Executive Board Conference Call Notes

December 16, 2014

Present for the call: President Courtney Young; President-elect Sari Feldman; Immediate Past President Barbara Stripling; Treasurer Mario Gonzalez; Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels; and Sr. Associate Executive Director Mary Ghikas. Board Members: Robert Banks, Peter Hepburn, Alexia Hudson-Ward, Sara Kelly Johns, John Moorman, Gina Persichini, and Gail Schlachter. Director of Governance JoAnne Kempf and Executive Board Secretariat Kerri Price. Absent: Board Member James Neal.

1. **New York Publisher Meetings and I Love My Librarian Awards**

Courtney Young, Barbara Stripling, and Keith Michael Fiels reported on the recent held, productive meetings between ALA and publishers in New York City, noting that all parties are committed to issues like diversity and preservation and want to stay engaged to improve access to digital materials.

The I Love My Librarian Awards event was a well-attended, moving celebration.

1. **2015 Midwinter Meeting Update**

Mary Ghikas noted that registration is slightly ahead of the 2014 Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia, but less than the 2013 Midwinter Meeting in Seattle. 60% of the registration budget has been met, with 4,195 registrants. Conference Services will increase marketing efforts during the first week of January, focusing on content like the News You Can Use series, which will include discussions on diversity.

1. **October Financials**

Mario Gonzalez reported on the October financials, noting that revenue is within $130K of the budgeted amount of $3.5 million and expenses are less than the budgeted amount. The Board will examine the November numbers at the upcoming 2015 Midwinter Meeting.

1. **Strategic Planning: Virtual Town Hall Meetings and Midwinter Planning Activities**

Courtney Young and Keith Michael Fiels reported on the recently held Virtual Town Hall Meetings (led by Young), which had 40-60 participants and very active chat sessions. The meetings focused on the three strategic areas - Advocacy, Information Policy, and Professional Development – and were hosted in Adobe Connect. Links to the archives are posted on the ALA website and ALAConnect space.

Several groups will hold strategic planning activities during the upcoming 2015 Midwinter Meeting, including the ALA Council, the Planning and Budget Assembly, and several chapters and affiliates.

1. **Chief Financial Officer Search**

Mario Gonzalez and Keith Michael Fiels reported that staff created a detailed position description and changed the title from associate executive director of finance to chief financial officer. Senior staff is planning the search committee as well as an external assessment by a financial expert. 65 resumes have been received to date and the goal is to hold face-face interviews during the 3rd week in March 2015.