

## **Website Advisory Committee**

### Report

April/May 2004

1. Committee. WAC's motion that ALA appoint the Web Development Manager to serve ex officio on the WAC was accepted. Debi Lewis is now officially a liaison to the WAC.
2. Communication preference. There has been no response yet from the Executive Board to the WAC's motion endorsing an "opt-in" communication preference for members.
3. Search engine. The consultant for the new search engine has been working, but the schedule has slipped some. WAC has not yet reviewed this work.
4. Calendar. A subcommittee presented preliminary recommendations on ways to increase the utility of the calendar for meetings not held during midwinter and annual conferences (<http://www.ala.org/ala/events/eventsconferences.htm>). Recommendations will be finalized at Annual.
5. Log-in screens. Suggestions were implemented to improve screens members see after logging in to the ALA site. Changes include reorganizing the page from a narrative to a bulleted format and moving the continue link to the top of the page.
6. Priorities. The WAC subcommittee chairs discussed and ranked the list of Website priorities or Internet Services Projects (<https://cs.ala.org/websurvey/webgroup.html>) prepared by ITTS. The full committee is finishing up reviewing that list to be able to guide ITTS on its Web projects.
7. Online communities. WAC reviewed a draft of an RFP to develop software for online communities. A second draft is currently under review. WAC's recommendation to delay the timetable for the project was accepted.
8. Staff projects. 1) New servers were installed by ITTS to make the Web and mail more responsive and robust. 2) Work has begun on new software to manage the various ALA mailing lists. 3) A style manual for the Website is under development. It is expected to be ready for WAC's review soon. 4) Improvements were made to the search options in the Great Web Sites for Kids. 5) Work is also underway to make the reviews in Booklist more accessible and searchable.