

SRRT Membership Meeting—Draft Minutes
Monday, June 28th, 2004
Orlando Florida

Present: Mark Hudson, Tom Twiss, Laura Koltutsky, Dana St. Martin, Elaine Hagen, Susan Dillinger, Kathleen de la Peña McCook, Sonia Ramirez Wohlmuth, Elaine Harger, Jim Kuhn, Theresa Tobin, Virginia B. Moore, Diedre Conkling, Terry Epperson, John Wilder, Sally Driscoll, Aureole M. Johnstone, Rory Litwin, Michael Santangelo, Jennifer Flinn, Kristin Hoyer, Jay Bohren, Fred Stoss, Marie Jones

Announcements: Marie Jones reminded members of the Alternatives in Publication Task Force's (AIP) Free Speech Buffet, Monday night 6-9; Theresa Tobin also reminded members of the Feminist Task Force's (FTF) Women's Night Out, at the same time. SRRT meetings Orlando

Rory requests any items to be added to agenda. None were offered.

Task Force Reports:

International Relations Task Force: Elaine Harger reported that the task force presented a program on Saturday "Librarians Confront the War in Iraq." She described the speakers, all of whom had experience in Iraq. Tom Twiss will be taking over as chair of the Task Force.

Hunger Homelessness & Poverty Task Force: The task force had no program this year, but is considering a possible pre-conference next year. They are also planning Web site enhancements for the coming year.

Feminist Task Force: Theresa Tobin reported that the task force successfully co-sponsored a program, "Just when you thought it was safe to return to the library" about the book *Revolting Librarians Redux* (McFarland). Three speakers discussed the book for an audience of about 100. Their annual "Introduction to Women's Issues" program provided interesting discussions included one revolving around issues related to gender and computing, and the lack of encouragement women librarians receive for going into that field. FTF is pursuing the idea of having a program at Chicago 2005 related to this topic. The list of Amelia Bloomer Award books is now in *Booklist*, garnering more attention for the award sponsored by this task force. The juried award lists books that have feminist content and strong female characters. The FTF is in need of Web manager. Marie Jones volunteered to be their Web manager.

Martin Luther King Holiday Task Force: The group sponsored its 4th Annual Multicultural Idea exchange on Saturday. While the audience could have been larger, the panel of three speakers from a variety of library types (school, academic, and, when possible, special) provide excellent presentations. The task force would like to set up a bank of people who participate in multicultural activities for future talks.

Affiliate reports

Oregon SRRT: The group conducted no activities at the Oregon Library Association conference this year. Generally, they do programs every-other year, and this was an off year. Last year, Louis Robbins spoke on the dismissal of Ruth Brown.

Progressive Librarian's Guild. Met yesterday to have a lengthy discussion about organizational issues and projects. Projects include a student essay contest, where library school students write an essay. Winners are published in *Progressive Librarian* and receive a stipend. This year's winner wrote about school librarianship. National projects: Question of whether to endorse The September Project which encourages libraries to engage in projects/activities about the Bill of Rights on 9-11; tied in with that is voter registration. National Council of Teachers of English will have National read-in of Orwell's *1984*. Copies of *Progressive Librarian* were distributed.

The organization's website is: www.libr.org/plg. Membership forms available on the site. PLG will be revising their brochure to distribute at conference meetings related to PLG issues.

Motion to extend meeting.
moved: Fred Stoss
Second: Aureole Johnstone

Task Force on the Environment (This is a task force report given at this point in the agenda to accommodate member's schedule) Reported on "Get the Lead Information Out" activities. The task force is looking for anyone interested in producing a website on on being an environmentally-conscious conference-goer.

New York SRRT: The NY SRRT joined forces with public library and intellectual freedom groups in their state and had a gathering at which Mitch Freedman spoke to over 115 attendees. Librarians' perspectives on Patriot Act were provided, which allowed trustees to hear our perspective. NYSRRT will be with the state's government documents group to have program, "My Community, My Environment" in Rochester.

Reports from Liaisons

Freedom to Read Foundation. Coordinating legal strategies behind court cases for freedom to read. Report on outcomes of CIPA and progress with COPA. Another item under discussion is the case of Nazi items sold on Yahoo, which is against the law in France. American courts agreed that this is a 1st amendment problem. The head of Yahoo has been charged in France, but can't be arrested here.

Intellectual Freedom. Some resolutions that were taken to them were supported, but not the Iraq resolution. The IF representatives to council will be "voting their conscience." The resolution against torture was *strongly* supported.

Rory asked about the "Intellectual Freedom in the Workplace" resolution. Laura initially stated that this resolution had been approved, but later let the secretary know that she was mistaken and it had not been approved. (it is unclear whether the item was voted down or whether it was simply not discussed)

The liaison from IFRT reported on their panel discussion on topic of religion; copies of the program available in the exhibition hall. There is a plan to file another CIPA lawsuit coming in next few months. They have an Upcoming program to distribute educational materials to library schools. Their membership list are to be made read-only for non-members in an effort to promote the intellectual freedom activities in which members participate. .

GODORT: Four legislative committee meetings have been held, with five resolutions approved by their committee on the following topics: funding of programs and services, securing government accountability for whistle blower protection; ensuring public access to government information--opposing privatization. Also, they are working on guidelines for "sensitive information." This category has existed for some time. It differs from classified information and has different procedures. It is increasingly being used to withdraw information from the public domain without going through required procedures for classified information. Their resolution called for clear guidelines for making information sensitive and procedures for de-sensitizing information.

Membership committee. The health insurance plan has been implemented; it's on website, is issued in pamphlet form. Their main action regards new classifications of membership called "extended joint ALA membership" which should allow for more affordability for support staff, as it includes ALA membership with LSSIRT and membership in RUSA or ALCTS for \$59. They have not responded to calls for pro-rated membership.

Mark Rosenzweig moves that we extend meeting. Aureole Johnstone seconds.

Discussion of why we should not extend the meeting, as it is running into AC 2 time.

Vote: unanimous to extend 10 minutes.

Budget Report: Areole distributes a budget report. The fund balance provides a "best estimate" for this year and actual expenses for previous years. There are issues with the money moved from SRRT accounts with the CSK Task Force's move to EMIERT.

Satia arrives and is welcomed.

ALA RFP for Online Communities discussion is delayed until next meeting.

Newsletter report. The newsletter is now being published twice per year. "It's your newsletter," says Sally, "and it will be as good as members make it by sending materials for publication." September 30 deadline for next newsletter. REMEMBER the SRRT newsletter when you're writing for other publication. Sally doesn't know names of people-let her know that we don't know names, so if people get awards, die, etc., should let her know. Jane Ingold is taking over for Rebecca Tolley-Stokes as book review editor.

Elaine says that newsletter is beautiful.

Fred: cases of December & June issue at booth. Can get copies from them.

Motion to adjourn

Sue Dillenger

second: Elaine.