American Library Association  
Committee Information Update

Please note: ALA and Council committees are required to submit an update of their activities within one-month after each Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference. This form will be sent to the ALA Council and the ALA Committee on Organization.

Report for Midwinter ________

Report for Annual Conference ___X____ Meeting Saturday, June 25, 2011 and Monday, June 27, 2011

Name of Committee: ALA Awards Committee

Committee Chair: Andrea Lapsley

Committee Members Present: Andrea Lapsley, Deborah Dancik, Georgie Lynn Donovan, Denise Kwan, Elizabeth Nelson, Dorothy Ownes, Sue Stroyan, Sara Pope (intern), Cheryl Malden (staff)

Committee Members Absent: Deana Groves, Neely Tang, Jonathan Kinloch (intern)

Others Present: Presenting awards: Charles Wilt from ACLS, Larry Alford from ACRL; Kevin Reynolds our Executive Committee Liaison

Accomplishments [at this meeting], a concise account:
Saturday, June 25th
Charles Wilt presented a new award from ALCTS for the Jan Merrill-Oldham Professional Development Grant. This is from the Preservation and Reformatting Section (PARS). It is a travel grant to ALA annual for librarians or para-professionals with 5 or fewer years in the field of library and archives preservation. This award was approved.

Sue Stroyan from Beta Phi Mu presented the Beta Phi Mu/LLRT Research Paper Award. The award will recognize excellence in research in problems related to librarianship. Any ALA member will be eligible for the award. This award was approved.
Larry Alford presented criteria changes to the Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Award. This change would expand the eligibility from university, college or community college libraries to include non-profit consortia that provide resources/services/support to academic libraries. The change has been approved by the ACRL board, but not the three other sponsoring divisions (ALCTS, LLAMA, LITA). Since a committee quorum was present the group voted to accept the change pending notification of approval by the other divisions.

Kevin Reynolds provided the committee on an update from Council and the Executive Committee.

Monday, June 27th
Final details of the award ceremony were reviewed by the group.

Plans for creating a PR packet for each award jury were discussed and preliminary information shared with the group. Work will continue on this between conferences and be done electronically. The ultimate goal is to get more publicity and applications for each award.

Sarah Flowers from YALSA presented the YALSA Writing Award. This award will honor the best writing in YALSA’s blogs and journals. This award was approved.

The committee started a discussion about the possibility of moving the award ceremony and inauguration to Monday night of conference. The conference has been shortened in length, but this activity has not been moved back. Many people cannot stay until Wednesday and vendors sponsoring the awards are asked to stay even though exhibits close on Monday afternoon. The groups would like to talk more about this at the next meeting before making any recommendation.

Other action items:
- The Awards Manual will be reviewed at the Midwinter meeting for changes or updates.
- Press release information will be incorporated into the Awards manual for use by jury chairs.
- Award committee members will be assigned to two juries to keep in touch with the chairs and offer assistance as needed. This will be done by the Chair. This will be added to the committee’s responsibilities and put in the Awards manual.
- Award committee members will be assigned to an ALA division to check with the executive director about the division awards. This will be done by the chair. Part of the committee’s charge is to review awards every three years. This task is to be completed by Annual 2012.
Other comments/information you believe will help the Association in its work:

Submitted by: ___Andrea Lapsley, Chair ALA Awards Committee______________

Date Submitted: ___July 20, 2011______________________________

Please return the completed form to Delores Yates, Executive Board Secretariat, American Library Association, 50 E. Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611, dyates@ala.org.