

| Committee | Type | Function(s) | Reports to | Composed of |
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| Advisory Committee | Standing Board Committee | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To provide advice and recommendations to the Board of Directors on matters of concern and interest to the Advisory Committee, its members, and the DPLA in general; - To deliberate on topics raised by other DPLA committees and crosscutting issues brought forth in public DPLA engagements, as deemed relevant; - To serve an advocacy and community-building role. | Board of Directors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Former members of the Steering Committee who have opted in to serve - Additional members nominated and selected by Board or Advisory Committee |
| Audit and Finance Committee | Standing Board committee | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To oversee the financial doings of the DPLA; - To participate in the DPLA's annual audit process; - To review and evaluate the DPLA's fiscal operation and its managers; - To report to the Board and/or Executive Director on the DPLA's finances, and/or any irregularities or issues; - To make sure that the DPLA's financial operations align with its mission, vision, and strategic goals. | Board of Directors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Board Treasurer (Chair) - Executive Director - Board members with financial, legal, or accounting knowledge |
| Nominating Committee | <i>Ad Hoc</i> Board Committee | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To collectively identify and propose new members to the Board of Directors. | Board of Directors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interested members of the Board |
| Search Committee for Executive Director | <i>Ad Hoc</i> Board Committee | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To collectively interview and review a slate of candidates suggested by Spencer Stuart, an executive search firm, for the role of DPLA Executive Director. | Board of Directors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interested members of the Board - Former members of the Steering Committee who have opted in or whom the Board has asked to serve |
| Content Strategy Committee | Standing Operational Committee | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To provide advice and recommendations to the Executive Director, Director for Content, and staff on matters pertaining to the DPLA's long-term strategy for identifying and acquiring new content, partnering with data- and service-providing | Executive Director | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Former members of the Content and Scope workstream - Additional members asked to serve by the Board, |

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| | | <p>organizations, and other related matters;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To recommend guidelines on bibliographic data, metadata, interoperability, and international cooperation, in coordination with the Technical Advisory Committee. | | <p>Advisory Committee, or Executive Director</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As a non-convening member: any member of the public interested in the committee's work |
| Technical Advisory | Standing Operational Committee | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To provide advice and recommendations to the Executive Director, Director for Content, and staff on matters pertaining to the DPLA's long-term technical development, including ongoing development of the metadata platform, open API(s), front-end functionality, in-house and third-party applications, and other related endeavors; - To facilitate engagement and enthusiasm within the larger tech community around the DPLA platform and its related components (potentially as a sub-committee). | Executive Director | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Former members of the Technical Aspects workstream - Additional members asked by the Board, Advisory Committee, or Executive Director - As a non-convening member: any member of the public interested in the committee's work |
| Marketing and Outreach | Standing Operational Committee | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To provide advice and recommendations to the Executive Director, Director for Content, and staff on matters pertaining to the DPLA's strategies for marketing and community outreach, including developing community engagement events, identifying new and existing modalities/channels for the DPLA to collaborate with organizations, and working to identify, describe, and target key institutional and personal end-user demographics; - To provide advice and recommendations to the Executive Director, Director for Content, and staff on matters pertaining to the DPLA's strategy for identifying and partnering with content- and service-providing organizations, in collaboration with the Content Strategy Committee. | Executive Director | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Former members of the Audience and Participation workstream - Additional members asked by the Board, Advisory Committee, or Executive Director - As a non-convening member: any member of the public interested in the committee's work |

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| Legal | Standing Operational Committee | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To provide advice and recommendations to the Executive Director, Director for Content, and staff on how to approach and influence the legal and copyright environment in order to support equitable knowledge distribution in a digital world, including work toward better understanding and influencing digital lending, orphan works, international works, metadata ownership, strategies for tiered access, and dealing vendors and materials under various kinds of restrictions; - To facilitate engagement with the broader legal community around legal issues relevant to the DPLA, digital libraries, and digital access in general. | Executive Director | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Former members of the Legal Issues workstream - Additional members asked by the Board, Advisory Committee, or Executive Director - As a non-convening member: any member of the public interested in the committee’s work |
| Governance and Finance | Standing Operational Committee | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To provide advice and recommendations to the Executive Director, Director for Content, and staff on the common practices to which the DPLA should adhere; - To provide advice and recommendations to the Executive Director, Director for Content, and staff on how the DPLA’s financial operations align with its mission, vision, and strategic goals. | Executive Director | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Former members of the Governance and Financial/Business Models workstream - Additional members asked by the Board, Advisory Committee, or Executive Director -As a non-convening member: any member of the public interested in the committee’s work |

Operational vs. Board Committees

In general, the committees of the DPLA reflect an organizational commitment to flat hierarchies. While these committees do report to the Executive Director or the Board of Directors, it is understood they will work closely with the Board or DPLA staff to pursue programmatic and research areas that are of mutual import and relevance to all involved.

Board Committees are composed primarily of members of the DPLA Board of Directors, former Steering Committee members, and those additional members who have been selected by the Board or Advisory Committee. Board Committees are tasked primarily with providing advice and recommendations on issues related to policy and strategy. Board Committees shall have a Chairperson and one Vice-Chairperson to coordinate participation and communication between members and the Board. The Chairperson is charged with driving the committee's agenda and workflow, and the Vice-Chairperson is tasked with seeing to the committee's smooth functioning and communication between committee members and the Board of Directors. These committees shall also have a Secretary to report on activities to other committee members and the Board of Directors. Board committees report directly to the Board of Directors.

Operational Committees are composed primarily of members of the six DPLA workstreams and any additional members asked by the Executive Director or DPLA staff to serve as a convening member. Any interested member of the public is welcome to join as a non-convening member. Operational Committees are tasked generally with providing advice and recommendations on issues related to how the DPLA operates as an organization, and specifically on issues related to the committee's strategic focus. Operational Committees shall have a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. The Chairperson is charged with driving the committee's agenda and workflow, in close consultation with the Executive Director, and the Vice-Chairperson is tasked with seeing to the committee's smooth functioning and communication between committee members and DPLA staff. These committees shall also have a Secretary to report on activities to other committee members and the DPLA staff. Operational Committees report directly to the Executive Director.

Other recommendations

- Committees shall have the ability to form *ad hoc* task forces or sub-committees to research and report on a specific issue or a set of issues; design and develop an initiative; or work in a more focused manner on a specific piece of operational strategy, pending approval from the Executive Director or Board of Directors. These *ad hoc* committees shall operate largely in a virtual capacity, with members communicating via electronic mailing lists or other forms of electronic communication.
- All of the operational committees shall meet once a year at a major annual event similar to the DPLA plenary working meetings. One option might be an annual “Wikimania” style event during which committees convene working meetings while hackers code against the DPLA API(s). This event would be open to the public; remote participation would be available for anyone unable to attend in person.
- Committee Secretaries are chiefly responsible for crafting monthly briefing documents describing committee activities and general next steps. Specific areas to include in this document: a summary of any virtual conversations via the electronic discussion list; proposals from members interested in a specific question or topic; a rundown of new members and any introductions they might have; notice of upcoming events; and any miscellaneous items of note.