

# Education Committee Meeting Minutes from ALA New Orleans, June 1999

From GODORT

GODORT Education Committee Minutes  
1999 Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA  
June 27, 1999

Present

Committee members: Bert Chapman, Elizabeth Cowell, Patricia Cruse, Sherry DeDecker, and Larry Schankman.

Friends of the Committee: Claire Hoffman, Katherine Hovoet, Larry Romans, Geoffrey Swindels, Becky Byrum, Jim Church, Megan Dreger, Wen-Hua Ren, Dawn Smith, Kathy Tezla, and Jan Wolter.

The meeting began at 8:00 a.m. with distribution of the previous minutes and introductions. The minutes of January 30, 1999 were approved.

Liaison Reports

ALA Education Assembly

Wen-Hua Ren reported on the assembly's meeting. The two main issues were certification (viz. the "Certified Public Library Administrator" Program) and the Congress on Professional Education. Presently, certification is not considered feasible due to the expense and difficulty in establishing a professional association, office, and budget. Further, the Congress has not yet decided on certification policies, but has issued a 30-page report and plans on yet another session.

Federal Documents Task Force

Sherry DeDecker reported on several FDTF issues and programs, including the following:

Recent congressional legislation to expand the scope of the Community Right to Know Act (toxic release information). For further information see [www.rtk.net](http://www.rtk.net).

Web site for the Serial Set

Host site for GITCO's CD-ROM Documentation Project (University of Iowa)

Completion of GITCO's Web Page Template (available at the University of North Texas)

Web site for the Cataloging Committee's retrospective survey of pre-1976 documents

Re-invigoration of the dormant agency liaison program (the goal is to increase communication between librarians and government agencies to eliminate fugitive documents; a call for volunteers will go out on govdoc-l)

Workgroup to advise Ken Rogers on improvements for the NTDB CD-ROM (thought the disc may be scrapped altogether in favor of STAT-USA and Trade USA web products)

International Documents Task Force

Jim Church reported on a "lively" IDTF meeting, which resulted in one action item. The IDTF will write a letter to the UN Sales Publication Office to request continuation of the erstwhile print version of the sales catalog. The IDTF will also review its unit description, decide on its annual program for the year 2000 conference, and has decided to keep its Docworld discussion list private, since GODORT has not sanctioned it. The IDTF Web page has officially migrated to U.C. San Diego and is administered by a web steering committee.

### State and Local Documents Task Force

Elizabeth Cowell reported on the recent meeting of the SLDTF. Major items include a review of the unit description, future contributions to Documents to the People, and their program for the year 2000 conference, entitled City on a Hill: Building Urban Information Systems for the Next Century. Elizabeth also reported that the College and Research Libraries (CRL) organization is disbanding its pre-1950 state collections.

### New and Old Business

Larry Romans proposed several corrective actions to reverse a growing decline in GODORT membership and participation. As a result, the committee approved the following recommendations for GODORT's approval: Change meeting times to afternoons (either Saturday or Sunday), and at different times than GITCO and Cataloging Committee (moved by L. Schankman, seconded by S. DeDecker)

Increase the committee's size to 12 members (moved by L. Schankman, seconded by B. Chapman) Continuing Education Fund

Sherry DeDecker distributed abstracts for the first four educational tutorials (details follow in the Appendix). She also requested topics for the remaining four proposed projects and expressed concern that tutorials might overlap with Handout Exchange materials. Trisha will request that Steering Committee authorize the Continuing Education Working Group to issue a call for these remaining awards.

### Handout Exchange

Bert Chapman distributed a list of current handout needs. Volunteers should submit their materials or web links to either Grace York or Larry Romans.

### Government Information Depository Clearinghouse

The Committee thoroughly reviewed the organization of the Clearinghouse and made several decisions. To avoid duplication with related web products, the committee should coordinate with other GODORT Web managers to assure that content is unique. In cases where similar pages or guides exist, we should link to those resources rather than create similar content. The committee also reached the following decisions regarding individual sections:

#### Eliminate the Federal Depository Libraries Organizational Structure

Expand Providing User Access and change its name to "How to Provide User Access"

Change the name of Providing Instruction to "How to Provide Instruction" and migrate all resources that are not "How to" in nature to the Handout Exchange

Trisha will update all pages to provide a more graphically pleasing and organizationally sound appearance, and make other changes needed.

#### Unit Description

The unit description was reviewed line by line, and the committee recommended minor changes. Mark up text follows in the Appendix.

### ALA Congress

Rather than commenting on all 35 issues, Kathy Tezla suggested that the committee identify key issues for consideration by the entire GODORT membership. After a thoughtful discussion, Trisha agreed to write an action item for the business meeting, with a brief summary of significant actions and recommendations. Key issues will include core competencies; regional and national programs for continuing education; clarification of staff roles; marketing of documents librarianship to library students, new librarians, and potential converts; dialogue with library schools; and diversity.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00, after successful discussion of all agenda items. Upon GODORT approval, Sherry DeDecker will become the new Committee Chair. The members expressed their gratitude for the excellent leadership provided by Patricia (Trisha) Cruse during the last two years.

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