

American Library Association
Committee Information Update

Report for Annual 2017

Name of Committee: Scholarships & Study Grants Committee

Committee Chair: Sarah LeMire

Committee Members Present: Sarah LeMire (chair), Kimberly Redd (ALA staff liaison), Lorelle Swader (ALA staff liaison), John DeSantis (ALA Executive Board liaison), Caitlin Moen, Kimberly Knight

Committee Members Absent: Regina M. Beard, Dr. Hong Huang, Annemarie Roscello, Angelique Denise Simmons, Teralee Elizabeth ElBasri (Intern), Elia Trucks (Intern)

Guests: Dr. Ellen M. Pozzi (LHRT Chair); Dr. Jenny S. Bossaller (LHRT Member at Large)

Accomplishments at this Meeting

- Committee members met with representatives from LHRT to discuss a travel grant proposal. Committee members were able to provide feedback and concrete suggestions for improvement and are anticipating a revised submission in 2017.
- Committee members Kimberly Knight (presenting) and Annemarie Roscello researched, prepared, and presented to the committee a draft document outlining two potential routes that ALA and SSGC could take to increase engagement of ALA General Scholarship recipients. Further discussion will take place virtually in fall 2017 in order to develop a proposal.

Planned Activities

- A virtual meeting is tentatively planned for early fall 2017 in order to discuss new and ongoing committee business:
 - The committee will further discuss Kimberly Knight and Annemarie Roscello's outline for increasing engagement, with the intention of developing a proposal by Midwinter 2018.
 - The committee will discuss new concerns regarding ALA's general scholarship application process, including possibilities of clarifying language on the scholarship application form and using a rubric to increase consistency within scholarship juries.

Issues that affect the committee's work and their implications for the future

- SSGC's role as an advisor on division and round table scholarships and study grants does not seem to be well known, and therefore SSGC is not always included in the process of developing or revising scholarships and study grants.

Interactions with other units within ALA

- SSGC has interacted with LHRT and CaMMS over the course of the process of reviewing, providing feedback, and approving travel and development grant proposals.

Relationship of the committee's work to the ALA strategic plan

- SSGC's work connects with the ALA strategic plan in a variety of ways. One of the strategic plan's key action areas is "Education and Lifelong Learning," a goal that SSGC supports through its

work reviewing study grants, travel grants, and professional development grants. SSGC's mission also connects with the strategic direction of "Professional and Leadership Development." SSGC oversees the five ALA general scholarship juries and also provides advisory support for many of the other division and round table scholarships that help reduce barriers to degree achievement and professional development for librarians.

Current level of committee members' involvement

Attendance at SSGC meetings has begun to drop off at both Midwinter and Annual. Committee members who are in attendance have been actively engaged and have taken active roles in developing strategies for improving student engagement. One avenue of active committee participation has been as members of scholarship juries; five SSGC members volunteered to serve on ALA general scholarship juries in 2016-2017.

Committee self-check on its value and viability

SSGC has the potential to be an active committee that contributes much of value to ALA. Increased committee participation and identification of new goals may increase the viability of the committee.

Other issues of each committee's own devising

No other issues at this time.

Submitted by: Sarah LeMire

Submission date: July 20, 2017