

**YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
Conference Call
1:00 – 2:30 PM (Eastern) August 8, 2007**

Topic: AASL Online Literature Courses

Background: AASL recently began offering two self-paced online courses on literature. This is a potential issue because according to YALSA's brief history on our web site AASL has the right to "evaluate and select material and interpret the use of such material solely for school use." This issue has been brought to the attention of ALSC's Executive Director, but their Board has not discussed it.

Action Required: Discussion

Excerpt from YALSA's history:

"The second major organizational hassle the Young Adult Services Division faced was a confrontation with the American Association of School Librarians, who successfully argued with the ALA Executive Board, and won, the right to evaluate and select material and interpret the use of such material solely for school use in 1961. This resulted in the following function statement: The Young Adult Services Division is interested in the improvement and extension of services to young people in all types of libraries. YASD has specific responsibility for the evaluation and selection of books and nonbook materials and the interpretation and use of materials for young adults, except when such materials are designated for only one type of library."

From the AASL web site

(www.ala.org/ala/aasl/aasleducation/onlinecontinuing/self.cfm)

Trends in Children's Literature

The best way to get kids to read is by surrounding them with books that are relevant to their interests and that entice them to read. More than 7,000 new juvenile books are published annually. While many older titles remain relevant and popular, teachers, librarians, and reading specialists frequently find it difficult to keep up with new titles and trends in children's literature.

In addition to providing a brief review of the basics of children's literature, this self-paced tutorial will examine contemporary books and trends for students in kindergarten through fifth grade. Primary emphasis will be placed on books published since 2000 and strategies for keeping current on new titles published each year.

Reaching Reluctant Readers in the School Library Media Center:

In this self-paced tutorial learners will receive an overview of:

- recognizing reluctant readers,
- enhancing the library environment so that it welcomes the reluctant reader,
- designing programs that engage the reluctant reader, or those who may become reluctant readers, and
- resources that appeal to reluctant readers and professional resources that will offer further suggestions.