

**YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
ALA Annual Conference, Chicago
June 28 – July 2, 2013**

Topic: O&B Committee Evaluations

Background: In accordance with the Organization & Bylaws Committee task list and evaluation schedule, committee members contacted the chairs of YALSA committees scheduled for evaluation in spring 2013. The Committee has provided a report below for Board consideration.

Action Required: Discussion

The member groups evaluated are:

1. The Hub Advisory Board
2. YALS Advisory Board
3. Research Journal Advisory Board
4. Research Committee
5. Midwinter Paper Presentation Planning Committee
6. Publications Advisory Board
7. Nominating - Governance
8. Nominating - Awards

Each chair was asked to respond to questions regarding:

- accuracy of the committee's charge
- value of the committee to YALSA
- structure of the committee
- overlap between the committee and other YALSA member groups
- ways in which the committee communicates and gets work done
- use and success of the task list prepared by the Board for the committee at the beginning of their work year.

During this round of evaluations almost all of the publication advisory board chairs were contacted (the YALSAblog advisory board was not a part of this round). There is one area among these boards and chairs that the YALSA Board of Directors, and particularly Board Liaisons, will want to focus on:

- working with the chair to set-up regular virtual conversations between editors and chairs of YALSA's sister publications - YALSAblog, The Hub, JRLYA, YALS.
- working with the chair, member manager, and/or editor of YALSA publications to plan and implement activities that will generate more successful Advisory Board member involvement.

The following is an overview of the responses from each committee along with the O&B recommendation for changes.

Hub Advisory Board - Chair, Gretchen Kolderup

Charge: The Hub Advisory Board participates in the development and maintenance of the Hub and follows the guidelines for the site as set out by the YALSA Board of Directors. The Advisory Board also serves in an advisory capacity to the Member Manager of the site and assists with the collection of content for the site, generates ideas for content, works on getting teen and librarian input and feedback, facilitates marketing and PR as needed, and writes for the site as needed.

O&B Recommendation

With the above recommendation related to YALSA publication advisory boards, there is no suggested change to the function statement or workings of the member group.

YALS Editorial Advisory Board - Chair, Laura Pearle

Function Statement: To serve as advisor to the editor of YALS on the content of the print journal and online presence which may include identifying timely topics for print and/or web articles, developing content for the online journal site, and generating ideas for topical or theme issues when requested from the editor. To assist with the search process for a new editor, when appropriate.

A new function statement was approved by the YALSA Board at 2013 Midwinter meeting. The revised function statement better reflects the work of the group and provides a greater range of flexibility for the group over time.

O&B Recommendation

With the above recommendation related to YALSA publication advisory boards, there is no suggested change to the function statement or workings of the member group.

Research Journal Advisory Board - Chair, Frances Jacobson Harris

Function Statement: YALSA's Research Journal Advisory Board oversees the peer reviewing process as outlined in the Refereeing Process Guidelines that were approved by the YALSA Board of Directors. The Board also serves in an advisory capacity to the Member Editor of the journal by assisting with the solicitation of contributors and articles as well as generating ideas for topical articles or themes, when requested from the Member Editor.

A continued concern for the JRLYA Advisory Board is the lack of submissions for the journal. In her report for this evaluation, the Chair noted that with the editor of JRLYA the group has discussed methods for garnering more submissions and other ways that the group might serve YALSA's research needs with a research focus but not through a peer-reviewed journal.

O&B Recommendation

The Board continue to discuss the best way to move forward with the research goal of the association's strategic plan while considering the value and success of a research journal. Suggestions from the chair of the JRLYA Advisory Board include transitioning to a research

awareness publication/service (This corresponds to a suggestion from the Research Committee Chair - to publish a “Reader’s Digest” version of research results that have been published elsewhere), publishing the journal as an occasional release with YALS, or pairing JRLYA and YALS on the web more directly which might better connect readers and members to the resources available.

Research Committee - Chair, Don Latham

Function Statement: To stimulate, encourage, guide, and direct the research needs of the field of young adult library services, and to regularly compile abstracts, disseminate research findings, update YALSA’s Research Agenda as needed and to liaise with ALA’s Committee on Research & Statistics.

The Chair of the Committee stated that the work of the group has been successful over the last several years and that they have been very active in helping YALSA to meet the research goal of the association’s strategic plan. There is some concern that YALSA is not using the Committee in an advisory role as well as it could and the Chair suggested that that be ramped up.

O&B Recommendation

No changes necessary at this time and that the Board and YALSA staff continue to work with the Committee to determine the best methods for successfully supporting YALSA’s research goal in the strategic plan.

Midwinter Paper Presentation Committee - Chair, Ma’Lis Wendt

Function Statement: Plan and implement an annual research-focused paper presentation to be given at the Midwinter Meeting on a topic of general interest to those who work with young adults in libraries, including: working with YALSA's Web Services Manager to promote the call for papers, vetting the applicants and working with YALSA's Program Officer for Conferences & Events to plan the presentation at Midwinter.

The Chair of the Committee noted that the one ongoing problem with the group is in YALSA’s ability to fill the Committee with the required membership of three past presidents and that one of those members needs to serve as chair. The Chair suggested that the membership requirement be set at one past president with that person not having to serve in the role of Chair.

O&B Recommendation

The makeup of the membership of the group be revised better suit the needs and goals of the Committee. While YALSA wants to keep past presidents involved in the work of the association, the success of this committee may be better served by requiring one past president serve on the group, and also require that one person from the Research Committee also serve on the group. As the paper presentation focuses on current research trends it would be useful for a member of the Research Committee in on the conversations and decision-making.

Publications Advisory Board - Chair, Sarah Flowers

Function Statement: To assist with the development of a publications program in the areas of young adult services and materials; identify topics to be covered and potential authors; to regularly review all YALSA publications in all formats and make recommendations to the YALSA Web Services Manager regarding those needing revision or elimination.

The Chair of the Committee did not see any need for change in the work of the group, the number of members on the Committee, or the function statement.

O&B Recommendation

None at this time.

Nominating Committee - Awards - Chair, Pam Spencer Holley

Function Statement: To recruit, vet and select candidates for the slate for the 2014 election of YALSA Edwards, Nonfiction and Printz Award Committee Members. When building the slate, strive to seek out the most qualified individuals as well as provide for broad representation, including but not limited to representation of the membership by: diverse background, type of library, special interest, and geographic location. To assist candidates in preparing for the election, including but not limited to working with the YALSA blog Member Manager to interview candidates.

With the spring 2013 approval of the revisions to the Award slate, the Committee will have more leeway in developing a successful set of candidates for YALSA members to vote on.

O&B Recommendation:

None at this time. The Board will want to continue to monitor the development of slates and determine if recent changes are effective and if any changes to the way the Awards Nominating Committee works need to be considered.

Nominating Committee - Governance - Chair, Sarah Flowers

Function Statement: To recruit, vet and select candidates for the slate for the 2014 election of YALSA Officers and Directors. When building the slate, strive to provide for broad representation, including but not limited to representation of the membership by: diverse background, type of library, special interest, and geographic location. To assist candidates in preparing for the election, including but not limited to planning and implementing a Candidates' Forum

With the spring 2013 approval of the revisions to the Governance slate, the Committee will have more leeway in developing a successful set of candidates for YALSA members to vote on.

O&B Recommendation:

None at this time. The Board will want to continue to monitor the development of slates and determine if recent changes are effective and if any changes to the way the Governance Nominating Committee works need to be considered.