

**ALA Committee on Education**  
Saturday, January 12, 2008  
1:30 PM – 3:30 PM  
Philadelphia Convention Center, Room 104A

Meeting Facilitator: Kenley Neufeld, Chair

Invitees: Mary Biagini, Robert Ellett, Jr., Linda Griffin, William Hawk, Allison Kaplan, Dan O'Connor, Lee Shiflett, Sara Albert, Tiffani Conner, Linda Slusar, Caroline Shepard, John Budd, Lorie Roy, Lorelle Swader

I. Call to order

II. Roll call and welcome

Present: Kenley Neufeld (Chair), Robert Ellett, Allison Kaplan, William Hawk, Linda Smith Griffin, Lee Shiflett, Sara Albert (COE Intern), John Budd (ALISE Representative), Lorelle Swader (ALA Staff Liaison), Frank Novak (LSS Task Force), Peggy Seiden (LSS Task Force), Lorie Roy (Executive Board Liaison), Joe Sanchez

Sara Albert recorded minutes.

III. Agenda and Minutes Adoption

Linda Smith Griffin moves to approve agenda, seconded by John Budd. We don't have minutes present to approve from Annual 2007. Peggy Seiden or Lorelle Swader will find them and the committee can approve electronically.

IV. Review Committee Charge

Kenley Neufeld reviewed charge with the committee. No comments.

**V. Open issues**

a) Reports

i. ALA Executive Board

Lorie Roy reporting.

- Membership is up 1/2 a percent despite dues increase.
- Website redesign is getting closer and closer.
- May be move to restrict housing block to people already registered.
- Electronic participation is a focus; Council appointed a task force addressing this issue such as virtual poster sessions.
- A study of graduated dues as a possibility would cost \$600,000; this idea will be discussed at Council.
- School library advocacy - 3 moms in Washington State
- LC
- Books about organizational excellence
- President's Program tomorrow features Kareem Abdul-Jabar.

- Might be a motion to require all ALA electronic discussion to be open to all ALA members. The likely outcome will be that we need to gather more information.
- 5:30-7:00 today Open House Committee on Literacy reception in Loriene's suite.

ii. CLENERT (rep not present)

iii. IFLA (rep not present)

iv. ALISE

John Budd reporting. ALISE annual conference completed yesterday. ALISE submitted a proposal for IMLS funding through Laura Bush initiative to work for pedagogical assessment and training for adjunct and part-timers, consisting of 4 to 5 week modules on specific topics, such as course design and student assessment. In May/June/July they should find out results. John Budd says there are more adjuncts/part-timers than full-timers in total. ALISE is committed through 2010 to occur in conjunction with ALA MW. In April of this year, the ALISE board meeting will decide about their 2011 conference.

v. LSS Task Force

Peggy Seiden reporting. They received IMLS grant for the competency-based program. They have been working on competency areas. Next step is to send a survey in March to see if administrators agree with the selected competencies, then may revise as needed. One key question is how to assess prior learning. Possibilities include tests or portfolios. Other issues to deal with: How many competencies are required? What are prerequisites (high-school degree, one year experience in library)? What is time frame required? What criteria will be used to evaluate providers? How much will be charged? Will renewal of certification be required? These questions will be addressed over the next year. The IMLS grant is to field-test this with five different providers, with at least one ALA division. A meeting is scheduled for the providers in the fall. The grant runs January 2008 - Annual 2010. They are looking at different models of instruction from the different providers and if those providers could assess prior learning. Certification will not exist unless it is passed by Council. Lorelle expects it to be presented to Council after completion of grant in 2010. Program will need to be clear to students that the certification will not be ALA-accredited until 2010, and not for sure even then. Lorelle thinks that Council should hear about the program before 2010, both ALA Council and ALA-APA Council. A report could come in under COE at Annual. By then the competencies should be complete. Loriene Roy suggested that another alternative is to have an informal discussion in Council, which does not have to come in under a committee.

Frank Novak reporting. Assessment is a major issue and he is unsure that there would be enough progress to present to Council at Annual. Also, audience is larger than ALA. Another issue is state certifications. How does this program blend with those? Lorelle Swader says there are 48 state paraprofessional groups; she can provide contacts for surveys and marketing. Within ALA there are 800-900 support staff members. John Budd suggests a no-cost extension for the IMLS grant (frequently up to one more year). Therefore the evaluative period can continue longer. Peggy Seiden says Rachel Applegate has joined project.

vi. COE Committee Chair

Kenley Neufeld reporting. Lorie Roy hosted lunch on Wednesday for ALISE members, COE Chair, COA Chair, ALA Executive Director, President of Canadian Library Association, ASIST representative, Lorelle Swader. They discussed ways to connect COE and COA. ASIST created a white paper on accreditation. Some concerns expressed were from library educators saying that they didn't want another accreditation process to worry about.

Lorelle Swader spoke with Keith Fiels about connecting ALA with other educational groups. COE could approach COO. Kenley Neufeld feels COE shouldn't seek out other groups actively. Lorelle Swader will procure a copy of the white paper for COE. COE members can read white paper and we can discuss at next meeting if we feel COE should be involved.

b) Forum on Education

i. Forum on Education Planning Document [review draft and finalize]

Joe Sanchez reporting on Forum on Education held yesterday. The format was a research-apalooza. Eleven doctoral students each presented 90-second summaries of their research, followed by a poster session. Audience members then discussed facilitated questions. Finally the audience, doctoral students, and program facilitator (Joe Sanchez) had an open dialog about issues discussed. They are looking at restaging the forum in Second Life in a few weeks. The next forum will be at Annual, focused on master's students. A group of Emerging Leaders is working on ways to connect new librarians with experienced librarians. Lorie Roy covered \$200 for each doctoral student and the refreshments; she can probably do something similar at Annual. Kenley Neufeld, Linda Slusar, and Mary Biagini from COE can continue to collaborate with Lorie's task force on the upcoming forum, as they did for this one.

How was this advertised? Joe targeted ALISE students presenting posters to stay for Forum. He sent an email to JESSE and created an Evite invitation to circulate. Allison Kaplan emphasized need to advertise to get more attendees (we had about 100 here versus 500 at the first one). Next time we can submit a piece to Cognotes. Robert Ellett asked if we should focus on west coast students at the forum for Annual 2008.

Looking at the Planning Document compiled by Sara Albert for the COE, presented by Kenley Neufeld: this document covers summaries of the past Forums, the recommendation for the Forum at Annual 2008, sponsors, recommended timeline, and ideas for future Forums. There is the assumption that these will continue.

Fundamental question presented by Lorelle Swader: will these be once a year or twice a year? John Budd suggests once a year, Lorelle and Kenley concur. Peggy Seiden suggests that a small planning committee be appointed to plan a forum a year ahead of time, Kenley agrees that a planning committee can be made now, and at Annual COE can decide on how to proceed from there. John Budd says an ALISE member should be included on the planning committee. COE should agree on everything including speakers in June and have press release ready for September. So, planning process during Spring and finalize decisions in June.

ALISE conference schedules should be similar to this year's: last programming is done by 1:00 on Fridays, committee meetings meet 1:30-2:30. Kenley suggests 3:30-5:30 may be a good time for the Forum. The two-hour format may discourage people from leaving in the middle, too (a three-hour program may have a break in the middle).

Changes to General Planning Timeline in document:

January-June - Form planning committee at MW. Select focus, format, date/time, speakers of Forum to be held following January.

No later than Annual - Virtual communication to make decisions as COE.

At Annual - Reaffirm decisions. Print save-the-date announcement in Annual Cognotes.

July - Submit information to American Libraries for September issue. Work with PIO on Press Release.

October/November/December/January sections remain the same except Press Release item is done earlier.

Strike out "Planning for June Forums" section.

Lorelle says a registration or RSVP for events is helpful.

Ideas for future Forum topics:

- Recruitment. Results from North Carolina IMLS survey; preliminary findings report should be ready by Annual. Non-employable graduates may take the recruitment topic negatively.

Emerging Leaders program is simultaneous with Forum this year. Could we have the Forum next door, or schedule the Forum at a different time? It is something to keep in mind.

John Budd moved to adopt the timeline document; Linda Smith Griffin seconded; and approved by group. Planning committee for Midwinter 2009 is John Budd, Linda Smith Griffin, Robert Ellett, Kenley Neufeld, and Sara Albert.

Lorelle suggests that an information report be given to Council at Annual and to the Executive Board to describe COE efforts and plans.

#### c) Library School Closings

STRATEGY 4: Networking platform for dialogues between LIS educators and practitioners (Area 2)

On Tuesday, June 28, 2005, the ALA Office for Diversity and ALISE will co-sponsor the "National Dialogue on the Curriculum of Readiness for the 21st Century Librarian", a summit funded in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The summit will begin at 8: 30 a.m. and end at 3: 30 p.m., in conjunction with the 2005 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. The summit will be held in the McCormick Place Convention Center, Room S102d.

Programs such as this above announcement<sup>2</sup> should be a regular feature at ALA Annual and Midwinter conferences. LIS education should also be a regular discussion topic at the Education Assembly. Another platform that could be explored and better publicized is the Library School Reunion events on Sunday evening.

Recommendation: Refer Strategy 4 to Committee on Education, Office for Diversity, and HRDR for further consideration.

SOURCE: Task Force on Library School Closing, Final Report, June 2005

The Forum Planning Committee should keep this in mind.

d) Leslie Burger's Task Force on Library Education

John Budd suggests that report/recommendations from Leslie Burger's Task Force on Library Education should come to COE. They will meet for two days in March in Chicago and again at Annual. He is an official member of that Task Force and will report to COE as allowable.

## **VI. New business**

a) Protocol for Responding to a Formal Request for an Official ALA Position [review draft and provide feedback]

No action requested; just provided for information and discussion and feedback can be given to Executive Board. No discussion from COE.

b) ALCTS Task Force on Non-English Access Recommendations [discussion of Recommendation #6]

Related to continuing education on cataloging. Does Committee see anything that we should be doing? No action.

c) Accreditation Standards Revisions [informational - sent 01/02/08 by Lorelle - to be reviewed by Council 01/15/08]

No comments from committee members.

d) Liaison with Committee on Accreditation

We do not currently have a liaison with COA. COA does not have ability to send someone to us because they are so involved with deliberations during conferences. One idea is for COE Chair to have regular communication with COA Chair and for this to be a formal duty of the COE Chair. COA Chair could come on Monday meetings, but COE members that are also ALISE members do not typically like to stay until Mondays.

e) Agenda items for Education Assembly

- What we decided about Forums and ask for input on future ideas for Forums.

## **VII. Announcements and Adjournment**

a) Meeting Time in Anaheim

1:30-3:30 for COE and 4:00-5:00 for Assembly is usual. We'll keep this schedule for

Anaheim.