Minutes

ACRL Chapters Council

January 17, 2010

Present: Judith Pinnolis, President, New England Chapter; Mark Lenker, Vice-President / President – elect, Virginia Chapter; Laurie Swartwout, List Administrator, Wisconsin Chapter; Rickey Best, Secretary, Alabama Chapter; Rita Baladad, Minnesota Chapter; Melissa Behney, New England Chapter; Rachel Bridgewater, Oregon Chapter; Rubye Cross, Georgia Chapter; Cynthia Dudenhoffer, Missouri Chapter; Carrie Eastman, Greater Metro New York Chapter; Liz Evans, Western Pennsylvania / West Virginia; Jan Hartley, Washington Chapter; Brenda Hazzard, Eastern New York Chapter; Les Kong, California Chapter; Joan Lamborn, Colorado Chapter; Leonard Lawless, North Dakota / Manitoba Chapter; Jonathan Miller, Florida Chapter; Carole Myles, New England Chapter; Joyce Neujahar, Nebraska Chapter; Pat Newland, Delaware Valley Chapter; Kathy Parsons, Iowa Chapter; Dan Stanton, Arizona Chapter; Suzanne Turner, Western New York Chapter; Tisha Zelner, Mississippi Chapter; Mark Emmons, Guest; Lori Goetsch, President, ACRL.

President Pinnolis began by announcing a shortened program for the day’s meeting. She identified the mission of the Council in communicating the concerns of the chapters to the National ACRL, to bring back news of new initiatives to the local chapters, and to promote membership in National ACRL to local members. Two representatives from the local chapters may attend the meetings of the council.

Pinnolis discussed the use of the ACRL listserv, along with the Chapters Topics newsletter, edited by Garrett Trott for communication, and she encouraged members to contribute information on activities to the newsletter. Listserv coordinator Swartwout requested that chapters notify her if there are changes in officers.

Following the conclusion of the orientation session, Pinnolis began the business portion of the meeting at 8:15 a.m. Following introductions, the first item was the approval of the minutes from Chicago. Lenker moved approval, seconded by Newland. The minutes were approved by acclamation.

Pinnolis then called on Swartwout to give a report on communications, and also on the Task Force for developing a form to guide in compiling annual reports. Swartwout reminded members to communicate changes in officers by e-mailing her or Megan Griffin at ACRL. She recommended placing the sender’s name at the bottom of the message.

Swartwout next gave a report on the Task Force for SIG or Program Chairs Report Forms, consisting of Swartwout, Hartley and Neujahar. The new form (see attached) will tie specifically to ACRL national strategic areas, goals, and objectives, and will make compiling the annual reports easier for the local chapters. The form can also be used for program proposals at the chapter level, which will tie in to the compilation of the annual report.

A discussion ensued regarding how many chapters were using forms for program proposals. Iowa utilizes a form to tie directly to the state plan. The form developed by the Task Force will be posted on ALA-Connect, and tips on using the form will be added. A question was asked how ACRL actually uses the form. Pinnolis did not know. Emmons reported that ACRL uses the reports to show support for and to align chapter activities with the strategic plan. Swartwout will check and see what is being done with the reports received by ACRL, and noted that we will use ALA-Connect to share information regarding the forms.
Best presented a report from the Task Force on Funding. The task force consisted of Best, Barbara Kenney, Kong; Lenker and Swartwout. The Task Force developed a resolution calling for National to increase funding for the chapters from $1.00 per national member to $3.00 per national member over two years, and also advocated the use of unexpended funds be held as a pool to allow chapters to apply for up to $500 in additional funding to support programmatic activities. Best distributed a copy of the resolution.

Best explained that currently, only 33% of the available chapter funds are being requested, and that an increase in funding had not occurred since 1999-2000. Efforts need to be undertaken to encourage reimbursement requests from the local chapters and that chapters need to expend the funds. Pinnolis pointed out that ACRL dues are $55.00, and chapters are only being reimbursed $1.00 per member. Reimbursement is based on membership.

Following discussion, Eastman and Hazzard moved adoption of the resolution. Miller moved to amend the resolution by splitting the resolution into two parts – one dealing with the increase in reimbursement per member and the second creating the pool of unexpended funds. Miller argued that because of the financial conditions affecting both ACRL and ALA, the resolution was unlikely to be approved and that by offering the resolution as two separate documents, it might be possible to get the resolution on establishing the pool of funds adopted. Miller’s amended motion was seconded by Lamborn.

Best argued that the elements within the resolution were severable. The Board could address either option for increasing funding to the local chapters, or could address both. Lori Goetsch, President of ACRL, who had come in to the meeting stated that the combined resolution would be sufficient, and that the Board could chose to pass both elements of the resolution or only one, or they could reject the resolution entirely.

The Council voted on Miller’s amended resolution. The vote was 1 in favor, 23 against. The council next voted on the Task Force’s resolution for funding, which are approved 23 to 1. Best will prepare the resolution into the Board Action Form and submit it prior to the 6:30 p.m. meeting of the Board.

Pinnolis introduced ACRL President Lori Goetsch. Goetsch described ongoing work on the Value of Academic Libraries initiative. Megan Oakley is working on a Meta study for demonstrating the value of academic libraries on student success and retention. A study is also being undertaken to demonstrate the value of academic libraries in providing research value and support for the faculty.

Goetsch also mentioned ALA President Camila Ali-re’s Advocacy Institute and encouraged members to attend. The ACRL Leadership Council held a meeting to discuss a new strategic plan, which will be discussed at the annual meeting in Washington. Goetsch also reported that she had facilitated discussion on the ALA strategic plan and had received feedback on revising the ACRL plan. ACRL’s next conference will be 2011 in Philadelphia. Registration will be opened soon, and the payment of the registration fee may be spread over two years.

Lenker was introduced and spoke about the need to nominate candidates for the positions of Secretary (one-year term) and Vice Chair / Chair-elect (a three year commitment). Lenker encouraged self-nominations and asked the members to contact him if interested in running for office. Lenker reported that the dine-around will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Rustic Kitchen Bistro, 210 Stewart Street.
Pinnolis introduced Mark Emmons from the University of New Mexico. Emmons, a past president of Chapters Council, is a candidate for a member at-large position on the ACRL Board, and asked members for their support.

Pinnolis reminded members to submit information on chapter activities (with photos) for the Chapters Topics newsletter. Submissions should be made to Garrett Trott (gtrott@corban.edu).

Pinnolis reported she had submitted eight questions for the ACRL Presidential Candidates, who will be presenting from 10:30 to Noon in the Marriott Grand Ball Room. She encouraged members to attend.

Pinnolis noted the next business meeting will be held in Washington at the annual meeting.

Steadman asked about the Scholarly Communications Road Show and received opinions from members who had seen or participated in the road show.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Rickey Best
Secretary