

Electronic Resources Australia

ERA Governance Framework

March 2009

DISCUSSION PAPER

PURPOSE

To propose changes to the ERA Governance Framework and invite ERA members to propose additional changes.

BACKGROUND

A review of the current Governance Framework (Attachment B) that was developed by the Governance Sub Committee of the National Licensing Proposal Reference Group is planned for 2009.

The ERA Executive Committee recommends the following changes to the ERA Governance Framework and seeks the endorsement of ERA members:

1. for simplicity change all references to "Australian National Licensing Proposal" to "Electronic Resources Australia" and delete 1.3;
2. change 5.2 to remove the second line which current reads "The Forum will elect the Consortium's Executive Committee every two years in a manner so prescribed by members." as this is covered under 7.3.1.;
3. change 6.3 to read "Unless otherwise stated in the governance framework, all voting will be decided by a simple majority of attending members at any Consortium meeting or any other formal ballot:";
4. delete 6.4 "The negotiation of tenders will be determined by the Executive Committee and Membership Forum through a process agreed by the Forum" as this is covered under 7.8.1.;
5. change 7.2.2 to read "The Executive Committee will have no more than two members drawn from the same Library sector at any one time, with no more than one drawn from the NSLA sector. The six Library sectors include NSLA, University, TAFE, School, Public and Special.";
6. include a new 7.2.3 to read "The Executive Committee will have one member appointed to represent the NLA.";
7. re-number the current 7.2.3 to 7.2.4.
8. change 11 to read " Any part of this framework may be amended by the majority of the ERA Membership Forum that participate in the ballot."
9. delete 13 as this relates to transitional arrangements.

The ERA Executive Committee also seeks input from ERA members on the continued appropriateness of the current Governance Framework and invites proposals for additional changes.

Under the terms of the Governance Framework the Membership Forum will elect Executive Committee members for terms of two years and members will serve staggered two-year terms to provide continuity. The Executive Committee comprises of a Chair, Deputy Chair, minimum of six ordinary members (one representative from each sector), and an Executive Officer.

The first ERA Executive Committee was established in November 2007; therefore elections for the Committee are due in November 2009. The ERA members will need to consider the terms for electing the ERA Executive Committee and provide input into the process for the elections this year (i.e. whether there is a need to stagger the member terms, and if so, how we achieve this).

RECOMMENDATION:

The ERA Executive recommends that the:

- ERA members consider the terms for electing the ERA Executive Committee and provide input to the process for the elections this year.
- ERA members provide input on the continued appropriateness of the current Governance Framework, including any proposed changes.