

GODORT Membership Meeting
Sunday, January 22, 2017
3:00-4:00 PM
Westin, Augusta Room 3

Sarah Erikson, GODORT Chair
Laura Sare, Secretary

Welcome and Introductions.

Kris Kasinovitz gave a reminder for the ACRL tour of the World Bank
<http://connect.ala.org/node/262037>

An Amendment to the agenda under new business was made for the Legislation Committee Shuler Memorial Resolution.

Hallie moved the Agenda be adopted Simon seconded.

The motion to approve Annual's minutes was made by David Utz and Valerie seconded.

Treasurer's report – Michael Smith reported that *DttP* had startup costs and will wait till these all come in before making a new budget. At the end of fiscal year 2015-16 GODORT's total revenues were \$41,428 with total expenses of \$32,293 and an ending Fund Balance of \$137,566. Most of the revenue growth was from the Serial Set book. The Rozkuszka Scholarship fund had a net gain of \$5906 and an ending Fund Balance of \$92,182, for the first time interest exceeded the award payment.

Task Force Reports

Shari reported the Research Round Robin had over a dozen attendees and was successful. There are no promotional materials for annual programs yet but those will be coming soon.

Legislation – Hallie reported discussion on Legislation's five year plan will be finalized by annual and that the committee is reviewing a preservation working group resolution.

Cataloging – Sarah reported Cataloging is creating a working group to update and transfer the cataloging toolboxes from GODORT wiki to GODORT LibGuides.

Membership/Outreach – Rachel asked Steering for direction and wanted to know if Membership/Outreach should focus on promotion within GODORT or working to get folks from outside GODORT interested in government information. The cookie promotion to showcase government information with cookies highlighted recipes from the USDA.

Preservation Working Group - Bernadine reported on a proposal to get non-government resources for libraries for preservation.

Liaison Reports

Freedom to Read – Sarah reported these were mostly a review of active court cases.

Executive Board – Sarah reported membership of ALA is down from last year, 57,000 (last year was 59,000). ALA is planning a conference remodeling – a new plan for New Orleans on ALA Connect and anyone can comment <http://connect.ala.org/node/261211>. The conference committee wants to create a more manageable conference and decrease schedule conflicts and increase conference sustainability. An idea is to put only programs at the convention center and hold meetings at hotels. There also appears to be drastically fewer slots, and programs will be juried centrally rather than at the committee level. The main question is what this means for Round Tables – Stephen reported from the Round Table Assembly Group – Stephen mentioned six points that he will send to ALA Connect.

Rachel was concerned about having tracks because government information is very interdisciplinary and tracks might hurt us in trying to reach out to non-gov docs people. Hallie said on the flip side that we can use it as outreach to promote the government. Rachel said the tracks were not topical but by type of library. Shari asked are we as a roundtable going to provide feedback as a group? Or individually? Stephen said we can do individually – (see ALA Connect link from above to put in comments)

Old Business

Reorg Bylaws votes – David Utz has two proposals to amend the bylaws that were passed by Steering and recommended to Membership:

- 1) Bylaws change to create the possibility for Interest groups (note this is not mandatory but an opportunity for groups)

Shari noted approving this bylaw change does not change any of the existing task forces, Steering would have to make changes to the task forces.

David said this just allows any organization in GODORT the ability to become an interest group.

David moved to accept and Jessica seconded.

Discussion – Bernadine asked about interest groups are on steering with no vote. David said Exec committee would still be able to run GODORT, Bernadine was concerned we were breaking precedent. Stephen said the task forces will have to consider Bernadine's concerns if they decide to switch over. Vicki asked for an explanation of the difference between interest and discussion group. David explained interest group is more inclusive, open ended, and focused outward, not just for gov docs librarians. Shari felt discussion groups were more spontaneous that anyone could bring an idea to steering to hold a group and added that the task forces want to reorganize because the current structure is too burdensome to do some work. Vicki reiterated the concerns Bernadine raised.

The group voted and the Motion carried.

Virtual meetings coordinator position - Samantha Hagar doing this unofficially now. We can't change the PPM about an officer not currently in the bylaws. There is a larger issue – do we want to change the whole section, Article 4 section 8 to simplify a process to have special officers within bylaws and explain them in section 10 in the PPM? The motion at this point is for the

time being to accept this amendment so that we can have an official recognition of a virtual meetings coordinator.

David moved to accept the bylaws change and Sarah seconded.

Discussion – Sarah pointed out for those groups who had virtual presences at conference that this was coordinated by Samantha and she wants this to be official for Samantha – Kris supported this because we need this role for the benefits for virtual meetings. David said we can do this now and simplify later along with archivist and web developer too.

The group voted and the motion carried.

New Business

John Shuler Memorial Resolution Hallie moved to approve the resolution and Rachel seconded.

Discussion – Shari thanked everyone on their work on the resolution. Rachel said John really had a huge impact on her. Stephen said John was a great conversationalist. Bernadine noted John was a futurist and wanted to implement and lead the way and integrate the digital world and our world.

The memorial was approved unanimously.

Hallie thanked everyone.

Sarah reflected on what being chair has been like for the past year and she urged us to think about what government information librarianship looks like for there are not many “documents librarian” positions anymore. As a group we need to think about what it means to be active in this group and what people can get out of this group. We all want to move forward – where do we want to take the round table and make sure that we are in sync with what is currently going on in the world of librarianship? This is some food for thought when we talk about reorganization. We need to be better advocates outside of our realm so we can attend other programs and still get our needs met. The over complexity in our organization is not serving our members. Shari thanked Sarah for sharing this and that these conversations about what GODORT is and is becoming and these conversations really do matter. Shari explained she has to appoint a lot of positions. Justin remarked that documents was a very small percentage of time in his job = only 5% of his time and he encouraged us to focus on government documents as a source of information, not as a discipline, to help keep it as a relevant group within ALA.

Council’s Report – Bill reported on the gun violence resolution. This doesn’t preclude stronger resolutions but it covers security in libraries. The problem is there is so much diversity in gun laws that this is challenging so this focus on education for security of staff and makes a statement about how we don’t like the improper use of guns. This is a touchy subject for a lot of people. There is also a resolution to make family-leave status a protected class within ALA. In some parts of ALA if you miss a conference because of a health issues you are penalized. GODORT is way ahead in this and has been for years. Tonight they will be discussing the schedule modification plan for New Orleans – Bill’s two concerns are 1) program planning reduced the number of slots and the divisions were given all the power and this is not right 2) the report says

that they are going to reduce the number of rooms available for meetings – was not given any data on this to show what % of rooms are booked but not used on average.

Bernadine asked about town meeting.

Bill thought it went well and said facilitator was excellent. A lot of people said we have our core values and to use our core values on the diversity in our organization and the diversity of the people we serve and how we have to deal with the new administration. We work with Congress more than we work with the administration, so while the presidency changed and we really don't know what they are going to do – librarians are very populist and we are for the people – we still have fiends in Congress and need to cultivate locally.

Shari moved that we adjourn and was seconded by Justin.