

September 2002



SRRT NEWSLETTER

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Issue 140

ONE VOICE POLICY CHALLENGED

SRRT Members,

There is an ongoing conflict between SRRT Action Council and ALA staff regarding what staff refers to as the "Speaking With One Voice Policy," although unlike actual ALA policies, it was never passed by Council, but was issued by a subcommittee of the Executive Board as an "information item."

The "Speaking With One Voice Policy," as it has been explained to us, would prohibit SRRT from issuing any kind of position statements or resolutions, on the basis that in doing so SRRT is speaking for the Association as a whole. We feel when we communicate our resolutions to the outside world we are scrupulously clear that we are not speaking for the Association as a whole but just for a small part of it.

This issue came up recently regarding ALA's controversial "Resolution of the Destruction of Palestinian Libraries, Archives, and Other Cultural Resources," which was passed by ALA Council at annual but which was initiated by SRRT member Tom Twiss of the International Responsibilities Task Force. A pro-Israel news service ran a story about the ALA resolution and included information on its SRRT origins, including information about Tom's original, stronger resolution. At ALA this was seen as evidence that SRRT was communicating its resolutions to the press. In fact, we did intend to communicate our resolution to the press, but hadn't yet at this time. Ironically, the news service learned of Tom's resolution by picking up a copy at the ALA membership meeting, where it had been photocopied and distributed by ALA staff to

anyone in attendance who wanted it, as any item on the agenda at an open meeting would be.

Nevertheless, because this proved to be such a controversial action on ALA's part, which created some serious headaches for some, it became an occasion for laying down the law. I received a memo from Satia Orange, SRRT's staff liaison at ALA, telling us in no uncertain terms that in communicating our position statements to the outside world we were in violation of ALA policy.

I asked for and received the Executive Board Document laying out this supposed policy, analyzed it, and wrote a memo to Satia in response to hers, expressing the position of the SRRT leadership on the "One Voice" policy. (SRRT Action Council has addressed this issue many times at Action Council meetings and has always decided, either unanimously or by a wide margin, that this "policy" is not legitimate ALA policy, and that we should continue communicating SRRT resolutions to the world at large.)

My memo to Satia, dated August 17th; Satia's memo to me, dated July 11th; and Executive Board Document #1.6 (1999-2000), "Who Speaks for ALA?", are printed here and are also available on the SRRT website: <http://libr.org/SRRT/docs/>.

Rory Litwin
SRRT Coordinator

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ALA/OLOS Memorandum

Equal access to information in libraries for all of America's populations

Office for Literacy and Outreach Services (OLOS)

DATE: July 11, 2002
TO: Rory Litwin, Coordinators, ALA Social Responsibilities Round Table (SRRT)
FROM: Satia Orange, ALA Liaison to SRRT

Dear Rory:

Thanks for getting back with me earlier this week. As agreed, I am sending this message as confirmation of our conversation.

My call, as the ALA staff liaison to the Social Responsibilities Round Table, was to register my concern re: the dissemination of a recent SRRT resolution to the press. As you and I discussed, the American Library Association's policy is clear about adherence to its policies by its round tables. You are aware that ALA's policy is that round tables and their members do not speak with the press on behalf of the Association.

To be specific, a member of the SRRT International Relations Task Force provided the resolution, "Destruction of Palestinian Libraries, Archives, and Other Cultural Institutions" to JTA, the Global News Service of the Jewish Community. You indicated that the decision to decimate this resolution to the press was unanimous at the SRRT Action Council in Atlanta a few weeks ago.

Issuing unofficial documents regarding ALA resolutions and decisions can confuse Association membership and the public's awareness of ALA policies. Also, such actions may undermine ALA's credibility and its ability to implement meaningful actions on behalf of the organization.

Please ask the task force website manager to link to the ALA Council-approved resolution of the same name at <http://www.ala.org/work/international/resolutiononpalestinianlibraries.html>, instead of to a SRRT web page. Again, the resolution on the identified website confirms ALA's official resolution.

Lastly, your consideration of the suggestion to place the disclaimer at the top of the SRRT resolution, rather than at the bottom, may help to eliminate confusion for some readers. You indicated intent to provide better wording for the disclaimer, and suggested that its movement to a space directly under the title would be considered. Publication of the SRRT resolution noted above, even with the revised disclaimer, would still violate ALA policy.

Furthermore, ALA policy has been ignored with full knowledge of the SRRT Action Council. Such action causes concern for Association members and leadership.

The role of the Social Responsibilities Round Table, as with other ALA units, is respected and valued. Round tables "provide an additional avenue for membership discussion, opinion, and response." It is the intent of the Association leadership, through its policies on structure and governance, to allow the voices of all of its members to be heard, as prescribed by its Council-approved procedures. It is important that the policies of the ALA Council, made up of elected representatives of the Association, be followed.

As always, your consideration and cooperation is appreciated. I look forward to continuing this dialogue with you, as SRRT coordinator, and supporting the work of the round table as always. SMO

Memo

DATE: August 17, 2002

TO: Satia Orange, ALA Liaison to SRRT

FROM: Rory Litwin, SRRT Coordinator

CC: Keith Michael Fiels, ALA Executive Director

This memo is my response to your memo of July 11th, regarding the so-called “dissemination of a recent SRRT resolution to the press.”

First I will address the specific events in question. Following that, I will state, for the record, my own views and my understanding, as SRRT Coordinator, of the consensus among the SRRT leadership regarding the “Speaking with One Voice Policy.”

I am CC-ing the Executive Director after first consulting you about the appropriateness of doing this. I understand that it is not the Executive Director’s responsibility to set or interpret policy, and that any actions taken by ALA regarding SRRT’s alleged failure to abide by ALA policies would not be the Executive Director’s to take. However, it is part of my charge as SRRT Coordinator to “maintain a working relationship with the ALA Executive Director.” As we in SRRT regard this as one of the more important issues facing us, I feel that it is incumbent upon me to inform Mr. Fiels of our perspective. You acknowledged that this is reasonable.

Regarding the events following the passage of the ALA Council Resolution “Resolution on the Destruction of Palestinian Libraries, Archives, and Other Cultural Institutions,” I would first like to correct a significant factual error in your memo. Your memo began by explaining that your earlier telephone call to me was to register your concern “re: the dissemination of a recent SRRT resolution to the press.” It may turn out to be a minor detail, but in fact Tom Twiss, the author of the original draft of the ALA Council resolution and the SRRT resolution in question, did not disseminate the SRRT resolution to the press, nor had anyone else in SRRT by the time of your call. The JTA news service had obtained a copy of his resolution at the membership meeting, where it was distributed by ALA. Tom later provided the news service with a copy of the ALA Council resolution, faxed to him by an ALA Councilor, and further advised them to approach ALA directly for an official copy. According to Tom, he did NOT provide the JTA with the SRRT resolution nor the almost identical version which he brought to the ALA Membership Meeting and the Near East and South Asia Subcommittee of the International Relations Committee. The JTA obtained it because of ALA’s open meeting policy.

Shortly after the conference, Tom put the SRRT resolution on the website of SRRT’s International Responsibilities Task Force, which he manages. This website also contained the text of the ALA resolution and clearly distinguished between the two. The SRRT resolution was identified as a SRRT resolution at the top, and additionally had a clear disclaimer at the bottom. The links to these resolutions, side by side, made it clear to anyone visiting the site that one was an ALA resolution and one was a resolution of a subgroup of ALA.

Clearly, the JTA news service, whatever else it may have misunderstood about the resolution and the process of its development, understood the difference between a SRRT and an ALA resolution, and did not mistake one for the other, as some ALA staffers and Executive Board members seem to fear.

After your telephone call, we further clarified the wording of the disclaimer, an action SRRT felt was unnecessary but which we felt nothing would be lost by doing, and moved the disclaimer to the top of the web page, as you suggested.

Following the instructions your memo, Tom did replace the page containing the text of the ALA resolution as passed with a link to the same text on the ALA site. It remains unclear to me why we were asked to make this change. The issue of copyright has not been invoked, and to my knowledge no-one in the library press or in the library website world has been asked not to publish official ALA resolutions in the past.

Referring to web pages falling under SRRT, you stated in your memo:

“You indicated intent to provide better wording for the disclaimer, and suggested that its movement to a space directly under the title would be considered. Publication of the SRRT resolution noted above, even with the revised disclaimer, would still violate ALA policy.”

This brings us to the topic of the “Speaking with One Voice Policy” in general. This statement indicates that it is ALA’s view that SRRT is not allowed to publish its resolutions on its website. I want to make it clearly known that this rule has nowhere

been officially communicated in the past, and is nowhere to be found in the document that I take to have established the “Speaking with One Voice Policy” in the first place, Executive Board Document #1.6 (1999-2000), “Who Speaks for ALA – Issues Document.” That document’s clear statement of what it considers to be “speaking for the Association” is as follows:

Both general practice within organizations and legal opinion indicate that units or individuals may reasonably be construed to be speaking for the Association when they do either of the following:

- Indicate in a verbal or written statement that they are expressing ALA policy or an ALA position, and/or
- Use ALA (including ALA division or ALA round table) letterhead to express a policy or position.

This statement alarmed us enough when it was released, and I will state the SRRT leadership’s position on it momentarily. As far as communication of official SRRT resolutions is concerned, however, it clearly only prohibits the use of round table letterhead for the purpose. It says nothing about publication on websites or in the library press. (I should note here that wherever else we might want to publish our positions there is no place more appropriate for the communication of official SRRT resolutions than the SRRT Newsletter, and the SRRT Newsletter has been freely available on the web since 1997, and has been freely available in libraries since the founding of the Round Table.) The basis for (and official existence of) this apparent new rule that SRRT is not allowed to publish its official positions anywhere at all is extremely murky, and something which we wish to have addressed as soon as possible. (While I find it important to note that our recent instructions from ALA do not have any basis in EBD #16, this should not be taken as acceptance of the position expressed in that document.)

It is worth noting that SRRT resolutions are arrived at in our mandated open meetings, and thus cannot in principle be withheld from publication. This is as it should be. As the original drafts of many resolutions that are finally passed by ALA Council, they often provide the evidence of not only what ALA Council affirms, but what it, by a conscious process, chooses not to affirm. They are thus often a part of the public record of the path of development of Council resolutions. ALA Councilors who are happy with Council resolutions that are much changed from their original SRRT-related forms should be happy to see a public record of how a resolution’s radical elements were filtered out. SRRT members are interested in seeing the same information existing in the published record, especially concerning the SRRT-based origin of a resolution in question.

I should mention at this point in my discussion of the “Speaking with One Voice Policy” as stated in EBD #1.6 (1999-2000) that it claims to be based on principles with which the SRRT leadership entirely agrees. SRRT’s leadership completely accepts and affirms the Constitution, Bylaws and Policy Manual (which SRRT has helped to shape over the past three decades) as the basis of SRRT’s existence and all of its activities, and does not wish to violate any policies that truly are contained in any of these documents. Consideration of ALA policy has been central to our decision-making; accordingly, we do not believe we have violated any actual ALA policies.

We recognize that the four members of the Executive Board subcommittee who drafted this document (for informational purposes only, I should add - not for a vote) consider us to be violating ALA Policy when we send out our SRRT resolutions on SRRT letterhead. They cite eight sections of the ALA Constitution, Bylaws and Policy Manual as the basis for their “Information Item,” all of which the SRRT leadership agrees with. However, we do not find anything in any of these cited passages that would prohibit us from speaking clearly on our own behalf.

The subcommittee of the Executive Board lays the actual foundation for this rule in “general practice within organizations and legal opinion,” without, however, citing any evidence of actual research into general practice or legal opinion or justifying this claim in any way. We question the statement that either general practice or legal opinion could possibly result in any prohibition of a sub-group of ALA from speaking strictly on its own behalf.

SRRT representatives raised this question at a 2000 meeting of the Round Table Coordinating Committee meeting, where ALA lawyer Paula Goedert presented a report laying down the new “policy.” Our representatives asked about the legal basis that she was referring to. The answer they received, as I understand it, was that sending out a position statement on round table letterhead would violate the tax law provisions that prohibit 501(c)3 non-profit organizations from lobbying on behalf of or against political candidates. Pressed on the relevance of this law, Goedert was, I am told, unable to answer. This evidences a flimsy basis indeed for such an interpretation of ALA policy, and sorely tempts debate.

ALA does have a concern which I feel is understandable, however, and which I believe we in SRRT respect and take into consideration. That ALA is one legal and actual entity is true, and certain things do follow from this. SRRT would not commit ALA to a contract without authorization, for example, and SRRT would not claim to speak for the Association as a whole. You have expressed concern about confusion of ALA’s membership and the public about ALA’s policies and positions. We feel

(Continued on page 12)

SRRT Booth Report by Jenna Freedman

The SRRT booth in the exhibit hall was staffed for at least 20 of 31 hours at the ALA Annual Conference in Atlanta. (I think the total was around 0 of 31 last year in San Francisco.) Booth staffers released the inner biker in up to 600 library workers by applying a “Social Responsibilities @ Your Library” temporary tattoo* to arms, wrists, and ankles. (We were willing to stick them elsewhere, but people claimed they wanted the tattoo to be visible.) Many YA and school librarians took extras home to give out to their patrons, students, and youth advisory committees. The tattoo was distributed and used for publicity at other events, including the AIP Free Speech Buffet. It also adorned the hand of President-Elect Mitch Freedman as he welcomed people at the reception for President-Elect-Elect Carla Hayden.

Unexpected opportunity: It takes 30 seconds for the tattoo to set, which we used to harangue our captive listeners about SRRT. We handed out applications for membership along with copies of the newsletter, and literature advertising the Free Speech Buffet, SRRT proposals, and about a dozen other items.

SRRT Booth staffers included (and I may have missed a few—sorry!):

Abigail Plumb	Alison Lewis
Ann Sparanese	Aureole Johnstone
Dena Marger	Elaine Harger
Fiona Hunt	Fred Stoss
Howard Besser	Jenna Freedman
Jenny Baltes	Laura Koltutsky
Michael Santangelo	Rachel Stein
Rebecca Tolley-Stokes	Rory Litwin
Tara Dirst	



Hanging out in the booth and giving people tattoos was fun, and it gave SRRT excellent exposure—not just for the tattoos. Stay tuned for temporary piercings in Toronto...

*Designed by my [non-library worker] friend Laura Ballinger

MLK TASK FORCE HOLDS MULTICULTURAL IDEA EXCHANGE

Andrew A. Venerable, Director, Cleveland Public Library, was the keynote speaker for the ALA-SRRT Martin Luther King Holiday Task Force's second Multicultural Idea Exchange program on Saturday June 15. Venable highlighted a various array of activities over 17 years of the Cleveland Public Library's King Holiday celebrations, including: hosting notable speakers, music by the Cleveland Library Staff Choir under Venable's direction, and partnerships with the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and other community groups.

Following the keynote address, Roy L. Joynes, Branch Manager, Largo-Kettering Library, Prince George County's Memorial Library System moderated a panel discussion. Amy K. Small, Manager, External Relations, Westchester Library System (NY) gave details about the annual Westchester African American Readers & Writers Literary Tea, established in 1998. Features of the program included presenting first-time and new book authors, having a local Honorary Chair, and serving British High Tea in a private club overlooking the Hudson River. She noted that corporate sponsors help to defray some expenses and they sponsor several high school students for the \$40 general admission and a higher cost to meet earlier with the authors. The event has fostered Library Public Relations through literary awareness and increased participation by African Americans with volunteers from fraternities and sororities led by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Copies of the brochures, programs and news articles about this award-winning event were available for exchange.

Also on the panel was Thelma H. Tate, Coordinator, Global Outreach Services, New Brunswick Libraries, Rutgers State University of New Jersey. Ms. Tate, who serves as Chair of the Rutgers Diversity Committee, believes Rutgers may have the most diverse campus in the nation. While each department plans its programs and obtains sponsors for the King Holiday Observance, she has been working with the Campus Public Relations Office to have all of the programs listed in one publication. The celebration event is an informal brown bag lunch with authors from different cultures discussing both their book and their culture. The success of the activity has been easy to measure by the early question: "Who's coming next?"

A often-praised feature of the Multi-Cultural Idea Exchange Program offers members of the audience an opportunity to ask questions of the speakers followed by the chance to give brief highlights of their own library programs. Again this year, the audience became fully engaged and hailed the benefits of this time along with the Materials Exchange at the close. Following the Idea Exchange, the King Holiday Task Force participated in the Diversity Fair for the third year. Information and handouts were available about both the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Sunrise Breakfasts and the MultiCultural Idea Exchange Programs.

The ALA-SRRT Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Task Force extends deepest appreciation to everyone that made the Annual Conference programs possible. Special thanks are offered to each speaker, to facilitators Mary Biblo and Elizabeth Wilkins, as well as Satia Orange and the OLOS staff.

ALA Council Report to SRRT, June 25, 2002

The ALA Council was consumed with establishing the foundational documents for the new ALA Allied Professional Association (APA) at the June 2002 Annual Meeting. As most of you know, this new legal entity is a 501(c)6 organization set up to do things that ALA supposedly can not do under its tax status, known as 501(c)3. The two initial programs of the ALA APA are going to be on post MLS certification courses and a salary and pay equity initiative spearheaded by President Mitch Freedman. According to a resolution passed at the Midwinter meeting, the Transition Team was supposed to bring an operating plan with budget to the Council for approval before any further action was taken. Instead of doing that, we arrived to find that the Transition documents were sent to Council only for informational purposes, and that the Council was expected to adjourn and reconstitute itself as the ALA APA Council to discuss and approve the documents. There was massive opposition to this seemingly illegal process from people of all ideological perspectives. Much time was taken up to sort this out. The Transition Team chaired by Nancy Kranich finally relented and the ALA Council finally did debate the documents. The ALA APA Council never did meet, and so these documents are still not in effect. We can assume that adoption will take place at the Midwinter meeting. There is a wide range of opinion on the SRRT Action Council and among other progressive Councilors about this new 501(c)6 organization, from strong support to complete rejection. On the one hand, people want to support the salaries initiative and Mitch Freedman. On the other hand, people are unhappy both with procedures and the goals of the certification project. The Progressive Council Caucus has some specific recommendations to make the proposed bylaws more democratic.

There were two major SRRT resolutions that made their way through the ALA structure at this meeting. The first was on Protecting the Interests of America's Libraries under the WTO General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS), and the second was on the Destruction of Palestinian Libraries, Archives, and Other Cultural Resources. Monika Antonelli took the lead on GATS with help from our Canadian ally Fiona Hunt, and Tom Twiss took the lead on the Palestinian resolution. Monika, Fiona and Tom deserve our appreciation. Our GATS resolution was combined with an ALA Washington Office resolution with active approval of the ALA International Relations Committee (IRC). This excellent resolution was presented in the Committee on Legislation report and passed Council by consent. This result can be attributed to our long advocacy of the issue and engagement with appropriate ALA bodies over a number of years. SRRT had a second resolution on GATS, but the Council adjourned before getting to it. The Resolution on Hiring Expert Counsel Specializing in International Trade Law to Study the Impact of GATS on Public Sector and Non-Profit Libraries will come before Council at Midwinter 2003.

The Palestinian resolution was another matter. We discussed it at the Membership Meeting but of course the meeting lacked a quorum. A weak resolution was included in the IRC report to Council and was passed after debate and amendment. Although our text was heartily endorsed by the IRC Subcommittee on the Near East and South Asia, the full IRC watered it down considerably. All mention of Israel and direct ALA assistance was removed. The resolution asks IFLA to study the situation and establish a mechanism for action. Considering the disastrous 2000 IFLA meeting in Jerusalem, this seems problematical at best. (See my 2000 IFLA report in the *SRRT Newsletter* for more background.) Furthermore, Nancy John, the IRC chair asked Council to delete the entire distribution list from the resolution so that the IRC could send it out or not to whomever it wished. In my discussion with her, she argued that it was against IRC policy to send resolutions to government officials, and that they could send it only to library organizations. However there is much precedent for sending resolutions to government officials. I assume that SRRT will send both our own strong resolution and the weak Council resolution to the original distribution list. It is quite possible that this will be seen as a serious infringement of ALA's executive policy on "Speaking with One Voice," and SRRT may again be called on the carpet. It seems to me that the situation in Israel/Palestine will

continue to deteriorate and that we may need to come back with a further resolution for next meeting.

I was finally able to read our Statement of Concern on the Use of Flags in Libraries' Public Areas before the Council just at the end of the last meeting. Our supporters clapped. The SRRT resolution on Intellectual Freedom and the Use of Torture in War or Peace was also left over from the Midwinter meeting. It was originally submitted by Mark Rosenzweig to the Action Council, and I agreed when Mark asked me to withdraw it in the interests of getting our other initiatives accomplished. Our resolution on Health Insurance Benefits for ALA Members has been in the hands of the ALA Membership Committee. That Committee created a Health Insurance Benefits Task Force to gather information and report back to Council at the Midwinter meeting.

Two other resolutions with SRRT support were passed by consent at the ALA Council: Call to Action In Support of State Library Agencies and a resolution to create a Rural Libraries Task Force. The first especially addresses the elimination of the Minnesota agency. The second will identify and study the issues and challenges confronting rural school, tribal and public libraries, and make recommendations for possible solutions. Council also passed by consent an Interpretation of the *Library Bill of Rights* on Privacy and a Resolution in Recognition and Support of Equal Pay Day.

Following up on our continued efforts to reinstate ALA Membership Meetings with an achievable quorum, last year I was appointed to a Special Presidential Task Force on the Membership Meeting Quorum. The Council adopted the compromise option presented in the Task Force's report. If approved by a change in the bylaws by mail ballot, the new quorum will be one-half of one percent of the number of personal members, or about 300 people. The proposal also includes eliminating the theoretical and probably never used provision that Membership Meetings could set aside Council actions by a three-fourths vote. Although it may still not be easy to get 300 people, it will be much easier than getting the 600 currently required. I advocated that we go back to the old quorum of 200 that worked so well, but only one-third of the Task Force agreed with that position. Another Special Presidential Task Force on Membership Meetings looked at all the other issues around the Meetings except the quorum. That Committee recommended and Council passed a resolution to create a standing Committee on Membership Meetings in order to facilitate the process.

The Council passed several other important resolutions introduced in the Committee on Legislation Report. These included resolutions on access to Sensitive but Classified Government Information, support for the public's right to know through the Presidential Records Act Amendment of 2002, and reaffirmation of the government's responsibility to provide access to information through the Superintendent of Documents and through Information Quality Guidelines. As we could have predicted, the Council failed its responsibility to the profession by rejecting a resolution on Maintaining the Words "Library" or "Library Science" in the titles of programs accredited by ALA.

I would be happy to respond to questions about any of these actions.

Al Kagan

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NOW AVAILABLE ON THE SRRT WEBSITE:

Tom Twiss has compiled an 18 page report from various news sources on damage to Palestinian libraries. He has included sources from the US and European mainstream press as well as United Nations, Israeli and Palestinian sources.



FTF MEETING MINUTES



Feminist Task Force Meeting June 15, 2002
(In attendance: Nel Ward, Jane Cothron, Alison Lewis, Jenny Baltes.)

1. Web Site: Rory Litwin will host the FTF web site on libr.org. Jenny will contact Pamela Salela about getting the web site contents to him..

2. Logo: Jenny will get choices from DJ Webster, scan and send to listserv this summer.

3. Amelia Bloomer Project: Alison was interested in the Amelia Bloomer Project. She is on the waiting list for an opening in January 2003.

4. Women s Night Out: Jane will explore a place in Toronto.

5. Programs at Annual 2002:
Storm Center: Louise Robbins, auth or of The Dismissal of Miss Ruth Brown, will speak about the film Storm Center, upon which the book was based. This program is sponsored by FTF and will take place on Sunday evening, June 16, 2002. We discussed showing the film prior to the program to provide background information for those who have not seen it. It may be possible to show the film during PLG s program slot at Annual, since they have expressed support for it via Mark Rosenzweig.

5. Introduction to Women s Issues in ALA: This is held at every ALA Annual Conference and is hosted by women s groups in ALA on a rotating basis. We are not responsible for the planning as such. However, it would be good for FTF members to go to lend our voices to the discussion and our support to new women librarians. It will be held Saturday, June 14th 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM.. Generally there is a topic, conversation, and a list of action items. At Annual 2002, the theme was Nice Girls Don t Get Paid. At the 2003 meeting, we will need FTF flyers and other print info as well as a representative.

Feminist Task Force, Sunday June 16, 2002
(In attendance: Laura Micham, Celeste Tibbets Jennifer Baltes, Diedre Conkling, Nel Ward., Theresa A. Tobin)

1. Programs for next years--one possibility for Annual 2003 is a panel of publishers/editors/and-or authors from the 2003 Bloomer list. Proposed title: How to get away with Feminism in books for young girls and women. Jenny and Nel will bring to Bloomer meeting.

2. For Annual 2004 in Florida, Celeste Tibbets will investigate panel of authors from Revolting Librarians and the new, soon to be published Revolting Librarians. She will contact the editors of the new edition. We need to ask for additional budget for the 2004 program in January 2003--\$500.

3. Women's Night Out--Toronto Jan Cothram will look into site for women's night out

4. Budget -- FTF will support ACRL WSS 2003 Program for \$200.

5. We will re-submit our information to be updated in the

Business Women's Network Directory

6. Feminist listserv report

Feminist Task Force Meeting June 17, 2002
(In attendance: Diedre Conkling, Jane Cothron, Jenny Baltes, Sarah Pritchard, Nel Ward, Celeste Tibbets.)

1. Feminist Children s Books Program: Nel talked to Deborah Brodie (Roaring Brook Press, was at Viking for 22 years) and others about the program we proposed about writing and publishing feminist children's books. Ms. Brodie will find editors and authors to speak on the panel, to include: one editor of a YA book and its author, one editor of a children s books and its author, and an academic. Hilary Crew wrote a book, Is it Really Mommy Dearest?, about feminism in children's books, as well as Spinning New Tales and Weaving Old Text, about Donna Napoli s writing. Could ask publishers if they want to have galleys there at the program.

2. Amelia Bloomer Project: The list will be published in VOYA (editor Cathi Dunn McRae).

3. COSWL: The 30th anniversary of COSWL is coming up soon; Diedre will locate the exact year in the newsletters. Mary Niles Mack wants to do some sort of historical/celebratory program or activity in relation to the anniversary. Possible programs/activities include: interviews and photographs about the establishment of COSWL to be printed in some form; a panel discussion and/or video at conference (during the slot normally used for The Introduction to Women s Issues in Libraries Dolores Fidishun is the incoming chair of WSS); something in conjunction with the Revolting Librarians program we are proposing for Annual 2004. Diedre will contact someone in COSWL to see if they are interested in some type of project. Celeste mentioned the online Centennial Memory Book that Atlanta-Fulton County Public Library has as a way of gathering information.

4. Women Librarians' Salaries: Nel was looking for information on an article that was written about women librarians' salaries. It may be an article by Suzanne Hildebrand.

5. 2004 Program Idea: Celeste pointed out that 2004 will be a presidential election year; perhaps we could connect that to the Revolting Librarians program or another program or PR campaign.

6. Censorship Program: Last night's program was a tremendous success. It was attended by about 45 people and was interesting, funny, and included audience interaction with the video and Dr. Robbins.

ALA/SRRT Feminist Task Force website has a new URL: <http://libr.org/FTF/>

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ALA/LBSC Project Featured in National Meeting

"Libraries: Sharing Sustainability Data and Information---The Role of Libraries and Library Networks," is one of 19 Recommendations for Achieving Sustainable Communities: Science and Solutions, outlined in a report from the second National Conference on Science, Policy and Environment. The libraries recommendation is based on the 1999-2001 American Library Association (ALA) and Global Learning Inc. of New Jersey partnership, "Libraries Build Sustainable Communities (LBSC)," and funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Jeffrey L. Brown, LBSC Project Director and Executive Director Global Learning, Inc.; Terry Link, Founding Chair of the ALA Task Force on the Environment and Director of the Office of Campus Sustainability, and the Environmental Studies and Urban Planning Librarian at Michigan State University; and Patricia Bonner, Manager Public Involvement Policy at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Project Manager EPA National Dialogues were speakers at the Libraries Breakout Session where the draft was presented at the NCSE National Conference. Fred Stoss (Science and Engineering Library, University at Buffalo), who organized the libraries session and served as session moderator, presented the recommendation at the December 2001 NCSE Meeting in Washington, D.C.. The URL for the LBSC Site is <http://www.ala.org/sustainablecommunities>. Among the top ten recommendations of the NCSE Report is: "Public resources such as digital libraries and the Internet are essential to communities to provide access to information (free or at a low cost) and as a tool to make their own decisions."

The NCSE report addresses challenges now facing societies around the world as they seek to simultaneously achieve economic opportunity, environmental quality, and societal equity. Integrating the views of more than 600 leading environmental scientists and decision-makers. The NCSE report makes specific recommendations for the World Summit for Sustainable Development, which will be held in Johannesburg, South Africa in August 2002. The recommendations form a broad agenda for sustainability with five overarching themes:

1. Science and technology are important and necessary tools for achieving sustainability, but community participation is essential for scientific and technical information to be incorporated into the policy making process.
2. Programs for achieving sustainable communities should be undertaken on a cost-effective and timely basis.
3. Conserving natural resources, preserving biodiversity and maintaining a clean environment are essential factors for sustaining a healthy human community.
4. Educational and research institutions should mobilize their intellectual capital, problem solving capacities and information systems to assist in seeking solutions for achieving sustainability.
5. Exchange of information on sustainability models, programmatic activities and successful projects should be established on an international basis.

Recommendations for Achieving Sustainable Communities: Science and Solutions, the report from the second National Conference on Science, Policy and Environment was released in a briefing to Congress on May 22. Congressmen Bill Pascrell, Jr. (D-NJ), Co-Chair of the Livable Communities Task Force, Earl Blumenauer (D-OR), Chair of the Livable Communities Task Force, Jack Quinn (R-NY), Co-Chair of the Northeast Midwest Coalition, and Vern Ehlers (R-MI), Vice Chair of the Science Committee and Chair of the Subcommittee on Environment, Technology and Standards, praised the report for its call that scientists and community groups work together to achieve sustainable communities. An online version of the report can be found at <http://www.NCSEonline.org/Conference/>. Printed versions are available from conference@ncseonline.org

The ALA-Global Learning partnership operated with an ALA Libraries LBSC project team and three ALA project staff members. The overarching goal of the program was to "educate the membership of ALA, and subsequently the library-going public, about the linkages between sustainability issues for local communities and sustainability issues for the global community." The focus on libraries building community through sustainability was a component of ALA President (1999-2000) Sarah Ann Long's presidential year theme, "Libraries Build Community." The ALA Social Responsibilities Round Table's (SRRT's) Task Force on the Environment now serves as a steward for the LBSC project, updating and maintaining the LBSC Web site and providing programs at the ALA Annual Meeting related to aspects of sustainable communities.

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PUBLICATION REVIEWS

Jones, ReINETTE F. *Library Service to African Americans in Kentucky.* **McFarland & Company, Inc. Publishers: Jefferson, NC, 2002. (ISBN 0786411546).**

An important volume in African-American library history, ReINETTE F. Jones uncovered the beginnings of library service and education for African-Americans in the United States in Kentucky, of all places. Jones wrote "Kentucky was once the leader of colored libraries, library education, and traveling libraries for Negroes" (147). Jones' historical overview provides an informative introduction her research in primary and secondary sources that she presents in later chapters. Arranged chronologically, chapters cover the early days of education and libraries within Kentucky, Kentucky's leadership role in public libraries and library education from 1905-1923, Kentucky's loss of library education between 1925-1935, desegregation from 1936-1963 and finally the full impact of library services and education to African-American's upon the state and nation from 1892-1956. Several appendices provide valuable data from which Jones drew her conclusions. While highly valuable for the information that it imparts, the narrative in each chapter is fragmented into many subheadings, thus making sections disconnected and the reading awkward. Recommended for all library history collections.

Rebecca Tolley-Stokes
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Bulbul. *Drawing my times cartoons by Bulbul, a thirty year retrospective.* **Arachne Publishing: Mountain View, CA, 2001. (ISBN 0940483173)**

Infused with a fine sense of irony, Genny Guracar's cartooning career began when she took a pen name after her husband was fired from his job in steel manufacturing because of a letter she wrote to the editor of her local newspaper. Known as Bulbul, she's had a thirty year career as a cartoonist though has not boasted mainstream success because "what women find humorous or

ironic can differ from what a male-middle aged, middle-class white editor finds funny (ii)." Aligning herself with the second wave of feminism, her cartoons embody that influence.

Published in Z Magazine, Multinational Monitor, women's rights publications and other alternative media, Bulbul makes up a monthly cartoon packet that she sends to labor and progressive groups. Although primarily an illustrated collection filled with Bulbul's powerful cartoons, twelve autobiographical essays introduce the reader to issues that informed her vision. Recommended for collections of women's studies, labor issues, cartoons, and popular culture.

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Norberg, Sheldon. *Confessions of a Dope Dealer.* **North Mountain Publishing, San Francisco, CA, 2000. (ISBN 096762312X).**

This book will be challenged. It may even be banned. And it will also be a worthwhile read for anyone interested themes of spiritual awareness, social acceptance, dysfunctional families, and the process of becoming a self-supporting adult. In 352 pages Sheldon Norberg describes in detail his journey from a gifted yet angry young man to a full-time drug dealer to a substance-free meditation practitioner. This rite of passage takes place during the free culture of Grateful Dead fans and UC Berkeley students during the 1970s and 1980s.

The author loosely ties each phase of his life (beginning with early childhood) to seven principles of Chinese philosophy and medicine: wood, fire, earth, metal, water, and yin and yang. The autobiography then concludes with two short chapters written from the perspective of someone who has tested societal and personal limits and wishes to share their wisdom. Without this structure Confessions would be an overlong description of drug deals, tumultuous relationships, and back-woods adventures interspersed with

occasional ruminations.

Confessions of a Dope Dealer is as much a cautionary tale as it is a drug user's manual. The moral of this tale is that drugs are a seductive yet short-lived and harmful path to self-awareness. This book is recommended reading for parents, teachers, youth workers, and anyone struggling to make informed decisions about drug use. The accessible and entertaining text includes a glossary and list of additional resources.

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JOURNAL REVIEW: *Journal of Bisexuality* 2001- Ed: Fritz Klein, MD 4/yr \$48.00 (indiv.); \$85 (inst.); \$125 (libraries). Discount to members of the Society for the Scientific Study of Sex. ISSN 1529-9716. Harrington Park Press (an imprint of Haworth Press) 10 Alice Street, Binghamton, NY 13904-1580. e-mail: getinfo@haworthpressinc.com; website: <http://www.HaworthPress.com> (issues examined: volume 1 number 1 and volume 1 number 4)

The charter issue of this publication (Spring 2001) states that purpose of the Journal of Bisexuality is to "explain to all interested people (educators, therapists, as well as bisexuals themselves) the bisexual phenomenon." Fritz Klein is trained as a psychiatrist and is author of *The Bisexual Option* (Haworth, 1993), and co-editor of: *Bisexual and Gay Husbands: Their Stories, Their words* (Haworth, 2001), *Bisexualities, Theory and Research* (Haworth, 1986), and *Man, His Body, His Sex* (Doubleday, 1978). He is also the founder of the Bisexual Forums in New York and San Diego, and the Director of the American Institute of Bisexuality, and owner of the bisexual.org website bisexual.org. Aimed at an educated lay public, the journal contains personal stories and even cartoons scattered amidst serious scholarly research, making this publication both interesting and enlightening. Unfortunately, some articles could benefit from a

little tighter editing to improve writing style. However, the publication gives voice to an underrepresented population, and fills a void in the field of

gender and sex studies. International in scope, the articles cover a range of topics from sociology, psychology, literature, activism, community, and popular culture. Thematic issues, edited by guest editors with renown in the field, have appeared, as well, with the focus on a single gender. Future themes will encompass other topics, . The quarterly publication has been published consistently since its inception and is now in its second volume-year.

Notable articles include: "Attitudes and Self-Images of Male and Female Bisexuals;" "Coming out Successfully in the Netherlands;" "Male Bisexuality and HIV Risk" and "Unmarried Bisexuals: Distinct Voices on Marriage." Each issue contains a column on images of bisexuality in the media and book and media reviews. The journal is indexed in: Abstracts in Anthropology, Book Review Index ; Gay & Lesbian Abstracts (NISC); HOMODOK; IBZ International Bibliography of Periodical Literature; Journal of Social Work Practice; Linguistics & Language Behavior Abstracts (LLBA); Public Affairs Information Service; Psychological Abstracts (PsycINFO); Referativnyi Zhurnal (Abstracts Journal of the All-Russian Institute of Scientific and Technical Information-in Russian) Social Services Abstracts; and Sociological Abstracts (SA).

Marie Jones
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SRRT Newsletter sends its congratulations to Kathleen McCook who has been named Distinguished University Professor at the University of Southern Florida!

(Continued from page 4)

strongly, however, that communicating our positions to the public and to the membership, rather than creating confusion, enhances the membership's understanding of issues within ALA and informs the public about realities they might otherwise be unaware. Our position is simply, "The answer to speech we don't like is more and better speech."

In any event, we are, I believe, scrupulous in avoiding confusion as to whom we speak for and what a SRRT resolution is. No matter what policies are set and followed, it is impossible to completely avoid confusion among the public, and impossible to completely control the speech of (and the interpretation of the speech of) ALA members. Furthermore, such restrictions on speech would be, we believe, in fact antithetical to the spirit of librarianship as ALA has so soundly established it over the past century.

Aside from the issue of Intellectual Freedom, however, central to our concerns about the "Speaking with One Voice Policy," is the question "Who Sets Policy for ALA?" ALA has a set of actual policies, determined by representatives of the membership, which the SRRT leadership regards as entirely legitimate and as the basis for the existence of our round table, and which we follow. Now, additionally, we have a supposed policy, referred to as the "Speaking with One Voice Policy," created as an "information item" by a subcommittee of the Executive Board, that prohibits our round table from officially communicating on its own behalf using its own letterhead, and is now apparently being interpreted to mean that we are prohibited from communicating any position statements at all. We assert that it requires a rather wild interpretation of the Constitution, Bylaws and Policy Manual to find the existence of this policy in ALA's official documents, as well as a break from thirty years of past practice. The "Speaking with One Voice Policy," as it has been communicated to us, is an ideosyncratic and politically-charged interpretation of legitimate ALA policies, which the Executive Board, exceeding its powers in acting for Council "in the administration of established policies and programs," (ALA Constitution, Article VII) has attempted to render into a new policy.

The supposed "Speaking With One Voice Policy" raises an important question for us, which, in answering, we find the reasons for our rejection of it:

What has SRRT done in the past 33 years which would today be permitted by the "Speaking with One Voice Policy" as we understand it? We say, "Not much."

Rory Litwin
SRRT Coordinator

The webpage at Libr.org on "GATS and Libraries" now contains 27 items and has just been reorganized by Rory Litwin and Fiona Hunt. It is the definitive study resource on the GATS and Libraries. It will continue to be expanded in the coming months. Check it out at <http://libr.org/GATS/>

NEW ELECTRONIC SOURCES

The ALA Special Presidential Task Force on Better Salaries and Pay Equity invites you to subscribe to its new, open discussion list, MONEYTALKS. Discussion addresses topics relating to better salaries and pay equity and provides a forum for library workers to share their experiences. The list is monitored by members of the Better Salaries and Pay Equity Task Force, and ideas presented will be considered for follow-up by the Task Force. Participants are also encouraged to plan their own activities, author Council proposals, etc. You do not need to be an ALA member to post and read. Sign up for MONEYTALKS by sending an email to: subscribe-moneytalks@ala.org and then putting your name as the subject of the message.

ALA Executive Board
Fall Board Meeting: 1999

Topic: Who Speaks for ALA? - Issues document

Action Requested: Information Item - No Action Required

Action Requested By: Mary W. Ghikas, Senior Associate Executive Director - for
Robert Newlen, Executive Board Member

Date: 1 November 1999

Background:

In response to various issues surrounding communication, a subcommittee of the ALA Executive Board (R. Newlen, J. Cummins, S. Reed, L. Bishoff) has reviewed policy and past practice. The attached document is presented as a basis for discussion.

The attached document will also form a basis for discussion with ALA staff with liason responsibility to round tables and committees, at an orientation for staff (including Washington Office staff) regarding liason roles on November 17, 1999.

WHO SPEAKS FOR ALA?: Policy, Practice and Concerns

Three bodies - the ALA membership (as a voting body), ALA Council, and divisions (within their respective areas of responsibility) - have the authority to determine and act for ALA in matters of policy. In addition, the ALA Executive Board is authorized to speak for the Association within "established policies..." Round Tables are not authorized to speak for the Association. Recommendations of Round Tables regarding policy are forwarded to one of the bodies above. Likewise, committees are not authorized to speak for the Association. This is repeatedly made clear in ALA's Constitution, Bylaws and Policy Manual:

ALA Constitution, Article VI

Sec.1 (a) The Council of the American Library Association shall be the governing body of the Association. The Council shall delegate to the several divisions of the Association authority to plan and carry out programs and activities within assigned fields of responsibility and in accord with general Council policy.

Sec.1 (b) The Council shall determine all policies of the Association, and its decisions shall be binding upon the Association, except as provided in Sec. 4(c) of this Article.

Sec.4 (c) Any Action of the Council may be set aside by a three-fourths vote at any membership meeting of the Association, or by a majority vote by mail in which one-fourth of the members of the Association have voted. Such vote by mail shall be help upon petition of one percent of the personal members as certified by the Executive Director of the Association.

ALA Constitution, Article VII

Sec.3 The Executive Board shall report on its activities not later than the next meeting of the Council. The Executive Board shall act for the Council in the administration of established policies and programs. The Executive Board shall be the body which manages within this context the affairs of the Association, but shall delegate management of the day-to-day operation to the Association's Executive Director. The Executive Board shall make recommendations to Council with respect to policy.

ALA Bylaws, Article VI

Sec.2 (b) A division shall have authority to act for the ALA as a whole on any matter determined by Council to be the responsibility of the division.

ALA Bylaws, Article VII

Sec.2 No round table shall incur expense on behalf of the Association except as authorized, nor shall any round table commit the Association by declaration of policy.

ALA Bylaws, Article VIII

Sec.9 No committee shall incur expense on behalf of the Association except as authorized, nor shall any committee commit the Association by any declaration of policy.

ALA Policy Manual - 6.3 Round Tables of ALA: Role and Function

2) Policy Functions. As noted in the ALA Constitution, Article VI, and the Bylaws, Article VII, three bodies - Council, the

divisions, and the membership - have authority to determine and act for ALA in matters of policy. Recommendations of Round Tables regarding a lack of policy, a new policy, or changes in policy shall be forwarded to the appropriate body for action.

ALA Policy Manual - 9.1 The Use of ALA's Name and Joint Relationships

The American Library Association is a nonprofit organization operated in the interests of libraries and to promote library service and membership.

ALA units are responsible to Council which determines policies. Council's actions, however, may be overruled by membership. Therefore, primarily and ultimately the responsibility for the use of the American Library Association name rests with the aggregate membership.

The Association is governed by Council and administered by the Executive Board, which in its role as central management board, appoints the executive director, who is in charge of headquarters and personnel.

The executive director delegates authority within ALA headquarters to ALA's department heads, who, in carrying out their assigned duties, are called upon to use ALA's name and, in that name, to commit the Association to programs, activities, and binding agreements.

Divisions are empowered by ALA's bylaws "to act for the ALA as a whole on any matter determined by Council to be the responsibility of the division." Authority for acting on behalf of the division rests with that division's executive board.

Round tables, membership initiative groups, and committees, do not have this constitutional authority.

The American Library Association's Executive Board, divisions, executive director, and department heads (consisting of the associate executive directors for the Washington Office, Communications, Finance, Member Programs and Services, Publishing and Staff Support Services) who must use ALA's name in executing their responsibilities or in entering into joint relationships with other organizations abide by stated ALA policies and the following principles: [Principles for "joint relationships," endorsements or boycotts, and commendations follow.]

While ALA policy is clear on who may commit or speak for the Association, and within what limitations, it has been less clear on what constitutes "speaking for the Association." Both general practice within organizations and legal opinion indicate that units or individuals may reasonably be construed to be speaking for the Association when they do either of the following:

- Indicate in a verbal or written statement that they are expressing ALA policy or an ALA position, and/or
- Use ALA (including ALA division or ALA round table) letterhead to express a policy or position.

The question of who commits or speaks for the Association is a critical one to the Association

(1) It is our policy that "ALA speaks with one voice for the profession." [*ALA Policy Manual - 1.4 ALA Organizational Support Goals; ALA Policy Manual - 6.4 Divisions, II. Current Organizational Values of ALA.*]

(2) ALA is incorporated as a nonprofit organization under section 501(c)3 of the U.S. Internal Revenue code. This has significant advantages for the Association; it also limits the actions of the Association in certain arenas - e.g. the Association may not support any candidate for political office. ALA is one legal entity; therefore, any action by any unit of the Association may put at risk the entire Association.

(3) Most organizations with which ALA works on matters of public policy have strict policies on who can sign and transmit formal policy positions to Congress or to high-level officials. This is done for several reasons: to ensure accuracy of transmittal of positions, to emphasize the importance and high priority given to policy transmissions, and to maximize the impact by not sending too many such communications. Further, because policymakers and legislators receive so many communications and are under such time pressure, misunderstanding a letter from a part of an organization as coming from the whole can happen easily. Finally, such communication can be deliberately represented as coming from the parent body, either by a recipient or by another interested party who received a copy of or access to the communication.

(4) That ALA's aggregate membership recognizes the importance of "speaking for the Association may reasonably be inferred from the action of that membership in raising the quorum for a membership meeting to 1% of membership.

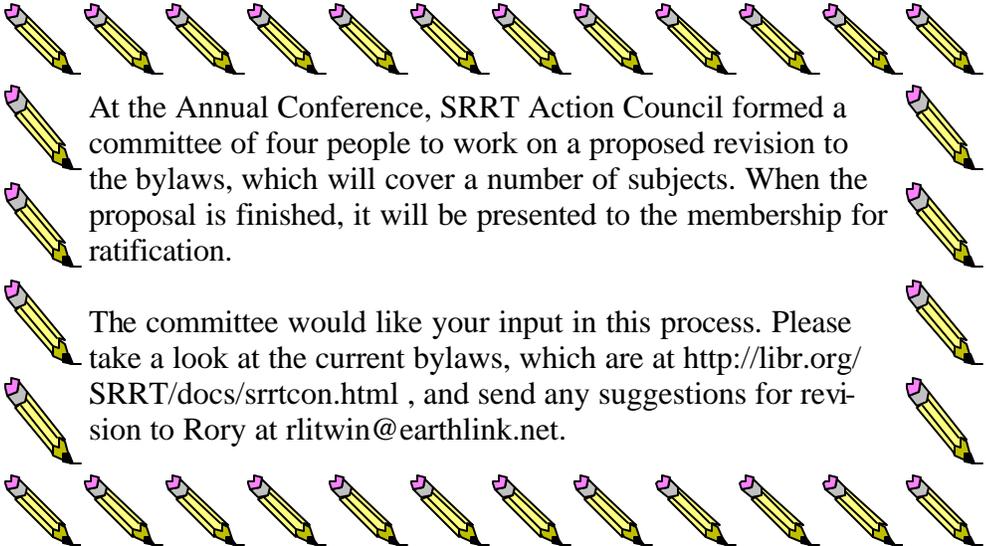
At the same time, the American Library Association also places a high value on both diversity and broad participation. (*ALA Policy Manual - 1.4 ALA Organizational Support Goals: "In order to address these priorities, ALA will use its resources wisely and maintain a flexible structure that promotes the diverse interests and broad participation of members and units."*) Members and units of the Association may introduce issues for Council discussion and action through their Council representative - or any Councilor. Procedures for raising issues are clearly articulated in Council practice. (*ALA Policy Manual- 5.3 Council Resolutions: Guidelines for Preparation of Resolutions to Council.*)

These two values - speaking with one voice and valuing diversity and participation - do, nevertheless, result in a continuing tension within the Association. In itself, such tension is neither unusual nor undesirable. There are, however, recurring questions and issues which are not necessarily simple to resolve.

- (1) What counsel and guidance is, or should be, provided to groups of members with interests in the abolition, creation or change of any Association policy in order to facilitate discussion and action within the constraints of ALA's Constitution, Bylaws and Policy Manual?
- (2) Given the rapid transition to an interactive, electronic environment, what ways may exist for direct membership participation in formation of policy positions and what impact might that have on the nature and structure of the Association?
- (3) What action can and should the ALA Executive Board, as the administrative body with legal responsibility for the Association, take when a member or unit of the Association commits or speaks for the Association without authorization as outlined in the ALA Constitution, Bylaws and Policy Manual?

These issues or questions are presently before the ALA Executive Board.

26 October 1999 mg/draft



At the Annual Conference, SRRT Action Council formed a committee of four people to work on a proposed revision to the bylaws, which will cover a number of subjects. When the proposal is finished, it will be presented to the membership for ratification.

The committee would like your input in this process. Please take a look at the current bylaws, which are at <http://libr.org/SRRT/docs/srrtcon.html> , and send any suggestions for revision to Rory at rlitwin@earthlink.net.

ALA Atlanta marked the beginning of new officer terms. Here is the current roster:		
SRRT Coordinator: Rory Litwin		
SRRT Treasurer: Nel Ward		
SRRT Secretary: Michael Santangelo		
SRRT Representative to ALA Council: Al Kagan		
SRRT Membership Chair: Fred Stoss		
Action Council		
2000-2002	2001-2004	2002-2005
Nel Ward	Mark Rosenzweig	Jennifer Baltes
Carol Barta	Carole McCullough	Fred Stoss
Lynn Andersen	Rory Litwin	Terren Ilana Wein
Peter Money		

On behalf of the members of the Action Council of the Social Responsibilities Round Table of the American Library Association, I wish to express our grief at the news of the death today of a Dina Carter, a fellow library worker from the Jewish National Library. Carter, an Israeli of American origin, was among those killed in the bombing carried out by the Hamas group at the Mount Scopus campus of Hebrew University. The vicious circle of deadly violence must be broken. We extend our condolences to the family and friends of Dina Carter and to her colleagues at the Manuscripts and Archives division of the Jewish National Library, and we reaffirm our commitment to a just and binding peace which alone can provide security and all other human rights for Israelis and Palestinians alike.

Rory Litwin
Social Responsibilities Round Table Coordinator

Correspondence and manuscripts may be sent to the editor at:

Jane Ingold, Editor

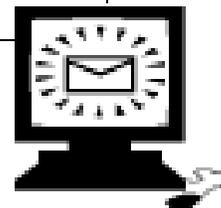
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Views expressed in the newsletter are not necessarily those of ALA/SRRT. The editors reserve the right to edit submitted material as necessary or as whimsy strikes.
Next deadline: 11/01/02

SRRTAC-L

The SRRT discussion group SRRTAC-L is open to all SRRT members and is a relatively low-traffic [less than five messages a day unless there's a hot topic brewing] way of keeping up with SRRT's issues and discussions in-between conferences. Help decide SRRT's future directions and join in some lively debates. If you would like to join the SRRT discussion group, send the following message to listproc@ala.org:
subscribe SRRTAC-L [your first name] [your last name]

***You've got mail!
Well, you will if you join the
scintillating discussions on
SRRTAC-L***



SRRT'S WEB SITE

Want more information on SRRT? Want to find contact information for the many SRRT Task Forces? Turn your browser toward the official SRRT web site:
<http://www.libr.org/SRRT>

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