



MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 18, 2007

TO: OCLC Members Council Nominees

FROM: OCLC Members Council Executive Committee

SUBJECT: Delegate Responsibilities

If you are elected to the OCLC Members Council, you will be making a three-year commitment to your network or service center, to OCLC and to the OCLC member libraries that you represent. Serving on Members Council can be one of the most professionally rewarding experiences of your library career. Please review carefully the following information outlining delegate responsibilities.

CURRENT RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERS COUNCIL DELEGATES

Description

OCLC is the world's largest library cooperative. The Members Council consists of representatives elected from regional networks and OCLC's US and international service centers to provide strategic direction and guidance to the OCLC Board of Trustees and OCLC management in the planning, delivery and evaluation of its services. Council also elects from its membership to the OCLC Board of Trustees and must ratify or reject changes to the Articles of Incorporation, the Code of Regulations, and the Membership and Contribution Protocols.

Responsibilities

- Provide candid, informed opinions and ideas about the direction of the library and information community to the Board and to management.
- Provide honest, informed perspective and ideas to the Board and management about implementing OCLC's vision to continue as "the leading global library cooperative."
- Participate actively in discussions in plenary and small group sessions.
- Proactively serve in leadership roles in Council committees, library groups, or service groups.
- Participate in occasional conference calls and/or online discussions between full Council meetings in order to continue the work of the Council and/or its subgroups.
- Elect Members Council delegates to the OCLC Board of Trustees.
- Consider and vote on changes to the OCLC Articles of Incorporation, the Code of Regulations, and the Membership and Contribution Protocols.

Participate in network activities by:

- Attending network meeting, including board meetings where possible.
- Responding to network requests for information.
- Communicating with other network or service center members about the work of the Members Council and the issues it is considering.
- Synthesizing the input received in various settings to facilitate multi-channel discussions between OCLC and members.

Requirements

- Support for OCLC's mission and vision.
- Experience in leadership in member institutions, regional networks, OCLC service centers, or other library and information organizations.
- Demonstrated personal or institutional vision for the future of libraries and information.
- Demonstrated understanding of current developments in all types of libraries.
- Experience in leading teams and processes in library and information settings.
- Critical thinking skills.
- Strong communication skills in collaboration with a wide variety of colleagues.
- Attendance at all Members Council meetings possible. Council meets three times a year, typically in October, February, and May in Dublin, Ohio.

Desirable Traits

- Willingness to mentor new delegates.
- Understanding of or experience in international library and information issues.
- Experience working on or for other boards of directors or in elected constituent organizations.
- Business and process planning skills.
- Ability and willingness to write and share one's experiences and information gained as a delegate.