ACRL Law and Political Science Section
ALA Annual 2013
Executive Committee/ All Committees
Meeting Minutes
June 29th, 2013

Present: LeRoy LaFleur (Chair), Lynda Kellam (incoming Chair), Chad Kahl (past Chair), Lisa Norberg (Member-at-Large), Mara Rojeski (Member-at-Large), Lynn Thitchener (Secretary). Committee Members present: Mary Oberlies, Merrill Stein, Elizabeth White, Jeremy Darrington, Bruce Pencek, Kelly Janousek, Alberto Herrera Jr., Jungwon Yang, Sarah Hogan, Rosalind Tedford, Brian Coutts

I. Welcome and Introductions
   • Minutes from the Midwinter Executive Committee Meeting approved
   • 2013 Annual Agenda approved

II. New Business
A. LPSS Strategic Plan
   LeRoy LaFleur (LPSS Chair) announced that he wished to reorder the agenda to first discuss the LPSS Strategic Plan, reviewed and approved by the membership in July 2012.
   • Section 1, number 4 proposes expanding the charge of the Instruction Committee to include the provision of additional professional development activities. The Executive Committee will be working with the incoming Instruction Committee Chair, Elizabeth White, to affect this change.

   • Under Student Learning, the LPSS Strategic Plan also proposes that the section “investigate options to promote regular, virtual discussion groups, pre-conference offerings, and other systematic offerings at ALA, ACRL, and related conferences. This would be in addition to LPSS’s annual program at ALA.” LaFleur suggested these activities may be taken up in part by the newly created Instruction and Professional Development Committee.

   • Under the section labeled Research and Scholarly Environment, the Strategic Plan recommends investigating additional methods of distributing the LPSS newsletter and getting the newsletter archived in a discovery service. (Lynn Thitchener mentioned that the Communications and Publications Committee also recently discussed the pros and cons of the column format of the current newsletter. The column format helps to highlight the content of the newsletter by bringing much of the content to the first page. On the other hand, the column format can make it difficult to read online. Stein suggested that he would be willing to experiment with
the format and send out a prototype for comment, keeping in mind that a pdf of the newsletter may still be necessary for ACRL archives.

- The Plan also mentions tasking the Vendor/Publisher Liaison and Review Committee to include Open Access issues in discussions with vendors. Question: Should this be added to the committee’s charge in the LPSS Manual?

- Question about the LPSS Strategic Plan as a whole: How long does the plan last? It will likely be based on the timeline of, or changes to, the ACRL Strategic Plan.

B. LPSS Manual Review

The Review and Planning Committee has completed its review of the LPSS Procedures Manual, last amended in 2000. Members of the Executive Committee met virtually prior to the Annual Meeting to review the changes and made the following recommendations:

- Under Article VI– Committees: “LPSS will have those committees and taskforces deemed appropriate for its smooth operation by the membership.”
- Under Article IX—Amendments, “2/3’s of the members will be sufficient for holding a vote.”
- The Communications and Publications Committee may need to have a description for the listserv coordinator.
- Some question about the name for the newly-created committee: Should it be changed to Instruction and Professional Development Committee, or simply Professional Development Committee (assuming that instruction is one component of professional development)?
- A charge for the Vendor & Publisher Committee?

C. Should we have a fund-raising committee, or could this be added to the charge for the Vendor & Publisher Committee?

- LPSS may wish to consider the idea of a scholarship fund to help early career professionals or students attend meetings. In addition, we may need to develop additional sources of revenue.

- Resolved: This role will likely involve approaching vendors and should be added to the charge for the Vendor & Publisher Committee.

D. New ACRL Funding Mode for Sections/LPSS Budget-Membership review.

- The current funding model from ACRL is slightly reduced: Each section receives $1,000 plus $0.75 for each member above 400. LPSS currently has 472 members.

E. Review changes to LPSS website

- The members approved the change to the layout that added a Table-of-Contents to the right-rail. LaFleur suggested that adding a link to ALA connect to the Table-of-Contents.
Lynn Thitchener pointed out that if you search for ACRL LPSS via Google, you land on the Communications and Publications Committee web page. Oddly, this page is somehow outside of the current Drupal structure for ACRL sections. (Note there is no right-rail, Table-of-Contents) The current Webmaster, Jen Schwartz, will be looking into this.

F. Adding LPSS to the ACRL nominations process for the IFLA Social Science Libraries Committee.
   - ACRL designates representatives to IFLA. See section 7.2.3.
   - We have asked ACRL to consider designating an LPSS member to the Social Science Librarian section of IFLA.

III. Continuing/forthcoming business
   A. Guide to Data
      - LPSS is pursuing this.
   B. Time to update the brochure?
      - ACRL actually creates the brochure, not LPSS. Where it concerns specific statements about LPSS, we can propose changes to the content to ACRL.
   C. Do we want to spend some of the LPSS budget on marketing, in addition to funding the program?
   D. Reaching out to new political science librarians.
      - A list of potential membership prospects is currently being developed, working from an older list, now out-of-date.
      - Can we reach out/coordinate with state chapters?

Meeting adjourned at 9:53 am, CST.