

Appendix

The Evolution of the ILA's Member Communities:

Summary: First created as Sections in 1999, their purpose was to review submissions for the inaugural conference and to host meetings to hear participant feedback. In 2001, the Sections were renamed Global Learning Communities (GLCs) with the intention of broadening their focus however, over the next five years most of the work of the GLCs focused on proposal review and programming for the global conference. In 2006, the Board adopted a recommendation from the GLCs and staff to create three types of communities: Affinity Groups, Learning Communities, and Member Interest Groups. Over time, it became clear that few understood the differences and that it made sense to simplify to one structure: Member Communities.

1999:

The founders created five Sections to provide a home base for each constituency and to advise the staff and Advisory Board. The first meetings of the Sections - Leadership Scholarship, Leadership Education, Leadership Development, Multicultural Leadership, and Community Leadership - took place in Atlanta at the conclusion of the inaugural ILA annual meeting. Facilitated by appointed chairs, the meetings provided an opportunity for like-focused attendees to reflect on their conference experience and share their expectations of the newly formed ILA.

2000:

The chairs of each Section reviewed proposals and selected the presentations for the second annual meeting, held in Toronto.

2001:

At its first strategic planning retreat in January, the ILA Board identified the ILA's primary target markets, and replaced the Sections with five Global Learning Communities (GLCs): Scholarship, Education, Training and Development, Public Service, and Business; the Inter-Group Learning Community (I-GLC) was established to foster cross-community learning. Initially led by appointed convenors, the GLCs developed structures and leadership succession plans to meet the needs of their specific constituencies.

Over the next five years, most of the work of the GLCs focused on proposal review and programming for the global conference; additionally, staff sought their input on how the ILA could meet the needs of their constituencies. New convenors were selected at the GLC meeting during the global conference, usually by acclamation and sometime by election.

2006:

After much discussion and reflection, the GLCs advised the Board to establish the current Member Community structure to include: Member Interest Groups (MIGs), Learning Communities (LCs),

and Affinity Groups(AGs). At this time, the MIG leadership co-created a formal online election procedure, still in place today.

2013:

The ILA ended the year with 13 Member Communities:

MIGs: Business Leadership; Leadership Development; Leadership Education; Leadership Scholarship; Public Leadership; and Youth Leadership/

AGs: Leadership Education Program Directors, Deans, and Chairs; Peace Leadership; Women and Leadership

LCs: Ethics Forum; Followership; Philosophy, Religion and Worldviews; and Sustainability Leadership

2020:

The Board of Directors updated the ILA Bylaws to simplify the structure:

ARTICLE VI MEMBER COMMUNITIES

Section 6.01 Definition: ILA Member Communities are officially-recognized groups focused on specified areas of the leadership field, professional roles, sectors, areas, or a specific topic. Facilitated by a volunteer leaders, Member Communities engage ILA members in teams, projects, and tasks to enhance the member experience and serve the global needs of their community.

Section 6.02 Formation: ILA Members are encouraged to organize Member Communities to further their interests and professional development. The Membership Committee of the Board of Directors has the authority to approve applications for new Member Communities.

An application to establish a Member Community must contain a name for the group, a description of the unique constituency of the group in contrast to existing ILA Member Communities, the community's purpose and goals, an outline of the proposed activities, and a description of the target members. This application must be signed by at least 35 ILA members whose interests align with the proposed Member Community. The proposed community must have a designated key contact person (community chair) and at least 2 ILA members committed to serving with the Community Chair on the Core Leadership Team.

Section 6.03 Purpose: Member Communities are formed by members of the ILA with the desire to pursue significant long-term activities that benefit members while supporting the ILA's mission. Member Communities engage ILA members in teams, projects, and tasks to enhance the member experience, serve the needs of their constituencies, further collective and individual online and in person learning, and identify strategies

for collaboration to move the field forward. Member Communities extend the association's impact and capacity by supporting and advancing the ILA's mission, organizational values while helping to further the Strategic Plan. ILA's Member Communities:

- a) Create trusted spaces within the larger organization where members can meet others with similar professional needs or interests;
- b) Develop and share resources and pertinent information;
- c) Organize conference sessions, networking events, webinars, and other programming that facilitate relationships, learning, and professional development;
- d) Advise the ILA Board of Directors and staff concerning the community's particular interests, member needs, and specialties;
- e) Provide an opportunity for individuals to participate actively in their association.

Section 6.04 Organization: Within 18 months of formation, each Member Community shall have a Chair and Chair-Elect with specific duties as outlined in the ILA Member Community Handbook. Thereafter, the Core Leadership Team will also include the position of Past Chair. This Core Leadership Team may create additional roles, committees, or teams to further the work of the community.

Section 6.05 Dissolution: A Member Community may opt to dissolve when interest in that community fades, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. Alternatively, if a Member Community does not meet the minimum requirements outlined in the Member Community Handbook, the Board of Directors has the authority to dissolve the community.