

## CLA Network Policy

**Networks:** member-driven units on any aspect of the profession of interest to CLA members

**Networks** can be based on: issues, geography, library function – any topic that meets member needs

**Networks** may be: short-term or long-term in nature, to address a time-sensitive issue or an on-going concern

**Networks** will be: open to any CLA member to participate. Individuals who are not CLA members are also welcome to participate in the activities of the Network, but they cannot be founding members or moderators.

**Networks** may overlap with Advisory Committee topics. The Network would then be the place for members to learn more about the topic, develop expertise, and contribute towards grassroots advocacy initiatives in that area. Members of the related Advisory Committee would be expected to work with members of the Network, sharing their knowledge and helping to develop the capacity of the Network members so that they may eventually serve on the Advisory Committee. These linkages will ensure continuity and knowledge transfer for both the Network and the Advisory Committee.

**Networks** need:

- a moderator (for two-year terms)
- a petition supported by 10 members
- terms of reference, indicating description of topic being addressed, anticipated timeframe (short-term or on-going)
- a proposed plan of activity

**Networks** provide:

- the opportunity to take on leadership roles
- a space to explore areas of interest
- the chance to develop expertise on a particular topic
- an opportunity to give input to content for the annual conference

**CLA** offers Networks:

- electronic communication support (for list-serves, blogs, wikis, discussion boards, etc.)
- funding on a project-basis, with priority assigned to projects that advance CLA's mission
- the opportunity to meet in person annually at the CLA National Conference

**Network Moderator** is responsible to:

- maintain communications with Network members
- prepare and submit requests for project funding; report on results and account for funds
- organize and convene meeting at conference
- prepare annual report to Executive Council
- be a CLA member