American Library Association  
Committee on Research and Statistics (CORS)  
2010 Midwinter (Boston) Meeting Minutes

Sunday, January 17, 2009  10:30am-12:10pm  
Boston Convention & Exhibition Center, Room 209

Committee member attendees: Kyung-Sun Kim (chair), Steven Hiller, Sandra Hughes-Hassell, David Loertscher, Rochelle Logan, Bonnie Postlethwaite, Keith Curry Lance, Zeth Lietzau, Mary Stansbury, Larry Nash White (LRRT liaison), Denise M. Davis (ALA staff liaison), R. Norman Rose (ALA staff).  
Absent: Brian Smith, Richard Leigh (intern), Jeanne Boyle, Fatima Perkins, Robert Ivey, Elena Rosenfeld.

Guests: Denise Agosto (LRS-V), Larra Clark (ALA ORS), Laura Hardesty (Census), Jamie Hug (Census), Carlos Manjarrez (IMLS), Jennifer Paustenbaugh (Oklahoma State University), Cindy Sheckells (Census).

Meeting Management:
1. Introductions
2. Approved minutes from Annual 2009 (Chicago, IL)
3. Approved agenda for Midwinter Meeting (Boston, MA)

Continuing Business:
4. Report of chair (Kim)
   a. Use of ALA Connect – Due to spam issues with ALA listservs, CORS will be moving to Connect for its discussions, posting of documents, etc. Jenny Levine from the ALA ITTS office will be joining CORS after 11am to answer questions.
   
   b. 2010 Annual Conference (Washington, DC) – Thanks to the program planning group for organizing this. The program is scheduled for Monday, June 28, 2010 from 10:30am-noon. The CORS meeting is Sunday, June 27th from 1:30-3pm. 
   The 2010 program is Reaching out to Generation Y: Conducting Research to Understand Digital Natives. Speakers: Susan Gibbons, Vice Provost at Andrew H. & Janet Dayton Neilly Dean River Campus Libraries, University of Rochester and Carol Gordon, Associate Professor and Co-Director, Center for International Scholarship in School Libraries Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey School of Communication and Information.
   
   c. ALA virtual participation (Architecting Participation: New Ways of Convening @ ALA) – comments are needed by January 29th. Please post comments o the CORS listserv (cors@ala.org). Mary Stansbury expressed expectations that increased virtual participation will support members interconnecting “programmatically”.
   
   d. 2015 ALA Strategic Plan draft. A discussion space has been established for CORS in ALA Connect and comments are needed by February 26th. Steve Hiller will compile comments posted to Connect.

5. CORS program planning 2011 forward – Sunny Kim provided an overview of the program planning since 2007 and asked if members wanted to continue programs in the future. CORS
members agreed and it was suggested (David Loertscher) that we provide virtual access to the 2010 program. Denise Davis noted that CORS funding was limited. It also was noted that speaker permission would be required to record or telecast presentations. ALA staff will investigate options and report back to CORS.

Ideas for future programs included usability (e.g., how does my data fit with other data) and David Loertscher provided an example of a robust website in Florida.

A program planning subcommittee was established for the 2011 conference, including Sunny Kim (CORS Chair), Mary Stansbury, David Loertscher and Zeth Lietzau. ALA staff will coordinate a call with the subcommittee and the CORS chair.

6. RASA Assembly Reports – Sunny Kim reported that no RASA Assembly reports had been received prior to the CORS meeting.

7. Report of staff liaison

Denise Davis updated the Office for Research & Statistics summary prepared for the meeting, noting January 2010 release of three reports:

- **Condition of US Libraries**
- The fall 2009 preliminary findings from the library technology and funding study, *A Perfect Storm Brewing: Budget Cuts Threaten Library Services at Time of Increased Demand*  
  (http://www.ala.org/ala/research/initiatives/plftas/issuesbriefs/issuesbrief-perfectstorm.pdf)
- *Planning for 2015: The Recent History and Future Supply of Librarians*, a report prepared for the American Library Association Senior Management and Executive Board to inform its 2015 Strategic Planning Activities.  
  (http://www.ala.org/ala/research/librarystaffstats/recruitment/Librarians_supply_d emog_analys.pdf)

The FY2011 CORS budget was reviewed and approved by CORS members. Davis reminded program planners that non-ALA speaker honoraria/travel reimbursement cannot exceed $600 in total.

8. Courtney Young, ALA Executive Board Liaison Report. The report included an update on the FY2009-2011 ALA budgets and the ALA 2015 Strategic Plan activities and deadlines. Young reported that ALA membership database cleanup is complete and, minus duplicate records, overall membership is 61,739, about 1% less than January 2009 but nothing to be concerned about. Midwinter 2010 registration was over 10,000, slightly higher than Denver. The Advocacy efforts were highlighted, and Camilla Alire’s Frontline Advocacy panel discussion will be recorded and made available on the ALA website. Virtual participation at the 2010 Midwinter meeting includes tweets on the ALA homepage as well as Base Camp, spontaneous meetings and virtual sharing throughout the convention center. Finally, the Spectrum Presidential Initiative is a one-year campaign to raise $1 million, with half coming from ALA contributions and half from external donors.

9. ALA Connect overview – A handout was provided with meeting materials, and Jenny Levine was available to answer questions and offer tips. Jenny reminded the group that posts and discussions cannot be edited only added to as a thread, but online document posted can be edited.

Enhancements to Connect include an opportunities exchange, an event planner (a beta version is expected by the 2010 Annual Conference in DC) that will pre-populate meetings based on
member committee assignments and interests. Pending enhancements include advocacy tools and workflow tools.

10. Public Awareness Committee. Advocacy Coordinating Group – Mary Stansbury reported that an ALA Library Snapshot Day was approved for April 2010. This initiative was started by the NJ State Library and state library association and will be modeled by ALA. The “Perfect Storm” report was well received.

11. IFLA Report – no report
   The IFLA Statistics and Evaluation Section posts information at http://archive.ifla.org/VII/s22/


12. NISO Report – Keith Curry Lance reported that digital metrics (emetrics) described in Appendix B (Measuring the Use of Electronic Library Services) of the current Z39.7 standard will be merged with the base standard. The working group will meet at ALA Annual Conference in DC.

New Business:

13. Agency updates:
   a. IMLS – Carlos Manjarrez provided a handout of recent research and statistics activities in his department and highlighted a new research brief on service trends. New briefs will be forward looking and link research to IMLS agency initiatives. The annual library statistics reports have integrated time series information along with annual analysis. In addition, his office supports program evaluation and development of a museum statistics program. IMLS also is in discussions with an open indicators project of the Boston Foundation to make its data available via that portal.

   b. NCES - Cindy Sheckells (Census) updated the group on NCES survey activities. The 2008 academic library survey (ALS) final report (First Look) and public release data file were released 7 months earlier than the 2006 study, and the early release data (edited, unimputed) was released to the compare tool three months after the survey closed. The compare tool functionality is being improved and will be available in April 2010. The 2010 ALS is being planned and will open in November 2010.

14. Any other items (round robin)
   Denise Agosto (LRRT) reported on the upcoming seminar, Integrating Practice and Research: Library Research Seminar V to be held October 6-0, 2010 at the University of Maryland, College Park. A call for juried proposals was issued. Contact lrs-v@umd.edu for more information.

   Rochelle Logan asked about the status of the ALA Research Series. Denise Davis reported that the peer review panel was finalizing its submission scope and guidelines for evaluation, and a call for manuscripts would be issued in March 2010 with a deadline of May 1, 2010. The current book is underway (workforce issues), with a draft manuscript deadline of April 1, 2010. ALA Editions anticipates advertising the book in time for the ALA Annual Conference in June 2010.

The meeting adjourned at 12:10pm.

Documents emailed with the agenda prior to the meeting:
1. Minutes from Annual Meeting 2009, Chicago, IL
2. Agenda, Midwinter Meeting 2010, Boston, MA
3. ALA Connect information
4. Virtual member participation task force report: Architecting Participation: New Ways of Convening @ ALA
5. ORS update and CORS financial report