

ALA TECHNOLOGY ROADMAP 2015-2017

Note: All dates are subject to change at any time based on available resources. This list of projects does not include standard maintenance and day-to-day operations.

Last updated by ITTS on January 20, 2015.

FY 2015

January 2015

Annual 2015 Registration & Housing Accessibility/Pricing/Bundle Testing

This testing ensures the site will be accessible to vision-impaired users, pricing is calculated correctly based on membership status, and the registration for bundled users in iMIS is working properly.

Ongoing Projects

Profile management, Shibboleth on ALA Connect (due to launch in January), and beginning contract negotiations with our ecommerce vendor. Note that moving forward with implementing a new ecommerce system is dependent on the profile management project and Shibboleth for Connect being completed first.

Preparing Website Routing for Youth Media Awards (YMA) at Midwinter

The ALA website landing page must be changed to route YMA traffic to an outside vendor due to the extreme traffic when the YMA's are announced during Midwinter.

Install and Test New Backup Software

New backup software is needed to support our virtualized server environment. The current software is inefficient and needs to be replaced.

Configure Internal Storage Servers

Our internal storage needs to be reorganized and expanded to accommodate unit requirements.

February 2015

Launch Phase 1 of New Profile

Phase one combines all of the data into one profile stored in the iMIS database.

Negotiate Contract for New Ecommerce System for Membership Dues and Fundraising iMIS Task Centre Module Training

Training will resume on this module to allow for automating a number of manual processes in iMIS and other Microsoft SQL databases.

Sympa List Upgrade

The Sympa server needs to be upgraded; we are several versions behind in the software.

ALA Personas Project

Continuing progress on the development and validation of the personas.

Begin Developing Mobile Strategy

Begin Evaluating NewSingle Sign-on Software

March 2015

Begin Discovery Phase for New Ecommerce System for Membership Dues and Fundraising

Launch of the New Event Planning Management System

Phase one of the new system must be in place and fully tested by mid-March 2015 in order to manage all of the proposal, abstract management, peer review, room management, and speaker management pieces of ALA conferences, beginning with the 2016 events.

Online Journal System

Implement Shibboleth and iMIS integration for access to ALA Publishing's new installation of OJS.

Prophix Financial Report Writing Software Upgrade

Support is scheduled to expire on the current version.

Committee Appointment Application Upgrade

The appointments and volunteer application is eight-years old and needs updating. This includes both the member views and the staff/admin portion. Both are also in need of design work to make this a more user-friendly and accessible application.

Solr Search Engine User Testing for ala.org and ALA Connect

We need data to determine for the best implementation for federated search.

Reduction of Special Pricing Rules for Small Events/Continuing Education

Continue discussions with appropriate ALA units about the need to reduce the number of special pricing rules for ALA events and continuing education in order to simplify our ecommerce and elearning implementations.

Upgrade Virtual Infrastructure

Our virtual server software needs an upgrade to the latest version, which will affect all of our mission critical servers.

Refresh Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity Project

We need to continue the implementation of our disaster recovery and business continuity plans.

April 2015

Begin Phase II Updates to the Profile Management Project

In this phase, we will build a member-matching system to help members build their networks and find others with similar interests.

Ecommerce

Start building Membership Dues and Fundraising in the new system.

Online Membership Directory using Solr Search Engine

Complete the second phase of the Solr integration that will make it possible for users to search the newly-merged master profiles, which will become our new Member Directory.

Federated Solr Search Engine for ala.org and ALA Connect.

This includes federated and faceted searching of both ala.org and ALA Connect.

Load Balancing for the ALA Website

Virtual servers need to be spun up and configured to allow load balancing for ala.org to better handle periods of high traffic.

ALA Personas Project

Continuing progress on the development and validation of the personas.

May 2015

Ecommerce

Continue building Membership Dues and Fundraising in the new system.

Launch of the new ALA Store

Prepare and Release an RFP for Mobile Website using Responsive Theme

Our internal Web Management Group (WMG) strongly recommends that the ALA web presence adopt a responsive design. Using the current ALA Drupal CMS, a responsive theme can be applied across the ALA web presence to better enable users to browse and interact with the site on mobile devices. Beginning this project is dependent on funding becoming available.

June 2015

Replace Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS)

The UPS providing backup power to our servers needs to be replaced. The batteries in the unit are four-years old and the unit itself is eight-years old.

Update Monitoring and Alerting Software for All Services

Upgrade Windows Server Operating System to 2015

Upgrade SQL Server Databases

Ecommerce

Continue building and testing Membership Dues and Fundraising in the new system.

July 2015

Phase III Updates to the Profile Management Project

In order to let members fully present their professional contributions, we'll add historical data from iMIS to display past committee appointments, elected offices, conference attendance, conference presentations, works authored for ALA, and other forms of volunteer work on their ALA profiles.

Re-evaluating Web-based Analytics Dashboard

We need to update our research to determine the best system to implement.

Citrix Server Upgrade for Remote Access to Applications

Our Citrix server farm needs to be upgraded because our current environment is no longer supported and is unstable.

Outlook/Exchange Upgrade

Implement the second step of our Exchange Server upgrade from version 2007 to 2010 and roll out the 2010 Outlook client to all workstations.

August 2015

Implement new iMIS pricing rules for membership dues

Changes to pricing rules occur every year at this time.

2016 Bundle Registration & Housing Accessibility/Pricing Testing

This testing ensures the site will be accessible to vision-impaired users, pricing is calculated correctly based on membership status, and the registration for bundled users in iMIS is working properly.

eLearning Commons

A new enhanced elearning portal website, ALA eLearning Commons (eLC) will replace our existing ALA Online Learning portal at <http://www.ala.org/onlinelearning/>. At this time, it's unclear where the eLearning Commons will live, but the timeline will need to be pushed back to Fall 2015 if it's determined that the new ecommerce system will host it.

Implement Mobile Website using Responsive Theme

Virtualize Remaining Physical Servers

Reduce Single Points of Failure Across the Network

We need to purchase and install an application firewall so that we have redundancy in the case of failure.

Complete Identity Management Project

We are currently using E-directory and Active Directory to manage our internal user login authentication, file directories, and print drivers. We need to install software to manage this from one location.

NACHA ACH File Format Changes (Accounting System)

Accounts Payable Vendor Merge (Accounting System)

Modification to Vendor Bank Detail Listing (Accounting System)

Fix Electronic File Transfer Notification Issue (Accounting System)

FY2016

September 2015

Midwinter 2016 Registration & Housing Accessibility/Pricing Testing

Phase IV of the Profile Management Project

Working with ALA units, we'll implement a badge system that displays on member profiles to demonstrate competencies achieved through eLearning and volunteer work within the Association.

Web-based Analytics Dashboard

Implementing this software package will enable executive management to quickly browse data to unearth trends and patterns about ALA. Users can rapidly query ALA information to create sophisticated charts and grids, pivot tables, decomposition trends, perspective views, performance maps, and key performance indicator measures.

Ecommerce

Continue building and testing Membership Dues and Fundraising in the new system.

October 2015

Moodle Online Course Software Upgrade

Our Moodle software needs to be upgraded to support online courses offered by ALA units. Outside hosting companies will also be considered.

Ecommerce

Continue testing Membership Dues and Fundraising in the new system.

November 2015

Tentative Launch of eCommerce System for Membership Dues and Fundraising

December 2015

Annual 2016 Registration & Housing Accessibility/Pricing/Bundle Testing

February 2016

Election Single Sign-On Implementation and testing

Update and deploy single sign-on technology for the ALA Election website.

VIVO Member Matching Implementation

Implement VIVO software to visualize existing and potential relationships between members. Leadership paths can be tracked and future leaders more easily identified.

Dates to Be Determined

Shibbolize Remaining Resources for Single Sign-on Across More ALA Services

My ALA Website & My CE

As the landing page that members are taken to when they log in to the website, it will provide our members with a convenient way to explore and interact with the site's resources. It will bring together the relevant information ALA and its units offer in a custom view, personalized for each member based on her or his interest profiles.

New ITTS Help Desk System

Our helpdesk software needs to be replaced with a more robust system.

Draft Change Management Policy

Modify the draft change management policy to be more realistic based on ITTS resources.

FY2017

2017 Bundle Registration & Housing Accessibility/Pricing Testing

Midwinter 2017 Registration & Housing Accessibility/Pricing Testing

Annual 2017 Registration & Housing Accessibility/Pricing/Bundle Testing

Dates To Be Determined:

Upgrade Web Content Management System to Drupal 8

Upgrade ALA Connect to Drupal 8

Investigate a New Phone System

No Due Dates

Evaluate Migrating to Google Email/Apps

Evaluate New Association Management System Alternatives

Evaluate Cloud Computing for Enterprise-wide Applications

Explore ALA Connect Options