ACRL Chapters Council
Mid-winter 2012
DRAFT

Present:
Rickey Best, Caroline Fuchs, Danielle Whren Johnson, Bob Wolverton, Amy Eklund, Shaile Stoeckel, Ryan Gjerde, Tim Dodge, Regina Beard, Elizabeth Clarage, Beth Lander, Nancy Weiner, Brian T. Gallagher, Charles Kiy, Cindy Dudenhoffer, Les Kong, Rhonda Huisman, Mark Lanker, Tracey Olanyk

Welcome and introductions

Minutes from Annual 2011 meeting approved.

Tim Dodge was introduced as the new Legislative Network Coordinator.
We then heard from Candidates for ACRL slot on the board. First up was Charles Kratz. He talked about the importance of the position in general and to him. He talked about his experience in many different levels of ACRL and the importance of having a background in local chapters. He feels it is important that local chapters have a voice/advocate on the board. Since we only nominate every 3 years it is important that we have someone looking out for the chapters and bringing the board to us. He is comfortable with blogging and would be interested in new opportunities to grow a relationship with the chapters. He asked how we could be better represented at the board. Rickey said as he did the resolution there was no one on the board who understood what or why he was asking but if there was someone on the board who could better articulate our needs/position to the board. Charles replied that he couldn’t promise that he could get everyone to agree to something like that, but if elected he would come back to ask the Chapters Council what the issues are and what is important to us and take that back the board.

Rickey then gave an update on the petition for increased funding to chapters. The Executive board did not approve the request. Rickey feels that if ACRL is going to raise membership rates using the HEPI (Higher Education Price Index) they should consider a similar rate for the money they give to the chapters. Rickey then asked if the Chapters Council members thought this was something we should continue to push for. A new member asked Rickey to explain what the petition was about. The resolution was trying to tie the reimbursements from ACRL to the individual chapters on HEPI - since that is how they are calculating membership rates for national. The current minimum is $100 but chapters get a dollar for each member over the $100. The last time this was reviewed was in the 1980’s. But for even this little amount the chapters are required to put on a program (which usually costs a lot more than the amount they are given from national). (see addendum below) The other reason for this request to look at the reimbursement rates to chapters is that ACRL has done better financially- if national rates continue to increase- younger members will not sign up or will drop out.

Charles asked if we knew if the executive board or only the executive committee vetted the response. No one had the answer to that question.

A discussion then took place about the relationship between the ACRL Chapters and ACRL National. If we can get people to join local chapters they then tend to get interested to join committees at the National level. It was also pointed out that if you attempt to grow your membership by doing a recruitment drive and you can document it to National you can get $5 for every new member. (see addendum below)
The question came up whether or not we could get National to put a check box on their membership application to say yes I would be interested in more info about my local chapter. But how would that info get back to the local chapters? Once the box is checked there would be an increase in ACRL staff time. Rickey asked Beth to chair a small group to discuss the possible options with adding a check box. The group of volunteers was- Beth Lander, Caroline Fuchs, Sheila Stoeckel, and Brian Gallagher. And they would begin their discussion at the 4-5:30 work session.

Discussion then returned to the membership drives. The question was asked if the $5 was the same even if the person joining was a student? No one seemed to know- only that it was stated that the rate was $5 per NEW member and nothing about students. There was concern that you might get less than the $5 because the student membership rate is a cheaper rate. ACRL will give you a list of National members in the area for you to try to recruit- but to get the money it has to be a documented drive.

Mark Lenker then passed out cards for online communications. The push to improve online communication is because it’s hard for people to get to the ALA conference but we want them to be able to get involved and we want to support them. The website has a new address. The Chapter topics newsletter is going strong thanks to Regina Beard. The list serve administrator-Ryan Gjerde said traffic is light. There is also a community blog- Cindy Dudenhofer and Amy Eklund are moderators. We also have a Facebook presence ACRL Chapters- Caroline Fuchs and Francesca Livermore set this up. Mark will send something out over the listserve but he wants people to Facebook and get the word out before he does.

Mark was asked to provide the digital file for the card he handed out so the chapters can print out their own copies and hand them out.

Blogs- Amy did background and coding for it. The blog is hosted on ACRL connect. She discussed the process for posting. It is moderated they don’t want to restrict people but it is still a professional blog. It’s a place where people can share programs, links, whatever is going on. There is info on the webpage on how to post. Submissions go to Cindy so they can edit and format to make sure pictures display correctly. Board members will have privileges to add stuff without going through Cindy and Amy and they are willing to set up people who would regularly post, like council reps, so they have access. Right now they are looking for content to get it going.

There was discussion about chapter topics and the blog possibly overlapping in content, but it was generally thought that the blog was a more informal way to get info out.

The guidelines to content and rational are all on the website, but nothing is in stone- if anyone has ideas they are asked to share. All the contact info for officers is on the blog page. Anyone can make comments, even if you don’t post you can subscribe to it. Let your members know about the blog. You can also sign up for RSS feeds.

Mark encouraged people to go on to Facebook and like us and send the Facebook out to your chapter members so they can go and like it too. Blog posts will go to the Facebook page.
Rickey then thanked Mark for his leadership on the communication committee and all the people that were previously mentioned who have helped out with the different parts.

Danielle announced that the dine around was at 6:30 at the Iron Cactus for any interested members. She also announced that they were looking for candidates interested in running for office at ALA Annual. There will be 2 open positions on the Chapters Council.
- Secretary- 1 year obligation
- Vice President/President Elect- 3 year position

It’s a great way to get involved. If you are interested you can let Rickey or Danielle know now, but there will be a call closer to Annual. You would need to provide a bio for Chapter Topics. The term begins after Annual. You can also nominate others.

Rickey then asked what was going on in the local chapters?

Eastern New York is getting ready for a mini conference and brown bag series covering topics like open access and metadata.

Delaware Valley had a PDA conference that was well attended. They had many attendees that didn’t normally come to their programs. The discussed how people we affected by PDA and difficulties with aggregators and consortia’s efforts. They have a spring program planned to discuss the values report and celebrate their 40th anniversary.

Rickey interjected that it would be nice to talk to speakers and have them agree to stream their presentations to other chapters.

New Jersey did a joint conference with VALA in Jan. 300 librarians attended they are looking now planning a conference in early June with the state association with 13 sessions.

New England had a retreat and invited library students and invited them to be on committees. Their annual conference will be in May. They have a subcommittee for a 2 day conference if they can swing it with vendors possibly one day being a workshop with sessions the second day. They are looking for a location. This will be their 3rd year of streaming part of the conference to distant members.

California has a 2 day conference coming up. They were also approached by a regional accreditation agency to take part in a conference they are having. The agency wants to have a discussion about information literacy and how they can affect applications for accreditation.

The Chapter updates were put on hold because the ACRL reps showed up.

Joyce Ogburn talked about visiting the Mississippi and Missouri chapters this past fall. The topic she spoke on was the future of academic libraries. She then stayed for chapter visits. It was a highlight for her to get out and see people. She does not currently have any additional visits planned.

She talked about the value initiative. They got an IMLS grant to host a summit this past fall- how do we work together to gather information and proceed to prove value. They brought in the provost for guidance and help. They are currently working on another grant which is due Feb 1st as well as a committee restructuring proposal- more information on this to follow.
Rickey asked if there were currently plans to post/publish on the IMLS grant. Joyce responded that there was to be a report released this spring.

Stephen Bell talked about his visits this fall with Maryland and Ohio. He was impressed with how well the Ohio conference was run- they had scholarships for people to attend and separate sessions for support staff. In the Spring he will be going to Illinois (March), Alabama (April), New England (May).

He then talked about the appointment process- a committee is working on it right now. If you are interested or want to share with members NOW is the time to get your name into the ACRL volunteer database to indicate which committee/s you are interested in. This process happens Feb./Mar. Appointment letters got out in May.

2013 president’s program will be a joint program with LAMA. Maureen Sullivan and her plans.

Mary Ellen Davis thanked us for our flexibility in meeting with them. And wanted to highlight professional development opportunities.
   The ACRL 2013 conference in Indiana
   -great destination, call for proposals is out, you can participate virtually (can have a brown bag and bring in anyone on campus).
   -April 18-19 virtual learning- check out the website
   -topics- critical thinking, fundamentals of management, understanding the publishers, embedded librarians
   -but they are always happy to hear about other topics we might want webinars on.
   ACRL insider- another blog you can subscribe to
   -designed to share the workings of ACRL
   -info on where ACRL wants to get you to act (i.e. petition to save school libraries...)
   -different comments they are making about legislation (i.e. Google, Wikipedia...)
   -library copyright alliance
If you have ideas for the association they would love to hear them.

Rickey asked about the rejection of our resolution/proposal. Joyce responded that in the budget no other increases as tied to dues. The rate increase was only a dollar. And the proposal would not have been with In line with how they have structured the budget to date- allocations are not done by percent.

Rickey stated that there has not been an increase in allocation since the 1980’s and that he would welcome ideas on how to propose this issue. And he asked if the entire board saw the resolution/proposal? The answer was yes they see all documents before the executive board in case the board needs additional information.

HEPI increases will add up over time and will put pressure on the local chapters as well since we have similar costs to National but if we capped it at a dollar it might lead new and younger members to join chapters. And it was felt that it is effective to get members in at chapter level.

Data is needed on the relationship of Chapters to National- National would like to work with chapters to grow memberships of National and local. And not all chapters use allocated money.
Someone suggested maybe instead of per person allocation National could fund more speaker visits since all the chapters are different in whether or not they can accept money from National. We need to have more dialog on how National and the Chapters can work together to find ways to grow.

The question was brought up about a check box on the National membership application- is it possible? How can chapters then get that info? Chapters could also do the same for people who have an interest in National. The ACRL form is really the ALA form- but Mary Ellen is willing to do that.

What do we need- speaker model vs money or other options? Joyce will work with the small group to come up with ideas/options. What are our common needs and how can National help?

Ryan asked if Chapter’s council ever got a report of which chapters use the money- we haven’t but can get one in the future. Someone noted that it is a long time since National and Chapters have had that talk.

Corey Williams, Associate Director of ALA, Senior Lobbyist for copyright. She and four other colleagues are in the Washington office for lobbyist. She gave an update on 2 bills that currently have a lot activity surrounding them that have to do with copyright- PIPA (protect IP act) comes up in May, and SOPA (Stop online piracy)- comes up in Oct. (the motion picture industry is behind this one). She created a chart with all the reasons Librarians should have an issue and put it out in and ALA district dispatch so that people can get updates on who is doing what in legislation.

There is a 3rd bill submitted by rep Darrell Issa (R-Calif). It is called the research works act- 3 pages simple language. But the bill would nullify NIH public access and make the public pay for the material again. Issa is fighting SOPA but then introduced the Research Works act “publishers” are behind it, but not academic publishers.

Corey pointed out when you do advocacy you can slow legislation- not necessarily stop it. The content industry is very mad about the above mentioned bills so these bills will be rewritten and resurrected. Depending on where a bill is, Corey, might be specific in her targeting of advocacy.

She feels it is good when a bad bill has been introduced- it gives them a chance to educate and plant seeds of new ideas.

If she feels that the Research Works Act is picking up steam she will send the info out to members to get grassroots started to fight.

They have a new office mate, Ted Wegner. He is the grassroots coordinator. They post and advertise on district dispatches and work closely with ACRL- please use them as a resource.

Mark mentioned the Chapter Council’s new blog and asked Corey to post there. Corey said she would be glad to do a guest blog.

Marilyn Ochoa, who is running for Chapter Representative on the Board, then told us about herself. She is Assistant Head of the Education Library at the University of Florida. She started in 2002 on the ACRL Ethics committee. She has served on the ACRL Government Relations committee, first as a member then as chair. She has worked with board and staff members of different levels. She is currently the ACRL Liaison grants committee chair and she feels this is a opportunity for her to work with other members in
the organization. As a legislative advocate she spoke at Florida ACRL. She was a site liaison for ACRL. She appreciated the opportunity to talk with us.

We then heard from the two candidates for vice president/president elect of ACRL.

First was Debbie Malone from Drexler. She was the Delaware rep to Chapters council and then stayed on as newsletter editor for a couple of years. She also served as representative from Chapter’s Council to the ACRL board- she thought it was fascinating and encouraged people to do it. They reorganized council liaisons to a liaison coordinator committee, which she currently chairs. And they expanded to 12 liaisons. About the position she is running for she feels that the president makes a lot of appointments and that the nomination committee for those positions cannot do much without diversity to choose from and Chapter’s Council is where that comes from.

Next we heard from Trevor Dawes from Princeton University. He has been active in ACRL, particularly in professional development areas. He feels Chapters can work more closely with National on programming since attendance at conferences is declining. And the two parts working together would allow them the ability of deliver content at a regional and local level. He was the past chapter president of the New Jersey chapter. And in response to Ricky’s resolution he feels that funding is important to provide this programming.

We then heard from Tim Dodge, ACRL Chapters Council Library Legislative Network Representative. They are tasked with drawing up a legislative agenda that the ACRL endorses or focuses on for a year. He wanted to know who our legislative liaisons or advocates are, we can e-mail him the info. He had a hand out for ACRL Legislation and Policy Information. The links were for- the general website- \[http://www.ala.org/acrl/issues/washingtonwatch\] and the direct link to Legislative Advocates Information- \[http://www.ala.org/acrl/issues/washingtonwatch/acrladvocates\]

The minutes from 2011 Annual were passed.

The meeting was adjourned.

**Addendum:**

ACRL staff provided the following clarification of the above misconceptions:

- The new member drive gives a chapter $10 per new member, not $5.
- On page one, it says ‘But for even this little amount the chapters are required to put on a program (which usually costs a lot more than the amount they are given from national).’
  - Chapters are not required to put on any program to receive a yearly allocation. The only requirement is that chapter must submit an annual report each year. If a chapter misses two years in a row, funding is revoked until they submit a report again.
  - Chapters must request their yearly allocation by submitting a reimbursement request for incurred expenses. The funds can be used to fund programming, but it’s not a requirement. Some chapters use the funds pay for newsletters, printing, catering, etc. The official policy is at \[http://www.ala.org/acrl/resources/policies/chapter5#5five\].
  - Each fall, staff send chapter officers a budget memo detailing their chapter’s allocation and the steps needed to request the reimbursement. Here is an excerpt: “ACRL Chapters may spend budgeted resources on any items or activities that support the charitable and educational purposes of ACRL’s strategic goals as identified in the
strategic plan with two exceptions. 1) The allotted funds may not be used for payment of honoraria or travel to support librarians' presentations at ALA, ACRL, or ACRL chapter conferences and 2) The allotted funds may not be used to purchase goods or services prohibited by ALA and ACRL policy.

“ACRL is empowering you to decide whether your expense is charitable, educational or operational. As the originator of the expense, you will have first-hand knowledge as purpose of the expense and whether it is educational and charitable or operational in nature. Your signature will certify this decision and ACRL/ALA will have a clear paper trail for the expense should it be audited.”

o Perhaps the yearly allocation/program requirement is being confused with the ACRL Chapter Speakers Bureau Program? This is an entirely separate program, not tied at all to the yearly chapter allocation. This program provides funding for six chapter visits by ACRL officers: http://www.ala.org/acrl/aboutacrl/directoryofleadership/chapters/officersspeakers.