

## **What are the expectations and Bylaws?**

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.