

**YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
2007 Annual Conference
Washington, DC, June 21-27, 2007**

Topic: Student Intern Proposal

Background: At the 2007 Midwinter Meeting an ad-hoc group of the Board, chaired by Kim Patton, was asked to explore the idea of a student intern for YALSA and/or its Board. Details, including a rationale, are provided below.

Action Required: Action

After visiting with several students and looking at what other divisions have done we have come with a list of suggestions regarding student interns.

The students questioned said that if YALSA would help defray the cost of attending Annual/Midwinter that would be a big incentive for them to become involved or in some cases more involved. Several of them said that they would in turn have no problem serving as student assistants at those meetings or sitting in on board meetings but for the most part they were a little hesitant to just sit and observe, and wanted to do something more useful to them and to us.

Other students stated that they would also be interested in shadowing committee chairs, board members, and/or YALSA staff.

Also suggested was that we somehow tie in YALSASIG with a push to get these students more involved at the local level with state and regional organizations. One idea is to make the membership of a state or regional library organization and preferably a prerequisite to receiving grants for attendance or shadowing.

We (Amy, Judy and Kim) really like the way that RUSA handles this and we think it would make a good model for us to emulate. RUSA has a student intern chosen every two years from the spectrum Scholars. The intern is like an administrative assistant for the Board. Since Spectrum Scholars attend annual as part of their award, this alleviates the need for YALSA to help defray their cost, instead, we could offer tickets to the YALSA premium events like the Edwards Award Luncheon or the Printz Reception.

--Submitted by Kim Patton