in their region and provided letters of support (see attachments). Some surrounding

state chapters have indicated letters of support are forthcoming (see table, next page).

**Letters of Support received and forthcoming for ACRL 2023, Pittsburgh. Chapters marked as forthcoming have indicated verbal support.**

<b>State</b>	<b>ALA Chapters</b>	<b>ACRL Chapters</b>
DELAWARE	Delaware Library Association (received)	Delaware Valley Chapter of the Association of College and Research Libraries Delaware & Eastern Pennsylvania (received)
MARYLAND	Maryland Library Association (forthcoming)	Maryland Library Association, Academic & Research Library Division (received)
NEW JERSEY	New Jersey Library Association (forthcoming)	New Jersey Library Association, College and University Section (received)
NEW YORK	New York Library Association (received)	Western New York/Ontario Chapter of the Association of College and Research Libraries (forthcoming)
OHIO	Ohio Library Council (forthcoming)	Academic Library Association of Ohio (received)
PENNSYLVANIA	Pennsylvania Library Association (received)	Western Pennsylvania/West Virginia Chapter of the Association of College and Research Libraries (received)

**Letters of Support received and forthcoming for ACRL 2027, Portland. Chapters marked as forthcoming have indicated verbal support.**

<b>State</b>	<b>ALA Chapters</b>	<b>ACRL Chapters</b>
CALIFORNIA	California Library Association (received)	California Academic and Research Libraries (received)
IDAHO	Idaho Library Association (received)	Academic and Special Libraries Division, Idaho Library Association (received)
NEVADA	Nevada Library Association (forthcoming)	Nevada Association of College and Research Libraries (forthcoming)
OREGON	Oregon Library Association (forthcoming)	Association of College and Research Libraries, Oregon Chapter (received)
WASHINGTON	Washington Library Association (received)	Washington State Chapter of the Association of College and Research Libraries (received)

Attachments:

Chapter Letters of Support, ACRL 2023 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Chapter Letters of Support, ACRL 2027 Portland, Oregon