TO: Finance and Audit
FROM: Russell Swedowski
DATE: June 10, 2004
RE: Controller's Report

## Inventory Levels-ALA Editions and Products \& Promotions-

Inventory levels at April 30, 2004, schedule 1, are as follows; ALA Editions \$814,931, and Products and Promotions (Graphics) \$548,144. The ALA Editions inventory reflects a $\$ 54,000$ valuation (down from $\$ 55,000$ at March 31, 2004) for Guide to Reference Books, 11th Edition. The 12th edition is in production. The largest item in the inventory for Products and Promotions at April 30, 2004 was $\$ 23,000(\$ 24,000$ at March 31, 2004) of At Your Library products, a total of 21 different items. These were relatively new products, so there is a limited amount of history to refer to in assessing if there are any problem products, although there were three items valued at $\$ 4,800$ that were destroyed at year-end, 2003.

As of April 30, 2004 the excess and obsolete inventory reserves, Schedule 2, reflect the following balances, ALA Editions $(\$ 309,000)$ and Products and Promotions $(\$ 108,000)$. In FY 2003 , Graphics destroyed $\$ 26,276$ of product deemed excess or obsolete. ALA Editions destroyed $\$ 2,693$ of excess or obsolete products. All destroyed product is charged against the respective inventory reserves for excess and obsolete products. In FY 2004, no destruction has taken place to date, although Graphics has plans to destroy $\$ 26,000$ of inventory. See Schedule 3 for historical destruction levels. Additions to the reserve through April are $\$ 28,000$ for ALA Editions and \$33,000 for Graphics (Schedule 4).

## Credit and Collections-

At April 30, 2004, trade accounts receivable were $\$ 2,119,615$ as compared to \$2,253,232 at April 30, 2004. The $150+$ day aging bucket at April 30, 2004 contained $\$ 55,623$ of receivables as compared to $\$ 198,546$ at April 30, 2003. The decrease is a result of an increase in collection activity against bookstores by PBD and in iMIS (advertising billings) by Association staff. The PBD $150+$ receivable balance is $\$ 239$ while the iMIS $150+$ balance is $\$ 55,384$.

## Audit Planning-

Initial planning for the 2004 audit has commenced. Preliminary audit work is expected to take place in early July. The final audit work is tentatively scheduled for November 8, 2004, however Ernst \& Young is trying to resolve schedule conflicts for one of the staff members assigned to the Association's audit.

## Cash Management and Bond Fund-

Total cash and short-term investments at April 30, 2004 amounted to $\$ 16,048,845$ as compared to $\$ 14,871,039$ a year ago. The increase is caused by lower accounts receivable and National Conferences for PLA and AASL. Year-to-date interest income is $\$ 326,150$, which is $\$ 13,816$ less than the budget of $\$ 339,966$ and $\$ 44,116$ more than last year.

The Neuberger Berman bond fund investment balance is \$11,082,952 at April 30, 2004 as compared to $\$ 10,714,195$ at April 30, 2003. As noted in schedule 6 , this investment has produced over $\$ 4,768,000$ in interest income since December 1991 and the yield has been well above the yield from certificates of deposit. With regard to risk of principal, the account finished FY 2003 with a realized/unrealized loss of $\$ 119,158$ and is currently reflecting a loss of $\$ 141,958$ for FY 2004. At April 30, 2004 the cumulative (computed since December 1991) net realized/unrealized loss is $\$ 121,774$. See Schedule 7 for additional details.

## Unrelated Business Income Tax-

The Federal and state income tax returns were filed on April 6, 2004. Income tax refund requests were included on both returns. The Federal refund request was for $\$ 4,281,500$. A check for the full refund was received on May 28, 2004 and the refund was deposited in the Future Fund. The state refund request, which has not yet been received, was for $\$ 966,400$. The large amounts relate to the tax liability from the sale of Huron Plaza, which is not reportable for income tax purposes until the FY 2004 tax return is due.

## Cash Flow-

In an effort to increase the amount of interest income the Association earns in the General Fund a review of the bond fund investments has been performed. Historical charts of cash and investment balances, operating cash requirements and yields indicate that a reallocation of the bond fund investments may increase interest income. In addition, excess operating cash could be put to productive use as an addition to the bond fund investments.

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