

**Affiliate Assembly Executive Committee**  
**American Library Association Annual Conference**  
**June 27, 2008 5:30pm-7:30pm**  
**Anaheim Convention Center, room 206B**

The meeting was Called to Order by Chair Jay Bansbach at 5:40pm. The following members were present: **Rosina Alaimo**, Region II Director Elect; **Jay Bansbach**, AA Chair; **Cara Cavin**, Region III Director Elect; **Diane Chen**, Region IV Director Elect; **Linda Collins**, Region VIII Director Elect; **Nancy Dickinson**, Region IV Director; **Gail Formanack**, Region IX Director Elect; **Leslie Forsman**, AA Recording Secretary; **Maribel Garza-Castro**, Region VI Director Elect; **Lou Greco**, Region V Director; **Carl Harvey**, AA Past Chair; **Marilyn Joyce**, Region I Director; **Irene Kwidzinski**, AA Co-Chair; **Debra LaPlante**, Region VII Director Elect; **Robbie Nickel**, Region VII Director; **Cyndi Phillip**, AASL Past President; and **Hilda Weisburg**, Region II Director.

The minutes from the January 11, 2008 Affiliate Assembly Executive Committee were reviewed and approved. The minutes from the January 13, 2008 Affiliate's Assembly meeting were reviewed. **Diane Chen moved, Linda Collins seconded, the motion to approve of both sets of minutes. The motion passed.**

The packets containing the Statements of Concerns (1-15) and the Statements of Commendations (1-9) were distributed to the Executive Committee for review.

**Cyndi Phillip**, AASL Past President, brought forward the following information for Sarah Kelly Johns (AASL President) and Ann Martin (AASL President Elect):

1). The Spectrum Scholar Program is working to link library school students who attend national conferences with active members who are asked to advise the students on conference session attendance and generally offer advise to them. It provides a connection between AASL and the students. Robbie Nickel is a contact person for this program.

2). The "Spokane Moms" will be honored guests at the AASL President's program. They will be available for a "Meet and Greet" session immediately prior to the session.

3). AASL is looking into creating a "Parents' Outreach" program in response to the surveys of the membership as represented at ALA-MW. The members responding identified the parents as the most important contact group with regards to gathering support for school librarians.

4). Terri Kirk has put together the resources to host a "Virtual Library on the Hill" session to be held Tuesday, July 1, 2008 from 8:00am until 12:00 noon. The computers in the Internet Café as well as some of the vendor's booths will be used for the project. All

attendees are encouraged to make contact with their legislators at this time (as well as at other times).

5). The Standards and Guidelines Task Force has submitted a proposal to the AASL board.

6). AASL offers several professional development institutes packages that local affiliates can purchase for their use. The package includes all necessary materials and a paid trainer who will present the sessions. The affiliate must reproduce the materials for the attendees.

7). Cyndi also mentioned the “Learning for Life” program.

8). The Longitudinal Study group is working with the data supplied by those who completed the online surveys earlier in the year. There were more respondents this year than last year.

9). The AASL Fall Forum (“Assessment Part II Constructing and Interpreting Viable Tools for Effective Student Learning in the Library Media Center”) will be held October 17-19, 2008 at the Oak Brook Hills Marriott Resort, Oak Brook IL (near Chicago).

10). October 27, 2008 has been declared “International School Library Day”. School librarians are encouraged to invite their legislators to their libraries.

AASL Executive Director **Julie Walker** did not have a report at this time.

The agendas for Affiliates Assembly I (June 27) and Affiliates Assembly II (June 29) were reviewed. The AA II agenda was amended to include additional committee reports. **Rosina Alaimo moved, Maribel Garza-Castro seconded to approve the AA I agenda. Rosina Alaimo moved, Irene Kwidzinski seconded to approve the AA II agenda as amended. Both motions passed.**

The Executive Committee then reviewed the Statements of Commendation and selected those that would be brought forward to the Affiliates Assembly for discussion. The following actions were taken:

1). “Request that AASL send a letter of Commendation and certificate to Follett Library Resources on behalf of Region II.” **Diane Chen moved, Debra LaPlante seconded, the motion to approve this commendation. The motion passed.**

2). To commend the Intellectual Freedom Network (IFN) that has been created by the Wisconsin Educational Media and Technology Association (WEMTA). After much discussion for clarification of who/what was to be commended, the Executive Committee was reminded that word-smithing and rewriting for clarification was not allowed at this point. **Diane Chen moved, Rosina Alaimo seconded, that the commendation be**

**returned to Region III for clarification and submission next year. The motion passed.**

3). To commend the WEMTA Legislative Advocacy Committee for developing and implementing a strategy to deliver targeted messages to Wisconsin legislators. This item would need clarification. **Cara Cavin, Region III Director Elect, chose to withdrawn this commendation, which originated from Region III.**

4). The “Media Literacy Clearinghouse” website ([www.frankwbaker.com](http://www.frankwbaker.com)) offers resources, lesson plans, and activities to help teachers and library media specialists understand and teach media literacy. Discussion was held as to whom the site was aimed (classroom teachers or librarians) and whether the site is mainly an attempt to promote its creator’s seminars. The Executive Committee was reminded that commendations are not to be given for individuals, only for programs or events. **Lou Greco moved, Gail Formanack seconded, to ”not approve” this commendation. The motion passed.**

5). To commend “Cocky’s reading Express at the University of South Carolina”, through which library science students travel throughout the state with “Cocky” to read to children and to promote life-long reading. (<http://www.libsci.sc.edu/ccbl/cockyreadingexpress/index.html>) **Lou Greco moved, Diane Chen seconded, to approve this commendation. The motion passed.**

6). To commend the University of Kentucky for hosting the statewide listserv for the Kentucky School Media Association (<http://www.kysma.org>). This commendation did not travel through the proper channels, and was received after the submission deadline. **Lou Greco moved, Maribel Garza-Castro seconded, to “not approve” this commendation. The motion passed.**

7). To commend the “Washington Coalition for School Libraries and Informational Technology” (often referred to as the “Spokane Moms”) for working to ensure that school libraries received adequate and sustained funding for full-time certified teacher-librarians, materials, technologies and facilities. **Debra LaPlante moved, Lou Greco seconded, to approve this commendation. The motion passed.**

8). To commend the “North Dakota Department of Public Education” and the “Educational Practices Board of North Dakota” for instating the requirement that Library Media Specialists take two semester hours (of the four required) of library-approved credits as part of the renewal process for the North Dakota professional educator’s license. **Diane Chen moved, Rosina Alaimo seconded, to approve the commendation. The motion passed.**

9). To commend the new Master of Education program at Valley City State University that now offers a concentration in Library and Informational Technologies. The University is working toward meeting the AASL and NCATE School Library Media Specialist Preparation Standards. It currently meets the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction Standards for the preparation of library media specialists at the highest

credential level (LM01). Discussion was held regarding commending a program that has not yet met AASL or NCATE standards. It was decided to commend the creation of a program and to encourage the attempt toward accreditation. **Linda Collins moved, Gail Formanack seconded, to approve this commendation. The motion passed.**

The Executive Committee then reviewed the Statements of Concerns and selected those that would be brought forward to the Affiliates Assembly for discussion. The following actions were taken:

1). “We support the deployment of a rapid response mechanism/network to rally affiliate assistance for school library media programs in jeopardy...” **Lou Greco moved, Debra LaPlante seconded, to approve this concern. The motion passed.**

2). “Workshops at the Annual Conferences must be a showcase for ‘best practices’ that are cutting edge and forward-looking...” Discussion noted that some of the conference sessions (especially additionally priced pre-conference sessions) were not up to the expectations of attendees. These comments will be forwarded to the planning committees of the AASL, ALA Annual and ALA Mid-Winter conferences. **Gail Formanack moved, Diane Chen seconded, to “not approve” this concern. The motion passed.**

3). “Having national Board Certification elevates a teacher’s credentials and status as a professional...” AASL presented sessions (perhaps even an earlier Fall Forum) on the subject of National Board Certification. It might be an issue that should be revisited. **Linda Collins moved, Rosina Alaimo seconded, to approve this concern. The motion passed.**

4). “School librarians observe that teachers and administrators do not know or ‘understand what we do’...” It was noted that this is a recurring comment. AASL does not have the power to mandate coursework for NCATE accreditation. The actions requested in this concern were not “do-able” by AASL or ALA. **Diane Chen moved, Lou Greco seconded, to “not approve” this concern. The motion passed.**

5). “it is the perception of the affiliate delegates that the AASL board is unaware of the productive discussions, questions, concerns, and issues that are raised at the Affiliate’s roundtable on Saturday morning at Mid-Winter...” It was noted that the discussion notes are posted at the “On-Line Communities” for all to read. Also the Saturday morning discussion groups were not intended to create action items for the board or as a place to air concerns/commendations materials. They are simply intended to be opportunities to share information and to provide an additional gathering/discussion time for Affiliate Assembly members who attend ALA Mid-Winter. Another portion of this concern dealt with the fact that the Directors Elect are scheduled to attend an AASL board meeting at the roundtable time and are therefore unable to attend the roundtable. **Rosina Alaimo moved to approve the concern. No one seconded the motion. The motion was not called for a vote and was not advanced.**

6). “Since administrators are important to the success of a strong library media program, we are concerned that AASL is not a partner with ASCD, a leading organization representing administrators.” At the roundtable discussions at Mid-Winter and during Affiliate Assembly at Mid-Winter, the parents groups were selected to be the primary contact focus groups. The administrators were the next area of focus. There have been articles in the Phi Delta Kappa magazine and other magazines about connecting administrators and libraries/librarians. It may be suggested to the editors of KQ to consider featuring articles aimed toward administrators. **Diane Chen moved, Linda Collins seconded, to approve this concern. The motion passed.**

7). “It is a major concern of the Affiliates that the new Standards were released without accompanying support documentation....” This concern is being addressed and information to support the Standards will continue to be developed. **Cara Cavin, Region III Director Elect, chose to withdrawn this concern, which originated from Region III.**

8). “Lack of awareness amongst school administrator ranks of issues related to presence or lack of school library media programs, specifically in relation to access and equity.” This concern did not have specific action request attached to it, therefore no action could be brought forward. AASL has a Reading Task Force in place, which might overlap some of this concern. It could also be combined with some of the other concerns. **Debra LaPlante moved, Maribel Garza-Castro seconded to send this concern back to the Region (III) for clarification. The motion passed.**

9). “An examination of the ALA directory of library diversity organizations ([http://wikis.ala.org/diversity/index.php/Diversity\\_Directory](http://wikis.ala.org/diversity/index.php/Diversity_Directory)) demonstrates that AASL has less of a presence within ALA on issues regarding diversity in collections, services, and members than other divisions...” It was noted that there is a Task Force on Diversity already. This information and concern needs to be forwarded to that Task Force for their use and consideration. It might also be sent to the AASL board so that they might choose to direct the Task Force on Diversity accordingly. **Cara Cavin moved, Debra LaPlante seconded, to approve this concern. The motion passed.**

10). “Lack of collaboration between AASL and ISTE regarding standards, advocacy, conference planning, and other issues relating to information and literacy in education.” It was noted that there would be a virtual session between ALA to NECC on Tuesday, July 1, 2008 beginning at 7:30am. It was also noted that ALA/AASL cannot control the actions of ISTE, etc., but that open communications opportunities could be further extended. **Cara Cavin moved, Diane Chen seconded, to approve this concern. The motion passed.**

11). “It is the perception of AASL members in general that there is not enough presence of AASL leadership at affiliate conferences....” It was noted that affiliate organizations should be reminded to invite their Regional Director/Director Elect to attend their conferences. The AASL President/President Elect/Past President rotational schedule includes one of the three attending each state’s conference as possible. Affiliates

are encouraged to cover conference registration, room fees, and meal functions for the invited guests. **Cara Cavin withdrew the concern, but moved that Irene Kwidzinski review the delegate's handbook for information on the topic and place it there if it is not already there. Lou Greco seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

12). "The members of our association are concerned about:..." This concern did come follow the proper procedures for submission and was therefore **sent back to the originating region.**

13). "Arizona has seen a decrease in the number of certified teacher librarians in schools across the state...." **Debra LaPlante moved, Rosina Alaimo seconded, to approve this concern. The motion passed. Chair Jay Bansbach then combined Concern #13 with Concern #1 as they are on similar topics.**

14). "We have anew committee to award grants for research proposals, but applicants are not submitting what we consider to be appropriate projects...." Diane Chen was asked to provide guidance with the writing of concerns to this region (her home region). **Lou Greco moved, Maribel Garza-Castro seconded, to send this concern back to the region for further information. The motion passed.**

15). "Concern regarding getting the word out to the public about the new Standards and information for media professionals about putting the new Standards into practice." As with Concern #7, this is being addressed by AASL and a task force is working on this topic. **This concern was withdrawn.**

Chair Jay Bansbach asked for volunteers to guide the discussion of the concerns during AA I later this evening. Marilyn Joyce will guide the combined Concerns 1 and 13; Gail Formanack will guide Concern 3; Rosina Alaimo will guide Concern 6; Debra LaPlante will guide Concern 9; and Maribel Garza-Castro will guide Concern 10.

Hilda Weisburg brought forward the concept of creating a WIKI for Affiliate Assembly.

**Diane Chen moved, Linda Collins seconded, that the meeting adjourn. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.**