Present: Mark Lenker, Chair (Virginia); Rickey Best, Vice-Chair (Alabama); Danielle Whren Johnson, Secretary (Maryland); Michael Mounce (Mississippi); Tracey Olanyk (Western Pennsylvania/West Virginia); Amy Eklund (Georgia); Kathy Parsons (Iowa); Regina Beard (Kansas); Mark Thompson (New Jersey); Beth Lander (Delaware Valley); Kristen Mastel (Minnesota); Les Kong (California); Laurie Swartwout (Wisconsin); Alyssa Deutschler (Washington); Danielle Rowland (Washington); David Dahl (Maryland); Margaret Mellinger (Oregon); Carole Myles (New England); Caroline Fuchs (Greater Metro New York); Rhonda Huisman (Indiana); Cynthia Dudenhoffer (Missouri); Tasha Cooper (Eastern New York)

Mark Lenker-Chair of Chapters Council made introductions of officers (Mark Lenker, Chair, Rickey Best, Vice-Chair, Danielle Whren Johnson, Secretary), listserv administrator (Laurie Swartwout) and Chapters Topics Editor (Regina Beard). He explained that the purpose of Chapters Council is to share ideas and to have communication from Chapters to National. Lenker then gave an overview of agenda:
There are 42 Chapters, but many are not here, so we need to do something to encourage people to participate in other ways if they can't make the meetings.

Minutes from Midwinter 2011 were distributed. Laurie Swartwout moved that the minutes be approved. The minutes were approved.

Lenker then explained that we would be holding elections for a new Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect and Secretary for Chapters Council. He introduced the candidates for Vice Chair/Chair-Elect: Michael Mounce and Danielle Whren Johnson. They were then given the opportunity to make a short candidate statement.

Michael Mounce shared that he has been a member of ACRL since 2004. He has leadership experience in the MS chapter: in 2009 secretary, 2010 vice chair, 2011 chair. He explained that it is a very active chapter and listed some of the activities with which they have recently been involved. He was nominated for Chapters Council and would be honored and happy to serve at the National level. He believes it is an important position because it is an important link between the board of directors and the ACRL state chapters. If elected he will collaborate with and support the state chapters and make sure that the needs of state chapter are communicated to the ACRL Board of Directors.

Danielle Whren Johnson shared that she is has served as the Secretary for Chapters Council over the past year. She has also been involved with the Chapters Council Communications Task Force. She is the outgoing president of ACRL MD. She believes that Chapters Council is an important organization that allows chapters to work together to share ideas as well as to provide a connection to ACRL National for support and communication. She is interested in running for Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect to continue the good work being done by the Chapters Council.

Lenker then explained there was one current nominee for Secretary, Laura Hillier from Oklahoma who was not in attendance. There was a second candidate that dropped out.
Nominations from the floor, including self-nominations, were encouraged by Ricky Best. Tracey Olanyk nominated herself for position of secretary. Ballots were distributed by Rickey Best, and votes were cast. While the ballots were being counted introductions were made by everyone in attendance.

Mark Lenker - Longwood University in Farmville, VA Chair
David Dahl - Towson University, ACRL MD
Danielle Whren Johnson - ACRL MD
Kathy Parsons - Iowa
Danielle Rowland - ACRL Washington
Alyssa Deutschler - ACRL Washington
Cynthia Dudenhoffer - Central Methodist University, ACRL Chapter Vice-Chair Missouri
Tasha Cooper - Syracuse, incoming program chair Eastern NY ACRL
Caroline Fuchs - Greater New York Metropolitan Area chapter
Rhonda Huismann – IUPUI, Indiana Chapter
Regina Beard - Kansas, Editor of Chapter Topics
Mark Johnson - New Jersey
Amy Ekland - Georgia ACRL
Tracey Olanyk - West Virginia
Beth Lander - Delaware Valley Chapter
Kristen Mastel - University of Minnesota, Past Chair of Minnesota
Laurie Swartwout - Wisconsin. Outgoing chapters’ representative. Outgoing listserv administrator
Michael Mounce - Mississippi Chapter
Les Kong - California Chapter
Rickey Best - Auburn, Alabama.

Rickey Best announced the election results: Danielle Whren Johnson - Vice Chair, Tracey Olanyk - Secretary
Best then shared that the Dine Around was that night at Pat O'Brien's at 6:30. He explained that there are two entrances, which will both lead to the inner courtyard where we will meet. There are no reservations for the group. He asked for a show of hands of who might be attending. Tentatively 10-15 people will be attending.

Rickey Best then shared the resolution he drafted for increased funding for chapters. He explained that we are currently funded $1 per member in ACRL in the state. This has been the case since the early 90s. Best passed out copies of the resolution he has written and a copy of the board action form that needs to be filled out to submit the proposal to the board. He also explained that each chapter gets a minimum of $100 no matter how many members you have. The ACRL Board can now make dues increases based on HEPI, so the resolution is asking for chapters funding to also be based on this same index. The Board is going to be concerned about the deficit in their budget and increasing their revenue. However, chapters are going to need additional support and funding to be able to carry out their mission.

Mark Johnson asked for clarification on the HEPI resolution that occurred at National. Best explained it will not be a change in bylaws, it will just be a change in procedure. This is the 4th time we have tried to increase the funding in some way. This seems to be our best chance to increase our budget. Cynthia Dudenhoffer asked about a past resolution that was proposed to
allow states that use their money to dip into funds of people who don’t. This proposal did not go forward because violates ACRL rules about rolling over of funds. Kathy Parsons added that not all the chapters use their money.

At this time discussions on the funding resolution were tabled in order to meet with members of the ACRL Executive Board: Mary Ellen Davis, ACRL Executive Director; Joyce Ogburn, Vice-President; Lisa Hinchliffe, President

Lisa Hinchliffe mentioned ACRL’s new Plan for Excellence and explained there was lots of member engagement in creating the plan. It is a focused strategic plan. The three goal areas are the value of academic libraries, student learning, and research and the scholarly environment. Committees already working in two of these areas were identified: student learning and scholarly communication. They created a value of academic libraries committee to cover the third area. The focus for the coming year will be engaging with the report and the research agenda in the report. ACRL is working on revising standards for libraries in higher education. They have worked through a draft and it is sitting in front of standards committee. It will then go before the board if all goes well.

Joyce Ogburn will be implementing the strategic plan as the incoming ACRL president. She explained we have to align resources with our highest priorities. They are working with principles for budgeting. ACRL has a shortfall for this fiscal year. They can cover it with reserves, but can’t do that forever. ACRL also needs to figure out how to fund CR&L now that it is open access. They have sent out a survey to see if people are interested in it going e-only. Ogburn also shared that committee appointments are almost done. There are currently about 70 committees. They will be looking at the structure of committees over the next couple years.

Mary Ellen Davis spoke about ongoing professional development programs. They received good evaluations from ACRL in Philadelphia. She said it is not too soon to start thinking about 2013 in Indianapolis. There are also lots of e-programs that are being put together. Get in touch with Katherine Deiss (kdeiss@ala.org) if you have ideas for new e-programs or presenters. Davis asked if the chapters would be interested in hosting a small talk or workshop on scholarly communication. Based on a show of hands the majority of attendees would be interested in finding out more about that. Davis also explained that ACRL does not get anything as a division of ALA. All funding comes from division revenues. They are currently holding positions open to help deal with the budget shortfall.

Laurie Swartwout asked about the scholarly communication road show. Joyce Ogburn explained that people would go out and speak on this topic at no fee to get groundwork and understanding. They are trying to determine what the tipping point of doing this as professional development without a fee is. She also shared that there are new books out and encouraged us to look into these resources. ACRL is also looking for new content providers. ACRL is a publisher that pays royalties.

Mark Johnson thanked them for the new strategic plan. He shared that NJ has really taken advantage of document. There is a committee of 25 people that are doing a continuing cycle of discussion and a survey that is going to go to the colleges. Lisa Hinchliffe asked him to send her an email with this information. ACRL wants to be able to highlight how people are using this values initiative and allow people to share the things that they are developing.
There is a blog on the Values website to share what people are doing. Lisa Hinchliffe has been presenting this report at various library conferences both nationally and internationally as well as higher education conferences. ACRL has applied for planning grant from IMLS. They want to bring together teams from across universities to show what libraries are doing for ROI.

Mark Lenker asked Mary Ellen Davis to share about the challenge of the mid-winter candidates forum. She explained that technology has kind of overtaken this. Compressed schedules are also a factor. They did a webcast and few people attended. There were also articles in CR&L News. Davis said they would keep doing that and the webinar, but she is not sure what the value of an in person forum is if people aren't coming. They have lost funding for lunch, which used to draw people.

Laurie Swartwout asked what percentage votes. Mary Ellen Davis answered about 20-30%, which is good compared to other ALA sections.

Kathy Parsons asked if we could do a candidates booth in the Exhibit Hall.

Mary Ellen Davis responded this was done at ACRL, but could be done at Midwinter too.

Lisa Hinchliffe said each candidate is given one mass email, a webinar, and the candidates are given the option to be at the booth. They can speak at Midwinter and the ACRL conference. We should be trying to figure out what this event is for. Do we still have this need? How do we meet this need in the new environment? Perhaps we're already meeting the need in other ways besides the event. Don't just try to fix the event. Maybe it is no longer needed.

Laurie Swartwout wondered if this could be kept at the Chapters Council level. Candidates have always come to the Chapters Council meeting. People do report back to their chapters.

Lisa Hinchliffe pointed out that candidates are also attending the divisional meetings like Chapters Council.

Mary Ellen Davis said we could invite other people into our meetings to hear the candidates if we invite the candidates to come. We should consider ourselves in a pilot phase. How can chapters be involved in this? Another Candidates’ forum will not be scheduled at this point.

Lisa Hinchliffe said if we want to do something that requires a physical space we need to have the request put in by September. If we're planning on doing it at an existing meeting, then it just needs to be put together by Midwinter.

Mark Lenker asked if everyone knew about the Chapters visit.

6 chapters a year can apply for one of the ACRL committee members to come to the chapter. 3 are already scheduled. Possibly one additional one has been scheduled. A chapter’s eligibility is up for 3 years after a committee member has attended one of their meetings. Send requests to Megan Griffen.

The ACRL Executive Board members left the meeting and discussion returned to the resolution on funding—

Kristen Mastel asked if we know how much ACRL is bleeding each year.

Rickey Best replied about half a million, which he heard at Leadership council on Friday. He explained it is possible our resolution won't get approved, but that it is worth fighting for. It should be consistent that if our dues are tied to HEPI, then our funding allocation should be consistent with that.

Kathy Parsons encouraged chapters to use up all their money.
Danielle Whren Johnson asked people to share how their chapters are using the money as due to the restrictions on its use some chapters have difficulty knowing how to spend it.
Kathy Parsons shared that Iowa donates their money to the academic leadership institute of their parent organization.
Laurie Swartwout said Wisconsin creates an invoice for supplies for the state academic conference and that is enough. The money then goes into the yearly conference.
Mark Lenker shared that Virginia has used their money for postage to promote events. Money can also be used to fund non-librarian speakers, membership recruitment and newsletters.
Rickey Best asked people to send him an email (rbest@aulm.edu) if they have any comments. The deadline to submit to the board is July 15. So send comments prior to that date.
Mark Lenker also explained that chapters can get $10 per new member of ACRL after a membership drive in the state. It was asked if this part of the new resolution? It is hard to do. Rickey Best replied that this is not part of the resolution. He doesn’t want to confuse the issue at this point.
Kathy Parsons said we talked at Midwinter about getting that $10 rolled into a larger pot, but we don't think ACRL is willing to do that.
Alyssa Deutschler said Washington has never seen that $10 come through.
Kathy Parsons responded it has to be after a special organized drive. Mark Lenker said if something occurs to you on this issue, it can be addressed at this afternoon's work meeting at 4:00.

Mark Lenker then reported on the work being done by the Online Communications Committee. Regina Beard, Mark Lenker, Kathy Parsons, and Danielle Whren Johnson were committee members. A lot of people are not able to attend face-to-face meetings, but we want to be able to bring them into conversation. We have ALA Connect and Chapters Topics, but it is hard to interact with a pdf, and people in this group seem to not like to use ALA connect. There is a lot more potential for communication. As a group we have been exploring possibilities. Would it be possible to do something like Skype this meeting? We also want to try to make between meetings communications more robust. The committee conducted a survey. There was a 48% response rate.
There is a lot of interest in virtual meetings. 48% very likely to attend, 42% likely to attend. Respondents were also asked to rate general interest in asynchronous communications. There was lots of interest.
Respondents were asked to indicated their top 2 choices for communicating online-Facebook 42%, Blog 36%, Wiki 32%, ALA Connect 25%, Chapters Topics 16% (30% indicated they didn't know what this was--so maybe just need to promote this more).
What topics people would like to see addressed--Programming ideas 88%, networking 76%, membership recruitment/retention 74%, filling out ACRL forms 67%. 78% indicated would contribute to online discussion
8 people said they would be willing to manage communication forums. ACRL has activated a wiki for us. We can broadcast this through Facebook, ALA Connect, and the listserv. The model has become blog centric, but we like that because it engenders conversation and would also leave a record of that conversation.
We will need moderators for most of these forums.
The proposed model for posting to the blog—Chair 3 posts per year, Vice-Chair 2 posts per year, Secretary 2 post per year, Blog admin 2 posts per year. This would be a minimum. Other people are also encouraged to post.

Mark Lenker has been in conversation with Megan Griffen. Her suggestion was that we start with 1 or 2 things and grow out from there. None of these forums takes a long time to set up. It's not a huge investment if something does catch fire and we decide to let it go. We have a green light from Megan.

Mark Lenker asked for comments from the floor.

Amy Eklund said a variety of channels is great, but if we splinter the conversation too much it might not be as cohesive as you want. Content may be going in multiple places, but if people are responding the conversation would be splintered and occurring in multiple places.

Mark Johnson asked why we would be doing this?

Amy Eklund likes the idea of a blog.

Cynthia Dudenhofer said she is not sure that adding a wiki would help that much. There are already ways for static communication. ALA Connect doesn't work well.

Lots of people will see stuff on Facebook.

Kristen Mastel asked, couldn't we associate the Chapters Topics with a blog. Have the pdf, but also add it in the blog. We want to prevent people from having to go to lots of places.

Amy Eklund said it is hard to find Chapters Topics on the ALA website. If we put it on the blog that would solve that problem.

There was lots of support for the idea of the blog.

Amy Eklund asked about platform for the blog.

The committee indicated Wordpress was the platform they had decided was the best fit, but Mark Lenker said we should find a moderator and let them give input.

We should outline when chapters might contribute content.

Amy Eklund said she went to a session on branding your blog where they indicated you should have posts once per week. We should assign chapters to a month to post minimally. They could do more posts though.

Rickey Best said we should also be posting more than just about events. Other topics might include such things like what we're doing to address the values of academic libraries as an example.

Kathy Parsons said we can also have candidates post a blog entry.

Amy Eklund said we could also ask ACRL officers to post stuff on the blog.

Whatever platform you choose would be good if can subscribe via email. Then encourage other chapters board members to subscribe.

Rickey Best said we should also encourage general members of chapter to contribute as well.

Kathy Parsons indicated that the listserv will remain for officers only.

Laurie Swartwout responded that only important info should be put out on the listserv.

Regina Beard asked what makes a wiki less attractive than a blog.

Cynthia Dudenhofer responded that wikis are more for archiving info. They are not good for creating a conversation.

Regina Beard pointed out that we have more states than months. So assign multiple states per month and could have a fairly busy blog.

Kansas published open access the proceedings of their conference.

Mark Lenker said if you have more thoughts on this or want to join the committee come to the work meeting this afternoon or email Mark.
Mark Lenker then addressed the topic of the ACRL Presidential Candidates’ Forum.
Les Kong said feeding off blog issue, why couldn't we have a regular set of interviews and Q&A with the candidates. That way we would have it down for everyone to see in black and white. More people can see it then.
David Dahl recommended getting this in video format. Then at conferences we could have it playing on repeat on a monitor somewhere where people could stop by and watch. Amy Eklund said that the webinar needs to continue, but she is all for ditching the face-to-face meeting. Other channels are better at this point.
Alyssa Deutschler likes the idea of them being in booths. Laurie Swartwout likes having the candidates attend the Chapters Council meeting and would hate for us to lose that but agrees that having the forum follow is redundant. It might be nice to have a list of questions we want them to answer at our meeting.
Rickey Best asked what about having them in the exhibit hall during opening night. Mark Lenker will put something together on this issue and post it to the listserv and ALA Connect. Rickey Best indicated that there are 2 positions that need be filled: listserv administrator and legislative network liaison. Send Rickey Best (rbest@aum.edu) names of people who are interested.
Mark Lenker indicated that we will be working further from 4-5:30 in the Regents Room at Marriott New Orleans for anyone who would like to attend.