



Biblio-Notes

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Notes from the Chair



Photo Credit: Liorah Golomb

Dear LES Members,

In the midst of the long, snowy winter many LES members experienced, some of us got a break from the weather and met at ALA in San Diego. What a beautiful city, even though I didn't get to see much of it; LES had so much going on! Here are the highlights from the committees.

In light of the ever-increasing desire of LES members to get involved with the section off-site and the speed at which conferencing technology changes, the Executive Committee voted to convert the Virtual Participation Task Force into a standing committee.

On a related matter, **the LES Executive Committee decided to hold all Midwinter 2012 (Dallas) meetings and discussion groups virtually.** Virtual meetings can be held synchronously or asynchronously, using anything from the lo-tech conference call to group e-mails, online chat, VOIP, or Skype, for example. Each committee chair and discussion group leader will be responsible for determining the method of meeting, and the Virtual Participation Committee will be available to offer guidance. LES might be able to pay for conference services that charge a small fee out of our operating budget. More information will be available closer to the time of next Midwinter.

One challenge of foregoing face-to-face meetings will be complying with ALA's open meeting policy. It also means that the New Members, Reference, and Collection Development Discussion Groups will have to find a way to do their discussing in a forum open to all. Finally, it means missing the ACRL MLA International Bibliography Online Discussion Group. However, we all felt that the savings in time, energy, and especially money warranted experimenting with virtual participation. We also hope that reducing the number of face-to-face meetings will make it possible for more LES members to serve on committees.

The Membership Committee set up a mentoring program and a conference buddy system. I'm sure there are a number of us who would have appreciated being paired with a seasoned conference-goer when we attended our first ALA conference.

The job shadowing program established by Arianne Hartsell-Gundy during her term as Member-at-Large will now be administered by the Membership Committee. Arianne graciously continued to match potential literature librarians with experienced LES members even after her term was up, for which I thank her.

Membership and the Publications Committee will work together to update and publish the LES Directory of Literature Librarians, so watch for further news. Aaron McCullough has taken on the job of moderating the LES Blog, which Tim Hackman kept going past his term on Publications. Thanks to Tim for his years as blog moderator! LES is always looking for new blog posts, so if you want to share technical tips, your teaching successes (or failures), how you solved a thorny research problem, or announce a new collection or resource, please consider posting! The Publications Committee also has taken on the formidable task of migrating the citations in the "Bibliography: Studies of Interest to Literatures in English Librarians" to Zotero. If you have not seen the bibliography, it is available on the LES Wiki. It is a very valuable resource.

Another outstanding bibliography was created by members of the 2011 Conference Program Planning Committee for "The Aftermath of Katrina and Rita: The Effects on Libraries, People, and Neighborhoods," the program we are co-sponsoring with ANSS in New Orleans. The committee assembled an extensive

collection of references to creative work, criticism, films, online exhibits, and more. The bibliography is available on the program's website at <http://anssacrl.files.wordpress.com/2011/02/katrina-bibliography.pdf>.

The Strategic Planning Committee, having completed a revision of the LES Strategic Plan (posted at <http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/about/sections/les/lesstrategic.cfm>), will now work with ACRL's Information Literacy & Standards group to review ACRL's Research Competency guidelines.

If you are interested in projects such as these, remember that you are always welcome to attend LES meetings and discussion groups. And please consider volunteering to serve on a committee!

Annual 2012 will be here before you know it, and I hope to see many of you in New Orleans. A schedule of LES meetings and information about the Social Hour will be announced on LES-L soon. Faye Christenberry will take over as LES Chair right after Annual, so I will take this opportunity to thank all of the excellent LES officers, committee members, and discussion group leaders I have worked with this past year. There is no group more supportive and knowledgeable than the membership of the Literatures in English Section.

-Liorah Golomb

**LES Meeting and Activity Schedule for ALA
Annual 2011, New Orleans**

Key:
MAR = New Orleans Marriott
DOUB = Doubletree
MCC = Morial Convention Center

Friday June 24

~ 9:00- 11:00 a.m.

Literary Walking Tour with Inez Douglas.
(exact time and meeting place TBD).
\$15/person. Space is limited! *Contact Liorah Golomb at lgolomb@ou.edu to reserve a spot.*

Saturday June 25

8:00-10:00 a.m.

LES Executive Committee Meeting
IMAR-Regent

1:30-3:30 p.m.

General Membership Forum MAR-Mardi
Gras H

4:00-5:30 p.m.

New Members Discussion Group MAR-Mardi
Gras H

5:30-7:00 p.m.

LES Social Hour
TBA

Sunday June 26

8:00 a.m.-noon

Conference Program, co-sponsored with ANSS **The Aftermath of Katrina and Rita: The Effects on Libraries, People, and Neighborhoods** MCC
356-357

10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Reference and Collection Development Discussion Groups
DOUB-Crescent B

1:30-3:30 p.m.

Discussion Group*

MLA Int'l Bibliography
MAR-La Galerie 2

Monday June 27

8:00-10:00 a.m.

All Committees Meeting MAR-La
Galerie 4

10:30 a.m.-noon

LES Executive Committee Meeting II
MAR-Regent

All LES meetings are open to all. The All Committees meeting is when all LES committees meet simultaneously. If you are interested in serving on an LES committee, consider attending to get a sense of what we do.

*Not hosted by LES, but of interest to many members.

Publication Announcements

MaryBeth Meszaros' (Monmouth University, NJ) chapter, "A Theatre Scholar-Artist Prepares: Information Behavior of the Theatre Researcher," was published in *Advances in Library Administration and Organization* v. 29, 2010, pp. 185-217. An article "Who's in Charge Here? Authority, Authoritativeness, and the Undergraduate Researcher" has been published in *Communications in Information Literacy* v. 4, n1, 2010, pp. 5-11. On March 24, she delivered a paper, "The Mise-en-Scène of Monsterdom: Staging the Composite Body" at the 35th Annual Comparative Drama Conference at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles on March 24, 2011. She is now serving on the editorial board of *Communications in Information Literacy*.

WANTED: Volunteers to Index for the MLAIB

By Laura Fuderer
Subject Librarian for English and French
Literatures
University of Notre Dame

At the ALA Midwinter meeting of the MLAIB Discussion Group in San Diego last January we talked about the challenges and rewards of indexing for the MLA International Bibliography. I was asked to write an article for Biblio-Notes inviting all LES members (or any other librarians) to become MLAIB Bibliographers and to list some of the areas of special need.

First of all, the Editor of the bibliography, Barbara Chen, wants to clarify that the goal is to be as comprehensive as possible in the coverage of books and journals that are within scope. This means there is still need for indexers to focus on English-language publications. The same is true for the major European languages, such as French, German, Italian, etc.

As you can imagine, however, the areas of greatest need are in the literatures of those languages that are the most uncommon. These include (but are not limited to) the Slavic, Asian, Middle Eastern, and African languages. Specialists in minor European languages such as Irish and Welsh are in need also.

Remember too that the scope of the MLAIB is not just literature, but also linguistics, folklore, theory, and film studies. I personally find articles with linguistic aspects to be rather difficult, so I'm sure anyone with some exposure to the terminology of linguistics would be much appreciated.

Barbara also wants to assure beginning indexers that one-on-one training in four sessions is available and fellowships are offered to facilitate such training. The MLAIB web site provides these details:

"Fellowships are for a three-year period, beginning 1 July 2011 and ending 30 June 2014. The MLA seeks scholars of any level of seniority interested in training as field bibliography fellows and able to deliver at least one hundred citations each year. This opportunity is open to potential as well as existing field bibliographers. The MLA will provide materials and training meetings at the annual convention. Fellows attending training sessions will have their conference registration fees waived. On completion of the fellowship, they will receive a stipend of \$500 and a certificate at the awards ceremony during the Presidential Address at the MLA convention. It is hoped that recipients of these fellowships will continue submitting citations throughout their careers."

For more details about the bibliography and about becoming a Bibliographer, see the web site at mla.org. If you want to discuss the experience, feel free to contact me or Barbara Chen.

Editorial information:

Bibliotes is published twice annually in the fall and the spring. To submit articles, photos, announcements or news items, please contact the newsletter editor, Carrie Netzer Wajda, at cnetzerwajda@gmail.com.

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