

To: NDLA Executive Board
From: Shelby E. Harken, North Dakota Chapter Councilor
RE: Notes on activities of ALA Council at the Midwinter meeting in Philadelphia
Date: 2008-1-20

Documents list in agenda Jan 4 2008 (without dash are in my PC)

CD 14 Graduated Dues

Task force was to identify the feasibility of a study on developing a graduate dues structure for ALA. There are 6 components:

- 1) membership survey, members age, geographic, type of library, status, years, anticipated date of retirement;
- 2) type of membership, who pays dues, conference attendance if self-pay or library pay;
- 3) trends – graduation rates, salaries, employment growth, retirement rates; dues modeling with 10-year predictive model – would chose 4 to further study;
- 4) revenue impact analysis;
- 5) stakeholder review – to assess the feasibility of the 4 models, using focus groups, etc;
- 6) decision making – ALA Council vote, ballot, business model preparation, etc.

Estimated research costs for 1-5 \$518,885 with total \$625,351 and 30 months of study

CD 33 Budget review and analysis BARC

BARC is the entity that reviews why and how money is being spent and revenues as an oversight committee. \$63 million is the ALA budget. Goal is to balance income and expenditure. The operating ALA Office funds are about \$29 million. The Executive Board and BARC conclude that the cost to do the dues study was too expensive and not in the best interest of the Association. They will proceed with the demographic study which was component 1. It would cost ca. \$45,000. Outside funding will be sought, but \$45,000 is available. A study will also be done studying the impact of retirements on dues income.

CD 16 Endowment Trustees report

8.4% earnings on their investments which is above average. Slow and steady wins the race. They are also being cautious. Trustees continue to support activities of the ALA Development Office and encourage members to consider ALA in estate planning.

26 & 26.1 (I have 26) CD 26 Nominating Committee Report

The committee had to recruit 53 members-at-large and 2 presidential candidates. Online form seems to have worked well. Looked for a broad range of candidates for members-at-large. Half are academic librarians, only 26 states represented, 54% female. Expense of attending ALA and travel, belief that Council is ineffective and bickers over issues, etc. (see report)

ALA-APA

A workplace wellness survey was conducted. Typically librarians get flu shots, continuing education work release, and Employee Assistance Plans, but generally only one of the work-life balance options were available to a staff in a particular library.

CD11 Executive Board Slate

The 3 candidates receiving the highest number of votes will be elected. All three I voted for were elected.

- Em Claire Knowles, Assistant Dean, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Simmons College;
- Joseph Eagan, Manager Olney Library, Montgomery County Public Libraries, Olney, MD;
- Diane R. Chen, Library Information Specialist, Hickman Elementary School, Nashville, Tenn.

CD 21 President Report

Generally she attends meeting of policy, state associations, and special library events to represent ALA.

CD 29 President Elect's report

CD 23 Executive Directors report - Fiels

Design for new website is available at MW for review. They will have a Senior Usability Advisor for evaluating the webpage.

CD 15.2 Review of Executive Board actions

Approved transfer of \$500,000 from the ALA Future Fund to the ALA Spectrum Scholarship fund. Trying to make more services available to candidates who are campaigning. Have hired a new director for the Office of Diversity.

CD 9 Implementation of ALA Actions

Typically we have legislative and policy type action items resulting from the meeting. We are now seeing the letters being sent. Typically however, we never seen any communication from anyone regarding those letters. Policy issues have been addressed

CD 7 Electronic lists resolution

- Therefore, be it resolved that all electronic lists of the American Library Association shall henceforth be available for read-only access to all members of the Association. Closed lists may be established only for the discussion of matters affecting the privacy of individuals or institutions.
- Therefore, be it resolved that this resolution shall be implemented on ALA servers as soon as the ALA Executive Director deems it feasible.
- New motion: CD 7 be referred to the Task Force on Electronic Member Participation which has a report due at next Midwinter- passed
- Is this about participation or disseminating information which one councilor feels are quite different

ALA-APA

APACD 4 Treasurers report

Certification fees, Worklife subscriptions, Library Worklife paraphernalia are sources of funding for the organization. Revenues are \$216,267 and expenses \$210,536 with net revenue \$5,731

APACD 5 Council on Organization (COO)

No action items for today. They will be encouraging committees to create a brief description of the work to link to things like minutes

APACD 10 Certified Public Library Administrator Program (CPLA) review committee

First candidate has completed the course and one more is likely by spring. They have added a course to the program.

CD 17 Policy monitoring Committee

I have report

CD 35 Task Force E-Member Participation report

- To examine existing documents and develop recommendations to adapt ALA policies to help the Association move forward with effective-e-participation practices; to survey current and planned e-participation throughout the ALA and its units; to explore, in consultation with BARC, the financial implications of expanded e-participation; and to report its findings to the ALA Council at the 2009 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver, CO
- Establish what is to be included in e-participation
- Gather and identify existing documents
- Discuss what is meant by effective practices
- Survey ALA and its Units
- To explore with BARC, the implications of expanded e-participation
- The TF agreed that its discussions, conducted by whatever electronic method, should be open, on a read-only basis, to any ALA member who requests it.
- The TF discussed the proposed Council resolution on open discussion lists.
- The TF was informed that it would likely be requested to host discussions of electronic member participation at a membership meeting at Annual Conference. The TF welcomes the opportunity
- A plan of operations, a task list and timeline for the next six months was agreed to for planning.

CD 40 Council Orientation report

- There were suggestions that ALA needs to investigate methods of shortening especially the winter meeting.
- Create and FAQ about Council and how to be a candidate for Council; Council info podcast; restructure the orientation mentoring program at 2008 annual; expand new councilors reception into a meet and greet and talk to indicate what a positive experience it is. Motion to end 2009 Midwinter on Tues.

CD 47-1 Accreditation standards – Rev ; CD 47 - Accreditation standards – COA

- Many units of ALA were queried about the accreditation standards.
- systematic planning is needed
- using terms: change “outcomes” to “educational results to be achieved”, change “multicultural, multiethnic, and multilingual” to “diversity”, and evaluation for “assessment”
- format change – number the document

CD 38 Professional ethics committee

- Code has existed for 70 years. Last time edited was 1995. #4 says we respect intellectual property rights.
- Article III – add comma
- We protect each library user’s right to privacy and confidentiality with respect to information sought or received and resources consulted, borrowed, acquired, or transmitted.”
- Article IV
- We respect intellectual property rights and advocate balance between the interest of information users and rights holders.”
- Article IV

- We treat co-workers and other colleagues with respect, fairness, and good fair, and advocate conditions of employment that safeguard the rights and welfare of all employees of our institutions.
- I voted against because the CRC group refused to address it due to lack of clarity and understanding of “balance”. However it passed.

CD 24 Honorary membership nominees

Pat Mora
Effie Lee Morris
Peggy Sullivan

CD13-1 Treasurer

[Report with image]

- Net revenue is down. It is always better in years with other national conventions, e.g. ACRL.
- Office for Library Advocacy working with Office of Research and Statistics, Washington Office, AASL, YALSA, & ALCS will create a web-based tool for members and advocates to make the case for librarians
- CD 13-1-Barc 23 (I have one short and one long document should anyone wish to see them)

CD 22 Freedom to Read Foundation report

Information only. If anyone wants a copy, I can provide.

Resolutions

Proposed that changes need to be made to guidelines for Council 5.3, guidelines for membership 7.4.10 and the resolutions form. A new draft will be available by June 2 for

CD 25 Constitution and bylaws committee

Resolutions to add Seminar on Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials (SALALM) and On-Line Audiovisual Catalogers (OLAC) be affiliates
Resolution regarding vacancy, terms of office, and unified personal membership

CD 19 Intellectual Freedom Committee

Addressed Use and Abuse of National Security Letters and censorship particularly use of obscenity laws to censor literature.

It was noted: Librarians and teachers can be charged with providing obscene materials to a child even if the book is on an approved list if a parent brings a charge. The librarian is likely to lose their job even if cleared.

CD 20 Committee on Legislation

Report and resolutions:

- 20.1 Resolved that ALA urge Congress to reaffirm the federal government’s responsibility to provide no-fee access to Federal government information in formats most appropriate to the public’s needs; and be it further resolved that the ALA urge Congress to fully fund the US GPO appropriation for FY 2009 at the level requested by the Public Printer
- 20.2 Resolved that the ALA supports the membership of tribal colleges in the Federal Library Program and be it further resolved that the ALA work with the GPO to assist all tribal colleges interested in joining the FDLP

- 20.3 Resolved that the ALA urge governments at all levels to create adequate disaster recovery plans and maintain redundant systems in order to effectively facilitate the wide-spread use of e-government, and to enable libraries to provide access to reliable resources; and further be it resolved that libraries are essential government service providers and should be given priority access to electrical and telecommunications connections during times of disaster to facilitate community and emergency aid response
- 20.4 Resolved that the ALA call upon Congress to support the democratic value of promoting a wide diversity of speech by redressing the dramatic rate increases of 2007 and passing legislation to protect against future of disproportionate rate increases
- 20.5 Resolution on commending the FBI whistle-blower
- 20.6 Resolved that ALA urge Congress to renew its commitment to full deployment of the Federal Digital System and related functions and services, including cataloging support; and be it further resolved that LA urge Congress to fully fund future GPO appropriations requests that are essential to the deployment of the FDSYS and GPO's title 44 obligations
- Note: The SKILLS act is part of the No Child Left Behind legislation due in Feb. or Mar.
- Note: The agriculture bill will come up soon and it includes provisions for broadband access in rural areas.

CD 18 International Relations Committee

[see report]

CD 27 Committee on Organization action items

- Establish Council Committee to work with the Advocacy Office
- Reports on demographic information for ALA committee nominees and appointees
- Policy – any candidate for an elected or appointed position w/in ALA shall refrain from any committee or board activity that could advance or appear to advance his or her candidacy

CD 41 Resolution on women in librarianship

Resolved that ALA recognizes the responsibility of libraries to help all employees that are family caregivers; and be it further resolved That the ALA will form a task force to study and recommend to the Council of the ALA specific programs that libraries can use to support their employees who are family caregivers.

CD 36 Accessible works stations resolution

Resolved that the ALA Executive Director shall work with ASCLA to assess and define measures to facilitate access to computer workstations and other accommodations for persons with disabilities during annual conferences and midwinter meetings; and that the ALA Exec Dir shall implement such measures as soon as possible.

CD 42 Resolution on the Crisis in Kenya

- Resolved that the ALA calls for an end to the violence in Kenya, a return to press and broadcasting freedom, and right to peacefully assemble for people of Kenya.
- This consumed an enormous amount of debate. Since we support intellectual freedom, the seemed appropriate for ALA to address. Since the Kenyan Library Association said it would appreciate a vote of confidence and whereas 2 and 4 were removed. I voted for it. Concerned African Scholars, Kenya

Library Association, and appropriate US government depts. will receive a letter.

- UPDATE: 2008-2-6 The Kenyan resolution was sent to the Kenyan Ambassador to the United States, Excellency Peter N.G. Ogego, as well as to the Kenyan Library Association on January 24th. On Monday, we received a telephone call from the Mr. Ogego's office. We have not yet had an opportunity to speak, but I will be sure to let everyone know as soon as we have.

CD 44 Iraqi documents

Resolved that ALA condemns the confiscation of documents from the Iraq National Library and Archive by the United States and British forces and strongly advocates the immediate return of all documents, and be it further resolved that ALA calls for the US Government to honor the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and its Second Protocol

UPDATE: 2008-2-6 The Iraqi resolution was sent to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, British Ambassador to the United States Sir Nigel Sheinwald, and to the Hoover Institution. The Hoover Institution has contacted us, and has informed us that a statement on their agreement with the Iraq Memory Project to take possession of the Iraqi documents will be coming shortly.

CD 45 Remove specific dues amounts from the ALA bylaws

- Resolved that specific dues figures be removed from the ALA Bylaws, and that the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, in consultation with the Membership Committee, develop a plan for accomplishing such removal, while assuring that the interests of ALA members are protected in any process or policy developed and that the Constitution and By-laws Committee report back to Council no later than Midwinter 2009.
- As proposed is it not "legal". Changed: Move that the Constitution and By-laws Committee in consultation with the Membership Committee be directed to develop a plan whereby specific dues figures may be removed from the bylaws while assuring that the interests of ALA members are protected in any process or policy developed and that the Constitution and By-laws Committee report back to Council no later than Midwinter 2009.

CD50 Committee on Membership meeting

Topics at the meeting: e-participation and resolution procedures

Other:

Registration

Mon 10,282 attendees; with vendors, 13,601

I attended the **Chapter Relations Committee** meeting.

- Tues. of National Library Week is National Library workers day
- Beginning next MW we will be required to register for conference before making housing reservations
- There is a task force of electronic membership participation.
- Organizational excellence – a goal in ALA. Seven measures of success – book on organizational excellence.
- Emerging Leaders continues. Applications open in July, so might NDLA want to sponsor a person for the program.

- Public Libraries and the Internet Study – funding and Internet access study. Study report available at: <http://www.ala.org/plinternetfunding>
- Code of ethics – (I received a document) – the code has nothing legally binding. One phrase has been modified regarding ... balance rights of intellectual property rights holders and intellectual rights users.
- FTRF – freedom to read. Every time an issue arises and seems to be addressed, a new one comes up.
- Emily Sheketoff – finally got appropriations for LSTA but it was a cut from the past. From a handout, it looks like funding is only up \$6000 for many programs like IMLS, Title 1 etc. with some up some down. In 2009 analog television will disappear – need to inform patrons. Coupons are available online (can only be used for 60 days – so wait til next winter). Apparently many sellers are saying a tv is digital but is not – there will be a website with model numbers list which really are so they don't need the converter box. E-rate – got Gates funding for training for coordinators who want to apply for the program.
- There is going to be legislative information accessible online that can be used to contact legislators. <http://wo.ala.org/districtdispatch> or <http://www.alawash.org>
- Capwiz (Michael Dowling) – we can apply to participate in – if we want to be active in advocacy activities for library legislation <http://capwiz.com/ala/home/> – maybe remaining 25 states will be added after Anaheim

ALA Washington Office

<http://www.ala.org/ala/washoff/washevents/midwinterwo/midwinter.cfm#handouts>

Chapter Councilors webpage

<http://www.ala.org/ala/cro/committee/committee.cfm>

ALA Chapter Councilors Forum

Joe Eagan said it is not Chapter Relations Office's job to coordinate this group therefore we don't have agendas or get added to lists. They just maintain lists. Michael Dowling's interest in the Office is international and Don Wood who is new has more interest in CRC. CRC is a committee Of ALA to which people get appointed. CRC is a committee that is supposed to address issues between ALA and chapters, programs, networking, etc. We as chapter councilors are welcome to attend and learn but can't vote. The Forum is for councilors from chapters. I represent my chapter (NDLA) on Council so I am part of the Forum group. There are 3 listservs. Joe Eagan will send a test message to the chapcon list to make sure we all get it. Also at the wiki.ala.org/council page, there is a link for chapter councilors.

E-participation. Gina brought up this topic. Watchout for open-meeting laws in your state. May need to change by-laws for e-votes. How do non-members observe/attend and open meeting? Video conferencing is being used by some chapters. They announce the meeting on the listserv and give instructions for connecting.

Emerging Leaders is now an official program. We should encourage participation. It costs the chapter \$1000 to send someone to the training. There have been a number of complains about the ALA programming, whereas Mountain Plains received good

comments. One councilor created a blog and adds news briefs she gets from ALA to it. She used blogger and has e.g. NDChapterCouncilor.blogspot.com

Committee on Committees – no chapter councilors were on it. The committee meets Friday night at midwinter to select appointments.