

**FINAL MINUTES**  
**GODORT Membership Meeting**  
**Swissotel – Gallen 1**  
**Monday, February 2, 2015, 10:30-11:30 am**

Convener: Stephen Woods for Helen Sheehy  
 Recorder: Linda Spiro

Attendees/ Officers and Chairs:

Chair – Stephen Woods for Helen Sheehy	Education – Julia Stewart
Chair Elect / Program – Stephen Woods	Gov Info for Children –
Councilor – Bill Sudduth	Legislation – Bernadine Abbott Hoduski
Secretary – Linda Spiro	Membership – Sarah Erekson
Treasurer – Mike Smith	Nominating –
Awards –	Publications –
Bylaws – Gretchen Gould	Rare and Endangered – Shari Laster
Cataloging – Ellen Caplan	FDTF – Tim Dodge
Conference	IDTF – Stephanie is at IRC
Development –	SDTF – Samantha Hager

Nonmembers:

David Utz, Barbara Miller, Nathan Wolfe, Robbie Sittel, Valerie Glenn, Kathy Karn Carmichael, James Jacobs, Crystal Lentz, Mary Alice Baish, Kirsten Clark, Jessica Terrance, Simon Healey, Rich Gause, Wayne Strickland, John Stevenson, Rebecca Hyde, Justin Otto, Jill Vassilakos-Long, Marie Concannon, Siu Min Yu, Suzanne Sears, Rachel Dobkin

**I. Welcome & Introductions**

Helen and Stephen want to share their appreciation to everyone who helped make this a great Midwinter, all the committee and task force chairs and Secretary Linda Spiro. Everyone introduced themselves. Stephen mentioned the importance of introductions to promote networking opportunities.

**II. Adoption of Agenda**

James will make a brief announcement during Old Business. Bernadine will make a report on the Working Group on Digitization. Rachel Dobkin from the Government Information Student Interest Group (GISIG) asked when the appropriate time for announcements would be. Stephen replied during New Business. Barbara Miller moved to accept the agenda. Eillen Caplan seconded and the agenda with additions was approved.

**III. Approval of 2014 Annual minutes**

James Jacobs moved and Kirsten Clark seconded to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved

**IV. Treasurer’s Report – Mike Smith**

At the end of the 2013-14 fiscal year in August, GODORT's total revenues were **\$45,935** and total expenses were **\$35,750** for a net gain of **\$10,185** and an Ending Fund Balance of **\$128,078**.

For the current fiscal year, Net Revenue has been **\$10,270**, for an Ending Fund Balance in December of **\$138,348**. That doesn't include printing of the last DttP.

Noteworthy sources of profit included Serial Set book sales, payout from the dissolution of CUAC, and strong DTP advertising revenue. The 2014 Annual Awards Reception was also in the black.

In FY2014, the Rozkuszka Scholarship Endowment Fund had a net gain of **\$8,410** and an Ending Fund Balance of **\$83,941**. The current Ending Fund Balance for FY2015 is \$88,461. However, the beginning fund balance was \$87,248. This discrepancy will be investigated (though it is in our favor).

Barbara Miller moved to receive or approve the treasurer's report. Ellen seconded and the report was approved.

**V. Councilor's Report** – Bill Sudduth is in a Council meeting, but will be at Steering II and give the report there.

**VI. Task Force Reports** - Action items only

A. **FDTF** – Tim Dodge, Chair

The task force has been working on the draft of a letter or handout for new legislators to inform them about the importance of the Federal Depository Library Program and government information in general. Presently one real life example is included, but they will most likely add more examples of how of constituents need government information. Tim brought a few copies and left them in the back. The task force would like editing recommendations. They may also expand the list of potential users of the material beyond new legislators. One suggestion was to reword the 2<sup>nd</sup> bullet point. There was a recommendation concerning vendor databases' mirroring of government information from government agencies. Some people don't realize the information in vendor databases comes from the government and will disappear if the agency isn't funded to provide it. The task force wants to find a respectful way to put that back in. Email suggestions for edits to Jill at [Jvassilakos@gmail.com](mailto:Jvassilakos@gmail.com)

Since this letter/handout fosters government information, it should be posted on the FDTF wiki page in addition to becoming part of an orientation packet for new Congress members. Librarians at depositories can rewrite and/or use the ideas when communicating with their legislators. Kirsten asked how this will be distributed as regards working with ALA. The COL Chair already has the draft copy and will work with GODORT to send it forward to the JCP task force working through the Washington Office.

Jessica Torrance moved and James Jacobs seconded to support this. The motion was approved.

B. **IDTF** – Chair Stephanie Braunstein is at COL moving forward a letter regarding the UN Depository Programme.

C. **SLDTF** – Samantha Hager, Chair  
No action items.

## **VII. Committee Reports - Action items only**

A. **Awards** – Catherine Morse, Chair - Not attending Midwinter

B. **Bylaws** – Gretchen Gould, Chair

Gretchen announced there will be a spring election to vote on a proposal to make a minor change to the Bylaws. On the GODORT wiki under Bylaws there is a link to the proposed change. Check there since the information will be in DttP, but that issue comes out after the election.

She also wants direction from Steering on virtual meetings in terms of what we are looking for in changing the Bylaws and PPM.

She asked Steering to consider appointing the incoming chair of Bylaws to be a member of the Ad Hoc Committee on GODORT Reorganization.

C. **Cataloging** – Ellen Caplan, Chair

Please let her know if you can proof or edit the three toolboxes: international, state and local. Cataloging is working on a program proposal for 2016 or 2017.

D. **Conference** – Diane Smith, Chair – Not attending Midwinter

E. **Development** – Steve Hayes, Chair - Not attending Midwinter

F. **Education** – Julia Stewart, Chair – No action items.

G. **Government Information for Children** – Not attending Midwinter.

H. **Legislation** – Bernadine Abbott Hoduski, Chair

The resolution on NTIS is progressing. Legislation worked with COL to report the resolution to Council on Tuesday morning. They took out the names of the agencies that could be depositories.

Bernadine also reported on the Working Group on Preservation. There are six members of the group (Tom Adamich (Co-Chair), Bernadine Abbot-Hoduski (Co-Chair), Sarah Erikson, Jim Noel (Marcive) Andrew Laas (ProQuest) and Alar Elken (Newsbank/Readex), but Tom was unable to attend due to illness in the family. Catherine Johnson came for Andrew Laas. They worked on developing strategies needed for preservation of tangible collections, for preserving document librarian expert positions, and how to get money to help libraries preserve their government collections.

I. **Membership** – Sarah Erikson, Chair

Membership wants to make a change to GODORT's social media policy since it presently doesn't address many issues. They would like the Membership Committee to be administrators of the social media accounts. What are some expectations GODORT would like them to do?

Membership will try something new at Annual. At Annual 2015 we'll have an orientation session for new members. Membership may ask people from GODORT committees and task forces to give an introduction regarding what they do. This will hopefully be the last session of Friday afternoon, but that's not definite. Since it's a meeting, unlike the Happy Hour, this could be put in the schedule. They are working with ALA's membership promotion task force to get ideas how to promote GODORT. Stephen mentioned that MAGIRT schedules their social media once a month to keep it active and alive.

**J. Nominating** – Barbie Selby, Chair – Not attending  
Jim Church's appointment to IFLA has been renewed.

**K. Program** – Stephen Woods

At ALA Annual in San Francisco SLDTF will sponsor a program entitled "State Government Information and the Copyright Conundrum." GODORT will also have a joint program with MAGIRT called "Data Visualization in the Library: Collections, Tools and Scalable Services."

**L. Publications & DTTP** – Marianne Ryan, Chair – Not attending Midwinter.

**M. Rare & Endangered** – Shari Laster, Chair  
No action items.

### **XIII. Liaison Reports**

**Freedom to Read** – Jill Vassilakos-Long

The Freedom to Read Foundation (FTRF) frequently deals with litigation. They support and assist librarians who will be fired if they do not remove material from their collections. They provide background support and education. Jill told FTRF about the issue of the removal of government information from websites, the biggest censorship event of this century. When FDLP materials were sent out in paper, titles were occasionally recalled by an agency. When that happened, the GPO sent a letter to FDLP libraries, requesting that the material be returned. There was nothing in the law that said that the material could not be photocopied before it was returned, and some librarians would make a copy to keep their collections complete, and then send back the originals. Now access is a proxy for ownership. If an agency wishes to suppress a previously posted document, and they have only made it available through their website – not sent it to GPO, then all that agency has to do is remove it from their website. The Freedom to Read Foundation is not allowed to lobby, but they can educate. Jill will write something for their website and newsletter about the removal of government information from websites.

The report on legislation was brief, since congressional sessions are just beginning. The Freedom Act died with the last Congress and some sections of the Patriot Act (including Section 215) are up for reauthorization in 2015.

FTRF partnered with other library and education organizations in an amicus brief regarding a lawsuit about an Arizona law which effectively dismantled the Tucson school district's Mexican American Studies program. The Arizona law laid out four (disturbingly vague) criteria on which to judge the illegality of a curriculum. The court found three of them to be valid, but one to be too general. Both sides are appealing the court decision.

#### **IX. Report from the Executive Board/BARC**

Stephen moved that we move BARC's report to New Business, David seconded, and the motion passed.

#### **X. Old Business**

James Jacobs is seeking people to help find fugitive government documents. He posted an announcement on the ALA Connect page. If you'd like to help with the small project using Zotero bibliographic citation software to collect fugitives, let him know.

Barbara Miller said it is difficult to get liaisons from outside groups to make reports. IFLA is one of the most important. Could we get Jim Church to come to the membership meeting or Steering? Stephen will ask Jim to write something about IFLA.

Bernadine wanted a clarification. What unit of IFLA is Jim appointed to? Stephen will get a clarification and a report from him. Bernadine said that on IFLA Jim is representing American interests. How is he carrying out supporting government information?

#### **XI. New Business**

##### **A. Report from Board Member Jim Neal**

Jim Neal emailed his report to Helen and Stephen. The full report is printed at the end of the minutes. The main highlights are: advanced paid registration for Midwinter was 5,575 compared to 5,252 advanced registration for last year's meeting and 5,429 for 2013. Membership is down 16%; 60,000 librarians left the profession. About half of the decrease is to student membership, since enrollment in library and information science programs has decreased from about 21,000 to 15,000. Something is happening to our profession. Kitchen conversations with ALA members reveal members find ALA confusing and don't see a clear pathway for involvement. The budget is positive; no one is in the red. Many groups are doing strategic planning. Many board and committee meetings are being held virtually outside Midwinter. The report also has information about the budget, school libraries, equity, diversity and inclusion.

##### **B. Virtual Midwinter Meetings and Ad Hoc Committee on GODORT Reorganization Discussion**

Helen sent Steering the charge for the Ad Hoc Committee on GODORT Reorganization. Don't confuse that charge with the charge about Virtual Meetings,

Stephen did a flash survey of our organization. He gave a handout out and posted a survey. Some of the talking points of the survey were that less than 30% of the 103 people who responded attend Midwinter. Also 25% of the members who responded attend no meeting whatsoever, while 17% would attend but are non-members. Many didn't finish the survey. Overwhelmingly membership said they would attend virtually. That question could be asked a ton of different ways. There's a reality that many can't afford the cost. Comments were very interesting and 42% of respondents added something. There were a lot of

comments from a smaller group. It is permissible in ALA for virtual meetings and ALA talks about how to do them. ALA addresses in virtual meetings how you do voting, handle large meetings, network, handle time differences, and handle technological skills. ALA gives directions about how to get in and participate. Regarding representation, there are some people who need to be here physically like the Councilor, Chair of Legislation, etc. When looking at involvement, participation, cost, and efficiency, involvement popped out. Hybrid meetings may also be a possibility.

The Ad Hoc Committee on GODORT Reorganization is looking at how can we be more efficient and provide access and opportunities for our membership to participate in our organization whether it is virtual meetings or some other animal. Steering is hammering this out now. Stephen wants to remind us this is a charge. It will probably come back and say could you please clarify. No way can it be comprehensive in its methodology. This is not a change document, but it could be one. The Ad Hoc Committee will help us understand how to move forward.

Regarding the Ad Hoc Committee on GODORT Virtual Meeting, our organization has innovative people doing cool things with technology. What can we do, what can't we? This committee will help us determine what we need to do to become leaders, not followers, in virtual meetings. Keep in mind that the charge might not have all the necessary points. Have a conversation with Steering about what is missing,

Valerie – Both of these committees are supposed to develop in one year. I'm guessing Barbie and Bill will be included. How soon will other members be appointed? The Task Forces designate one member each, how soon?

Stephen – That depends on how Steering responds; the groups not yet okayed. One reason he agreed to follow Helen is that it is important to provide continuity to this reform. He hopes things are in place by next Midwinter so we can vote on it and get going.

Kirsten – Could you explain how you chose those particular members - why the chair of nominating?

Stephen – I'm not certain, but if someone is missing, we'll add them. Bylaws need to be included. We'll bring this forward for Steering II and will have to address Bylaws' action item since it will effect this. He doesn't know why Helen wrote the charge this way.

Rachel Dobkin from the Government Information Student Interest Group– I have a background in organizing. The problem is not in organizing but in outreach. We don't have a committee to do outreach beyond committee members. People who join in virtual meetings are already involved. Virtual meetings take more time than just being here. How are we going to do outreach?

Stephen – We are over by 7 minutes. There is nothing to vote on as Membership. I'll let you know what's going on in Steering.

## **XII. Adjournment**

Sarah Erekson moved and Jessica Torrance seconded that we adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 11:40 am.

Rachel wants a list of all social media concerned with government information. Her cards are in the back.

1/26/15

## **Board Talking Points**

### **Midwinter 2015 Meeting**

- As of Friday, January 23 – one week before the opening of the 2015 ALA Midwinter Meeting – advance paid registration was 5,575. This compares to 5,252 for the same point in time for the 2014 Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia and 5,429 for the 2013 Midwinter Meeting in Seattle.
- Daily totals are announced at each Council meeting, and the final registration numbers are announced on Tuesday.
- The 2015 Midwinter Meeting includes a record 40 “News You Can Use” briefing sessions, and hundreds of open discussion group sessions.

### **Membership**

- At year end, ALA membership stood at . Last year at this same time, membership stood at 57,000. The profession and library associations have all faced the same challenge. A recent survey completed by the Chapter Relations Office shows that on the average, state library association membership is down about 20% compared to the year of their highest membership enrollment. ALA membership is down approximately 16%.
- About half of this decrease is in the student membership category. This decrease in student members appears to be driven by a significant decrease in the enrollment in library and information science programs, which has decreased from about 21,000 to about 15,000.
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- Across the country, employment in the library “sector” has declined by 60,000 since 2007. This includes a decrease of 21,000 in librarians – from 215,000 in 2007 to 194,000 in 2014. This overall decrease of 10% in the sector appears to be the primary driver of the similar decrease in membership during the same period.

- This decrease has also been reflected in the divisions, with two exceptions: ALSC and YALSA. Both showed increases over last year's membership.
- Beginning in 2013, ALA has been hosting a series of "kitchen table" conversations with members at Annual and Midwinter. What we have discovered from these conversations is that ALA members can find the Association confusing, and don't see a clear pathway to involvement.
- Based on this work, ALA and the divisions have been looking at ways of making ALA "more welcoming." One recent response has been the addition of new "Join ALA" and "Engage with ALA" features on the ALA home page. Because we know that members value the contribution they can make to literacy, education, economic growth and intellectual freedom as well as the career benefits, the "Engage with ALA" feature provides specific ways in which ALA members can participate in activities "supporting you – and changing the world."

### **ALA Budget**

- ALA ended fiscal 2014 with a positive net asset balance in the division, round table and general funds.
- So far, fiscal 2015 revenues are tracking ahead of expenses and budget. As of the end of December 2014, total ALA net results from operations are better than budget by \$1.3 million. General Fund net results are better than budget by \$42,000.
- More detailed information on the 2014 and 2015 budgets may be found on the Treasurer's page on the ALA web site <http://www.ala.org/aboutala/governance/financialdata>.

### **Strategic Planning and the Strategic Directions**

- Many boards, committees and other groups are taking time at Midwinter for discussions about the ALA strategic directions as part of our Association strategic planning. Working discussions have also been scheduled with Council and with the Planning and Budget Assembly.
- Many committees and boards have already held or will be holding virtual discussions outside of Midwinter, and a number of chapters and affiliates have also scheduled forums at state conferences.



- The goal is to provide the broadest possible opportunity for member groups to contribute to our vision, assumptions, goals, strategies and objectives in each of the three strategic directions: Advocacy, Information Policy and Professional and Leadership Development.
- The plan is to have draft advocacy, information policy and professional and leadership development plans circulating by mid-April, along with an “umbrella” strategic plan that incorporates the strategic directions and builds on the programmatic priorities approved by Council. Ultimately, the umbrella plan will go to Council for approval at the Annual Conference in June.
- All these plans will be circulated to the membership for their comments and suggestions, and to build consensus around the new strategic directions and plan. We will welcome your comments and suggestions for incorporation into the plans as we refine them over the course of the spring.
- Discussion feedback forms and instructions on how to share the results of your discussion are available at the ALA Connect Strategic Planning Group at <http://connect.ala.org/strategicplanning>.
- Feedback Forms will be posted and your discussion report will help shape the draft plans as we move forward.

### **School Libraries Transform Learning**

- Just last week, President Courtney Young sent a message out about a new advocacy initiative for school libraries.
- AASL and the Office for Library Advocacy are launching an awareness campaign at Midwinter about the importance of school librarians. **“School Librarians Transform Learning”** involves new messaging and encourages library supporters across the country to write op-eds and letters to the editor in local and national print and social media.
- Letters to the editor and op-eds are an easy way to reach large numbers of community members. If you have never written one of these letters, or need tips along the way, *I Love Libraries* provides a comprehensive guide to writing and placing an op-ed piece.
- The Washington Office has indicated that Congress may take up the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) in the next couple of months. If this happens, we will need every single ALA member from every type of library and every public supporter to do everything they can to get language in the bill supporting the necessity of a school library – staffed by a qualified school librarian – in every school in America. This will be a historic opportunity to reverse federal policy that has not recognized the importance of school libraries to student success.

- Visit *I Love Libraries* at <http://www.ilovelibraries.org/school-libraries-make-difference> for ways you can get involved.
- Please join us in speaking out for school libraries!

#### Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

- Equity, diversity, and inclusion are vitally important to ALA, its members, the library profession and the communities we serve.
- The ALA Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion's is working to develop a plan and strategic actions to build more equity, diversity and inclusion among our members, the field of librarianship and our communities. The most important Task Force outcome is the public and honest conversation generated by its plan and recommended actions. The final Task Force report will include recommendations for ensuring that a continuing focus on equity, diversity and inclusion is embedded throughout the ALA organization.
- The Task Force is co-Chaired by Trevor Dawes and Martin Garnar.
- The Task Force is currently in the information-gathering phase, and has launched a series of short surveys. These surveys are designed to help understand the culture of the association, the profession and our communities with respect to equity, diversity and inclusion.
- The survey can be accessed at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/tfedi1web>. Responses will be collected through Feb. 16, 2015. ALA members and nonmembers are encouraged to participate.
- Engage with colleagues at ALA Midwinter in a facilitated dialogue around issues that affect all of us at "A Conversation on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion" on Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup> from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. in McCormick Place West, Room W184a.