Americas Regional Council
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Upcoming OCLC meetings:

- **OCLC Americas Regional Council Meeting: The Voice of Members in the Americas**
  - Friday, January 15, 8:30 – 11:30 am
    - In conjunction with the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Boston, Massachusetts, January 2010

- **OCLC Americas Regional Council Annual Meeting**
  - Thursday, June 24, 1:00 – 6:00 pm **AND**
    - Friday, June 25, 8:30 am – 12:00 pm
    - In conjunction with the ALA Annual Conference in Washington, DC, June 2010
Americas Regional Council: The voice of OCLC members in the Americas

The Americas Regional Council is one of three regional councils that have been introduced as part of OCLC’s new governance structure to facilitate member-to-member discussions. The Council is the primary means through which members can offer feedback on OCLC products, services and policies through OCLC’s Global Council, and help shape the future of the cooperative.

The OCLC Americas Regional Council encourages participation by all members from Canada, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the United States. Council meetings are open to all interested OCLC members, participants and nonmembers. These meetings facilitate connections among members throughout the region and back to OCLC through the Global Council.

OCLC member institutions in the Americas elect professional staff or board members from their institutions to one-year terms on the Americas Regional Council Executive Committee, and to three-year terms on the Global Council as Member Delegates. Any member can bring issues to discussions or resolutions to vote.

For more information, please visit: www.oclc.org/councils/.

Get involved: your participation is an important benefit of membership

There are many rewarding ways to participate in the OCLC cooperative. Here are a few examples of opportunities that OCLC offers.

- Nominate a colleague for an open position on the Americas Regional Council or Global Council.
- Test and provide feedback on OCLC products and services that are in development: www.oclc.org/productworks/.
- Attend OCLC’s thought leadership sessions at conferences: www.oclc.org/news/events/.
- Share your story with the world—contribute an article to one of many OCLC publications, like NextSpace, OCLC Abstracts, OCLC Cooperative eNews and news releases.
- Join the conversation at Americas Regional Council meetings.

Americas Regional Council Meetings: Connect. Speak up. Lead.

The Americas Regional Council holds at least one in-person meeting annually to keep members current on issues of vital and immediate interest to the OCLC cooperative, and may also schedule additional virtual meetings as important topics arise.

All members in the region will be able to participate in discussions, advance ideas and vote on resolutions related to the cooperative. Whether you attend these meetings to connect with peers, vote on issues of importance to your member institution, or take a leadership role by serving on the Americas Regional Council or Global Council, there are many exciting opportunities to get involved.

Regional Council meetings are open to library staff regardless of OCLC membership status and give individuals a voice in the OCLC cooperative. Global Council meetings are open to delegates elected by OCLC members. When required, official voting is at the institution level: one vote per institution.

The OCLC cooperative belongs to its members

OCLC members play an integral role in the guidance, health and growth of the organization. The OCLC model is built on the same ideals shared by the institutions we serve—sharing, community and efficiency. The objectives and benefits of the OCLC cooperative mirror those of libraries and other cultural heritage institutions. Just as they seek to further access to shared resources and promote a community of learners for their constituencies, OCLC seeks to do so for its members. The Americas Regional Council will serve as the communications conduit between OCLC and its regional members.