

DPLA Board of Directors: Terms and Principles

January 2013

Purpose

The inaugural DPLA Board of Directors will support the DPLA's goal of creating and maintaining a free, open, and sustainable national digital library resource. The Board will seek to fulfill the DPLA's broad commitment to openness, inclusiveness, and accessibility. The Board will endeavor towards these ends in the best interest of its stakeholders, future employees, future users, and other affected parties.

Membership

The inaugural Board of Directors will consist of seven members, five previously approved by the Steering Committee in September 2012 and two additional members to be selected by the Board itself. The process by which all future Board members are selected will be enumerated in the forthcoming DPLA charter and bylaws.

Key Responsibilities

The inaugural Board of Directors will hold a broad range of responsibilities in the new DPLA non-profit organization, including selecting an Executive Director, approving foundational documents prepared by the Governance Workstream, setting an initial budget, and considering such important decisions as staff size and organizational structure. While it is understood that the duties and responsibilities of the Board as described in this document will remain in effect only until superseded by the forthcoming DPLA charter and bylaws, it is highly likely that such activities as the setting of budgets and general oversight and endorsement of strategy, in coordination with the Executive Director, will remain fundamental responsibilities.

The Board of Directors will convene a meeting, either virtually or physically, once a month until the new organization has been staffed to full operation, after which quarterly or bi-annual meetings will be convened. As per the DPLA Open Meetings Guidelines, effective until April 2013, these meetings will be open to the public except in matters pertaining to personnel, litigation, and compliance with law or federal grant-in-aid requirements.

General Timeline

- January-March 2013: review and approve slate of candidates for Executive Director, as provided by the [DPLA Search Committee](#) and Spencer Stuart, a search firm.

- Winter-Spring 2013: alongside Executive Director, set targets for future DPLA funding
- Winter –Spring 2013: supported by recommendations from Governance and Financial/Business Models workstreams, work with Executive Director to determine initial staff structure for DPLA and begin recruiting/hiring process
- April 2013: fill two remaining open seats on Board
- April 18-19, 2013: participate in meetings and public event at [DPLA launch event](#) at the Boston Public Library in Boston, MA