

**YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
ALA Midwinter Meeting, Seattle
January 19-24, 2007**

Topic: YALSA at Conferences

Background: YALSA has no coordinated effort to participate in state, regional or division conferences. The survey YALSA recently ran regarding Annual indicated that 60% of respondents who did not attend Annual do attend meetings of their state library associations at least once a year. If YALSA wants to increase its membership as well as influence in YA librarianship, it may be worth developing a plan for involvement in these state conferences. According to the Strategic Plan, a goal for FY 07 is to develop a targeted campaign to solicit new members. Several divisions of ALA have national conferences of their own, and issue a call for proposals. It may also be beneficial to have a coordinated presence at some or all of the division conferences.

Action Required: Action

Division/Unit Conferences:

- **AASL:** Reno, October 25-28, 2007
 - Deadline to submit a program proposal was Oct. 20th, 2006
 - Pam asked Cindy Dobrez & Lynn Rutan to submit a proposal for BBYA, but they weren't able to get time off from work to attend.
 - Deadline for Exploratorium is March 30th, 2007
 - Deadline to reserve an exhibit booth is ?

- **ACRL:** Baltimore, March 29 – April 1, 2007
 - Poster session proposals were due October 20, 2006
 - Roundtable discussion proposals are due January 10, 2007
 - Beth contacted several members from the OBCB committee and asked if they'd like to do a round table. No response yet.
 - Deadline to reserve an exhibit booth is ?

- **PLA:** Minneapolis, March 25-29, 2008
 - Deadline to submit a program proposal was Nov. 30, 2006
 - Pam & Holly Koelling submitted a proposal for a program about BBYA
 - Beth Galloway submitted one on teens and brain development
 - Deadline to submit a preconference proposal is Nov. 30, 2006
 - Amy Alessio & Nick Buron submitted their "Teens & Libraries for Beginners" half day preconference idea

- Deadline to reserve an exhibit booth is ?
- **ALA TechSource Gaming, Learning and Libraries Symposium:** Chicago, July 22-24, 2007
 - Deadline to submit a program proposal is not known at this time

State & Regional Conferences:

- Most seem to occur in the fall, but some do take place in the spring.
- At this point the only coordinated effort YALSA has in reaching these conferences is to send materials to the ALA Chapter Relations Office, which sends out packets of information to the state library associations when they request it.

Issues to consider:

- What role might existing member groups such as the Regional Advisory Board or the Division Membership & Promotion Committee play?
- What resources are we able and willing to dedicate to increasing our presence at these conferences?
 - Pay to send YALSA staff?
 - Pay to send YALSA leader?
 - Provide honorariums to selected speakers?
 - Create and distribute materials?
- Is it more beneficial to focus on programs at these events, exhibit space or both?
- Who would coordinate YALSA program proposals for these other conferences? Is it feasible for Program Clearinghouse to do this?
- How would we measure success? By increased membership numbers? Other means?

Proposed Action from YALSA's Executive Committee:

- The Board set aside \$1,000 each year for small honorariums for YALSA members to present programs at regional, state or division that feature YALSA initiatives.
- Charge each member of the Regional Advisory Board with annually identifying one conference in their region where a YALSA presence may have the most impact and send to the office details about the conference, the request for proposals form and contact information for the conference planning committee and/or YA committee.
- The Board set aside \$1,000 each year to send the President (or Past- President if the President is unavailable) to a relevant division conference or major state or regional conference.