

Core Town Hall II Q&A

October 22, 2019

1. **Is it possible to come up with a name that is more descriptive? I am embarrassed by "Core". I can't imagine talking about this with professionals outside of librarianship.** (Rhonda Marker)
2. **How will decisions be made by the steering committee, and how will we protect transparency about that process for existing division members?** (Topher L.)
3. **The genesis of this is to save administrative overhead for ALA, right?** (Tina Buck)
4. **This came from the Twitter chat last week: What will happen immediately next if there is a YES vote on the new division? Same question for a NO vote** (Kristin Martin)
5. **How do you envision bringing these groups together would help us "adapt, thrive, and chart a more sustainable course"? I understand the need, but am interested in plans for moving forward.** (Samuel Willis)
6. **Could you speak a bit about how the divisional representatives to the Steering Committee and the Communication Group were chosen? Are there opportunities for people who are interested, but who were not picked as representatives, to be involved in the transition efforts going forward?** (Erin Leach)
7. **Is there a list of arguments for/against the merge that we could examine to inform our decision?** (Arthur Liu)
8. **One comment: I agree that the name itself will not necessarily exclude someone from joining - but the question really is, for some areas in the field, there would really be no other division that professionally are valuable to join. Any thoughts on that - or is that just obvious?** (thank you) (jesse lambertson)
9. **As the numbers for the divisions have dropped, have the members of ALA itself dropped at the same rate? Or is the membership reduction at the division level mostly?** (jesse lambertson)
A: You can see a 10-year chart for ALA at <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/13FTlx8DzERA4v4AukJj6WubGpM5tE2hCGUPtkRmwI9w/edit?usp=sharing> (I'll also post this in the chat)
10. **cool, please do. that link is not clickable here.** (Anonymous Attendee)
11. **If the merge occurs, what would the impact(s) be on sessions/panels at ALA Annual and Midwinter conferences?** (Arthur Liu)

12. **That is the question, and for us in tech, that will be an essential link (to use the word) thank you** (jesse lambertson)
13. **To follow up: I'm asking because as a tech services librarian, I find many of ALCTS' sessions very helpful. They are very specific to cataloging/metadata folks' concerns. Can we hope to retain this?** (Arthur Liu)
14. **I would like to thank the panel. This has been very helpful to me. I would love to be involved in this new division.** (Suzanne Sager)

[View the recording in Zoom](#)