Minutes  
GODORT Legislation Committee – Meeting 1  
ALA Midwinter Conference  
January 9, 2004

Committee members present: Arlene Weible (chair), Becky Byrum, Amy West, Maureen Olle, Beth Rowe, Mary Mallory, Susan Kendall, Sherry Mosely

The meeting was called to order by Arlene Weible and the minutes of the previous meeting were approved as posted.

Reports on committee assignments:

- Public Access to Science: Amy West reported that the bill was still in committee.
- FOIA-related activity: Susan Kendall reported that H.R. 2417 has been signed into law and is now P.L. 108-177.
- ERIC: Becky Byrum reported Ask ERIC and the clearinghouses were taken down on December 19, 2003 and that she will be attending the EBSS-sponsored discussion on Saturday for updates on the current situation.
- Critical Infrastructure Information: Maureen Olle reported no change.
- Terrorism Information Awareness: Amy West reported to change.
- USA Patriot Act: Beth Rowe reported that some of the elements to the Patriot Act 2 are being slipped into omnibus bills.
- State level issues: Sherry Mosely announced that the AALL report on state issues will be put on the agenda of the State & Local Task Force.

Potential Actions:

- GPO/NARA Agreement: Valerie Glenn has drafted a commendation resolution.
- Principles on Government Information: This GODORT document has been revised by a subgroup of the Federal Documents Task Force and will be sent up ALA Council through the Committee on Legislation.
- Sen. Paul Simon draft memorial resolution: Mary Mallory corrected the date of this resolution and it will be sent to the GODORT Councilor.
- ERIC Clearinghouse Commendation Resolution: This resolution was written by ACRL’s EBSS group, and we will take it to the GODORT Business meeting for endorsement.
- USA Patriot Act resolution: Arlene announced that a resolution was coming from the privacy subcommittee of Council on Legislation. The Washington Office has said that the resolution should be very focused and not ask for the repeal of the USA Patriot Act.

Other discussion:

A response by the Legislation Committee to the Public Printer regarding fee-based access to government documents will focus on the Principles of Government Information. It was suggested that members of the committee contact their legislators to make them aware of issues on this topic.

Patrice McDermott announced that the Legislative Action Center on the ALA site lists talking points for issues that effect libraries.

The committee was adjourned.
Respectfully submitted,
Becky Byrum

Summary of additional meetings at the Midwinter Conference
(Prepared by Arlene Weible, Chair)

Becky Byrum reported that the ACRL-EBSS group is forming a group to monitor changes to ERIC as a result of its new configuration with a private contractor. Becky will alert the group to the Committee’s interest in following this work.

Beth Rowe will be working with the International Documents Task Force in drafting a congratulatory letter for the U.S. rejoining UNESCO.

Sherry Mosely will monitor the State and Local Documents Task Force efforts to collect more information about states level efforts to provide permanent public access to state government publications.

The committee worked with COL-Government Information Subcommittee on further editing of the Principles on Government Information and the GPO/NARA resolution. Several committee members also worked on editing of the memorial resolution for Sen. Paul Simon. While not received in time for consideration by the Legislation Committee, a resolution from the ALA Committee on Legislation, Subcommittee on Privacy entitled: “Resolution On Proposed Amendments To The USA Patriot Act” was taken to the GODORT Business meeting for endorsement. The text of these resolutions, as approved by the Committee, are available at the GODORT Legislation web site.

http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/GODORT/resolutions/index.html#2004