

COSWL

ALA Midwinter Meeting
Conference Phone Call
Monday, December 9, 2013
3:00 – 4:00 PM (CST)

Draft Minutes

Attendees: Rayette Sterling (chair), Lenese Colson, Diedre Conkling, Rachel Rubin, Deborah Tenofsky, Julie VanHoose, Karen Weaver, Sandy Wee, Carolyn N. Willis, Rachel Balko (Intern), Paige Mano (Intern), Lorelle Swader (staff liaison) and Alicia Bastl (staff)

Absent: Jennifer Crispin, Labrunesha Lynley Eaton, and Alexia Hudson-Ward (ALA Executive Board).

1. Annual Conference Minutes Approved. Posted in ALA Connect.
2. Topic for Women's Issues Discussion at Annual 2015
 - Committee will pick a topic for a discussion to be led by a COSWL member
 - Ideas for topics to propose: What does feminism look like today?/How do we make that part of everyday life?; Why do women seem to bring all the food to potlucks?; Salary discrepancy
 - Purpose of this discussion: awareness, call to action, introduce groups to new members at ALA; get ALA attendees interested in the womens'-based groups; informal discussion; create ideas for future programs for these groups
 - Marketing: push out our ideas and messages via public messages on Connect/Social Media
 - Use potluck/women's place in the workplace as jumping off point, then Rayette and Diedre will discuss COSWL, FTF, Sara Smith can help frame discussion
 - Debbie moved to use potluck topic as discussion starter, Sandy seconded; Approved
3. Focus for 2014: Potential Programs for 2015
 - Women underrepresented as presenters for ALA programs in technology and management
 - Possible idea: treatment of women in IT field/Salary Discrepancy/; Partner with LITA and/or National Center for Women in Information Technology
 - Lorelle suggested getting info to the LITA board at Midwinter to get the talks going
 - Form subgroup: list of items needed to be done, send out via email
 - Rayette will think of ideas
4. ALA Conference Code of Conduct
 - Result of how women feel at IT-based conferences, such as ALA
 - Proactive in addressing such issues as seen by other IT groups (not ALA)
 - Committee decided to write and send a note of appreciation

- Post to social media, possibly advertise alongside National Women's History Month; time it to appear around Midwinter Conference
- Rachel R and Rachel B volunteered to help write up a draft statement of appreciation

5. Best Way to Communicate as COSWL

- ALA Connect allows for threaded conversations and is the official repository for our committee documents
- Members should make sure their Connect accounts are activated
- Try to primarily use Connect so that discussions are easy to follow and easy to find in the future

6. Other Issues

- Press release for Women's History Month in March
- Julie volunteered to write press release
- Lorelle works with APA committee (pay equity) and will include COSWL in those discussions as well

Submitted by Paige Mano