

Chapter Relations Committee Midwinter 2014 Report

Committee Charge:

To develop and recognize chapters as integral components of ALA. To encourage discussion, activities and programs that support the mutual interests of ALA and the chapters. To advise when requested on proposals and actions of other ALA units that may affect chapters. To provide a forum wherein chapters can share ideas and concerns of common interest and identify common needs and goals. To communicate these chapter needs and goals to ALA and ALA goals, programs and priorities to the chapters. To encourage and maintain a cooperative and supportive relationship among ALA, its units, and the chapters. To formulate and review periodically requirements for chapter status. To serve as an advisory committee to the Chapter Relations Office.

Committee Members:

Ann Hamilton (Chair), Joseph Eagan, Catherine Hakala-Ausperk, Ben Hunter, Alan Kornblau, Rodney Lippard, Kimberlee Ried, Donald Roalkvam, David Schuster, Eric Shoaf, Elaine Steinberg, Louis Munoz (Intern), Lydia Willoughby (Intern)

CRC Member Liaisons to Other Groups: Kimberlee Ried-Freedom to Read Foundation; Ben Hunter- Education Assembly; Rodney Lippard- Recruitment Assembly; Don Roalkvam- Planning and Budget Assembly; Ann Hamilton-Literacy Assembly, Legislation Assembly and Advocacy Coordinating Group

Division Representatives to CRC: Les Kong, (ACRL Rep); Dana Jemison (ALCTS Rep); Carolyn Larson (RUSA Rep); Felton Thomas (PLA Rep); Maura Valentino (LITA Rep);

James Neal (Executive Board Liaison), Michael Dowling (Staff Liaison), Don Wood (Staff Liaison)

Chapter Relations Committee at Midwinter

- The CRC held two meetings (Sat and Mon) in Philadelphia. Attendees (apprx. 40 each mtg.) included Chapter Presidents, Executive Directors, Chapter Councilors
- The CRC organized, with the Chapter Relations Office (CRO), another successful full-day Chapter Leaders Forum. The Forums, which have been held at each Midwinter and Annual for over twenty years help prepare incoming Chapter Leaders (President-elects, treasurers, Chapter Councilors, Ex. Directors, etc.) for their roles guiding their associations. Thirty participants from 22 Chapters attended. Topics covered- Presidential expectations, membership retention and recruitment, associations and Affordable Care Act, tax status of associations, innovative conference ideas, joint conferences
- CRC discussed the results of the 2nd year of the Annual Chapter Survey. CRC and attendees felt the reports provide a good overview of the State of Chapters. CRC members and attendees suggested some additional questions to consider for inclusion next year.
- CRC reviewed the ALA Student Chapter Survey results with an eye toward how Chapters can make stronger connections to these student chapters.
- CRC welcomed Connecticut as the 28th Chapter to offer an ALA-Chapter Joint Student Membership. These joint memberships continue to increase the number of students exposed to Chapters and ALA.

- CRC held a discussion with ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels on new initiatives in ALA and how the Chapters can participate. CRC will encourage Chapters to provide a slot at their annual conferences for ALA Kitchen Table Conversations to help in the development of ALA's 2020 Strategic Plan.
- CRC discussed with Associate Executive Director Emily Sheketoff Chapter involvement in the 40th year of Library Legislative Day. Chapters will be organizing delegations to Washington, and CRC encouraged Chapters to contribute financial support if possible.
- CRC heard a report from Kevin Reynolds and Lorelle Swader about an exciting opportunity for chapters being planned by ALA President-Elect Courtney Young. She will partner with chapters to provide training for a national cohort of 25 librarians from a cross section of libraries to become certified Career Development Facilitators. The program will begin in January 2015 just before Midwinter.
- CRC heard a report on the transition that will take place late spring and summer to *Engage*, the advocacy software which will replace *Capwiz*. CRC requested that CRO staff work with Chapter members/staff responsible for their state's efforts on the transition/training.
- CRC and attendees discussed possible program ideas for Annual Conference. Two topic areas of interest were association strategic planning and involving newer professionals. CRO will work with CRC members to see if a program can be developed.
- CRC welcomed ALA Presidential Candidates Maggie Farrell (Sat) and Sari Feldman (Mon) who each provided a brief statement about her candidacy and offered to respond to questions from attendees
- CRC and chapter representatives discussed topics of interest to chapters including one in which the Washington Library Association requested information about tangible member benefits offered by other state associations
- CRC liaisons made brief reports from the following groups: Freedom to Read Foundation, Literacy Assembly, Legislation Assembly, Planning and Budget Assembly, Advocacy Coordinating Group, and several divisions. Don Roalkvam and Ann Hamilton e-mailed more detailed reports of meetings they attended to Don Wood who can share them with anyone interested in more information.
- CRC will review its Strategic Plan at Annual