

ASCLA/SLAS
Executive Committee Meeting
Monday, July 13, 2009
10:30-12:00, Chicago Hilton, Conference Room 5A

Present: Norma Blake, Brian Greene, Eugene Hainer, Elaine Harrison, Maribeth Krupczak, Kathleen Moeller-Peiffer, Suzy Szasz Palmer, Barbara Reading

Before moving into the agenda, Barbara reviewed the roster and terms on Exec.:
Norma Blake, Gene Hainer, and Linda Lord are all going off after this meeting.
Gina Persichini (ID Commission for Libraries) will come on as vice chair/chair elect, and Brian Greene (WY State Library) will come on as Member-at-Large.

1. Follow up to LSTA program on Saturday; - further promoting the IMLS report?

- No discussion

2. Items from ASCLA board meeting on Sat. am; for Monday afternoon ASCLA meeting

- LSTA reauthorization: trying to complete draft in Congress before Christmas; definitely won't happen before the end of September.
- New ASCLA/RUSA Executive Director, Susan Hornung, has asked the division representatives the following questions concerning what they would like her to be doing as Exec. Dir. (Note that she doesn't start at ALA until the end of July and as of the date of this meeting, has no email)
 - If you could keep three things that we're doing, what would they be?
 - What three things would you like to change?
 - What would you most like her to do?
 - What are you most afraid of her doing?
- There was a Leadership Meeting at Midwinter: May move to "communities of practice" structure over the current ALA "sections." A section can appoint to ASCLA Planning & Budget > question for Kathleen to follow up
- Brenda Bailey-Hainer is the incoming ASCLA President. ACRL and LLAMA will have a joint President's Program at Annual 2010; topic: "Generations in the workplace/grooming new leadership"; a proposal has been filed to hold the spot for this.
- Discussion on two resolutions that came to the ASCLA Board:
 - "Purchasing of Accessible Electronic Resources Resolution"
 - "Accessibility for Library Websites"
 - Asking for ASCLA's endorsement before going to Council (ASCLA Board is voting Monday afternoon, 7/13/09). The SLAS Exec Committee felt that these resolutions are redundant with other existing policies on accessibility; that they are too restrictive in their specificity; they are hard to apply at "my" institution.
 - CONSENSUS:
 - Not needed as a Council resolution
 - Recommend instead more education on existing policies

- Concepts are important, but this doesn't advance the discussion any further
- RECOMMENDATION:
 - To NOT endorse these two resolutions moving forward.
- [NOTE: Both resolutions went forward and were passed by Council, without SLAS endorsement]

3. Discussion group meetings at annual; Membership promotion?

- General Consultants – Only four or five were people were present, including Gene. This is not a new DG but their meetings lapsed for a year, about a year ago. The group is worthwhile and should continue to meet.
- LSTA Coordinators – well attended
- Youth Services Consultants had a few attendees; this group met at the CSLP meeting in April.
- Kathleen will ensure that each group has a time slot for Midwinter
- A long time ago there was a separate DG for “reference” in state libraries; this could be a good example of a “community of practice” rather than starting up a new discussion group. RUSA has a DG for reference services, which attracts between 20-50 people at each meeting; mostly academic librarians, but some public (and Suzy chairs now).
- Membership/promotion: Kathleen is on the committee. Liz Markel has been excellent in getting out consistent messages to a wide range of groups. With Susan Hornung coming in, that should help ASCLA even more
 - ASCLA has approx. 900 members. While it might be nice to see an increase in this number, apparently we've seen less of a decline than some other Divisions.

4. Program for ALA annual 2010; meetings at Midwinter, ALA annual – Moeller-Peiffer

- Kathleen is working on a possible pre-conference, focused on the themes in the book, *Groundswell: Winning in a World Transformed by Social Technology* (2008), by Charlene Li and Josh Bernoff at Forrester Research. This would have to be a pre-conference because of the cost of bringing in these speakers. Perhaps Ebsco/Novelist would help with the funding. The book is very easy to read. Their latest work is *Marketing the Groundswell* (June 2009). They focus on strategies rather than technologies.
- ASCLA pre-conference in Chicago: Trump strategy on customer service. Talked about possibly doing a “part 2. But the NJ State Library is doing this regionally in the coming year, so may be too much overlap in possible attendance with ALA Annual in DC next June
- “Generating Revenue for Networks, Cooperatives, & Consortia” – program from ICAN, looking for ASCLA/SLAS sponsorship. Proposal has already been filed, but they need a section endorsement. This is similar to the pre-conference held in Chicago on Friday that focused on “what to do when the grant runs out” (which Gene attended).

5. 2010 ballot nominations for SLAS officers

- The slate is ready to go out, with thanks to the Nominating Committee (Peggy Cadigan, NJ State Library; Sharon Morris, CO State Library, & Jamie Markus, WY State Library) for their hard work. It's difficult to even form the Nominating Committee because Board members can't serve on it. With travel budgets severely limited, it was especially difficult to find candidates willing to commit to the ALA attendance.
 - Suzy Szasz Palmer, Vice-Chair, Chair-Elect
 - Shirley Biladeau, Secretary
 - Jim Hollinger, Member-at-Large

6. Forum on Future of Government Information – Palmer

- Suzy reported on the ½ day meeting held Friday 7/10. Representatives from all ALA sections were asked to send someone to attend this meeting, and were given a list of four questions in advance:
 - How do your members help users find government information from all levels?
 - What ways to you provide and/or organize your government information for your users?
 - What training do your members have/need in government information?
 - What does your group consider to be government information?
- As it turned out, most attendees were not representing a section and of those that were, few had polled their constituencies in advance (Suzy had received about a half dozen responses). She did not find the meeting well organized, and at least her small group was not facilitated well. Individuals spoke more about their home institutions than about the larger questions.
- A one-page “Definition of official publications for international use by IFLA, Official Publications Section, Adopted August 1983) was distributed.
- The small groups reported out in the larger forum (I'm guessing that 75+ people were in attendance). The following observations were made:
 - Government information is ubiquitous; not just an issue for GODORT; need some ALA-wide help with disseminating the word > advocacy
 - Govt. information is fundamental to all our user groups
 - Users don't ask for govt. information as such
 - Goes beyond “publications” (archival material, data sets)
 - Need ongoing, association-wide training; continued need for experts
 - Importance of cataloging
 - Need to understand the structure of government(s) in order to understand the material they generate
 - Who owns govt. information?
 - There is a “govt. information community” in ALA Connect > need to publicize more
- A report will be issued from the meeting. Suzy will let SLAS know when this is available.

7. SLAS Web site update – Palmer

- SLAS does not have a lot on its web site. The Board roster is up to date (though will need to be updated again after this meeting).

- The only minutes that are posted are from the 2000 LSTA Coordinators DG. Suzy has sent minutes from Midwinter 2009 repeatedly to Chris Cieslak (cc Liz Markel), as recently as May 2009, but they are not appearing.
 - As soon as these minutes are approved by SLAS Exec, Suzy will send to Chris and Liz (and cc Kathleen and Susan Hornung) – and asked that these 2000 minutes be deleted. The group also felt that we do not need the Midwinter 2009 minutes posted if they can get these up soon.
- There appears to be two list serves: SLAS members and SLAS-L.
 - SLAS has 174 members, and it's possible to review the names
 - SLAS-L has only 125 members, but it's not possible to review the names
 - We need to see who is on each and consolidate > Suzy will work with Chris (or whoever can get this done!).
- We talked about having someone from the ALA office come to our board meeting to talk about the process for keeping the page fresh.

8. ALA Online Communities

- Barbara put some material up for SLAS but ran out of steam. Maybe if we all take responsibility for putting things up when something of interest goes around in our email. We can use this “community” for posting documents in a working space, e.g., for us to work on something.

9. Welcome new appointees

- Barbara thanked all those members who are going off Exec and those coming on!

10. Other business

- NORMA: Advocacy Coordinating Committee. ALA is working on a response to financial or other crises in response to library closings. Marcy Mirolla [spelling?] is doing advocacy institutes/workshops around the state (NJ). ALA is also looking for speakers on advocacy. Safeway is launching a program putting information about libraries on cereal panels. Topics for the Advocacy University include: budget process; doing more with less; retooling librarians; frontline advocacy; job help/training. New Jersey is “mapping” libraries on Google Earth. Legislative Day will be in June 2010, rather than May as usual, in order to coordinate with ALA Annual being in DC. Interest in nationwide “snapshot” day, similar to what NJ did in February – participated in what a library does for you in a day, and put up 1000+ pictures on Flickr; sent images to legislators. Possibility of a snapshot “week” for wider participation. Will get categories (for counting) out ahead of time so people can start thinking/working on this.

The meeting adjourned early at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
 Suzy Szasz Palmer (secretary)
 7-27-09
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