

ACRL Women's Studies Section (WSS)
Executive Board Minutes
ALA Midwinter Meeting, San Diego, CA
January 9, 2011
4:00pm – 5:30pm, SDCC, room 1B
Submitted by Heather Tompkins, Secretary

Present: Jane Nichols (Chair); Connie Phelps (Membership Committee Chair & Past Chair 2001/2002); Kim Clarke (Electronic Resources and Access Committee Chair); Pamela Mann (Vice-chair/Chair-elect); Erin Stalberg (Webmaster); Kayo Denda (Awards Committee Chair and Past Chair, 2009-2010); Sandy River (Collection Development & Bibliography Committee); Phyllis Holman Weisbard (Member at Large); Linda Kopecky (ACRL WSS Board Liaison); and Adam Burling (ACRL Staff Liaison).

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**Action Items**

- **Action Item:** *Kayo will contact Megan for clarification on the thresholds for awards.*
- **Action Item:** *Kayo can submit paperwork for board motion in another year when we might have new sponsorship. (board action for an award)*
- **Action Item:** *Sandy River will help identify someone to be chair of the Collection Development committee next year.*
- **Action Item:** *Erin will be sure to include this language about political speech and tax exemption, outlined on page 8 of the publication manual on the section home page.*
- **Action Item:** *Jane will follow up with ACRL about what needs to be included on the section homepage, and page 6 of the Publications Manual will be revised to make explicit these requirements ("WGS home page should have these items: ...)*
- **Action Item:** *Jane and Pamela will follow up on finding an alternate time for the discussion forum; will follow up with membership to gauge interest in keeping All Committees meeting.*
- **Action Item:** *Jane will follow up with Committees to facilitate the section name change to Women and Gender Studies Section.*
- **Action Item:** *Jane will forward Principles document to Exec.*

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(1) Introductions

We passed on introductions.

(2) Review and approval of Annual 2010 minutes

There were no corrections to the minutes.

(3) Call for additions to the agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

Announcement from Linda Kopecky, our ACRL liaison: our name change from Women's Studies Section (WSS) to Women and Gender Studies Section (WGSS) has been approved by the ACRL board.

(4) Committee Reports Round Robin

(a) Awards Committee (Kayo Denda)

Kayo reported that there is a nominee for the award. Starting in 2012, our sponsor (ABC-Clio) will be removing sponsorship of our award. The Awards committee discussed the possibility of campaigning for funds. Awards need to be submitted to ACRL board by early April for approval.

The revised rules for ACRL awards that awards be for the following minimum:

Recognition Award : \$3000

Travel Award : \$1200

Name Honor : plaque (\$100 using WGSS budget to purchase)

Kayo asked if Exec would approve \$100 of our funds to be used for plaque if there is no sponsorship in place.

There was some discussion raised by Phyllis about the thresholds for awards. Adam referred to Megan as a resource for clarifying our questions. It is Kayo's understanding that the thresholds were put into place as a way to ensure the prestige of the award. There is some question about the 20% overhead/admin fee mandated by ALA. Kayo will contact Megan for clarification on this policy.

Jane moved to give WSS award with or without monetary amount. Board approved.

Action Item: Kayo will contact Megan for clarification on the thresholds for awards.

Action Item: Kayo can submit paperwork for board motion in another year when we might have new sponsorship. (board action for an award)

(b) Collection Development Committee (Sandy River)

The collection development committee divided up responsibilities for the collection development resources page. Did not meet at annual.

Action Item: Sandy River will help identify someone to be chair of the committee for next year.

(c) Electronic Resources and Access Committee (Kimberley Clarke)

Committee members not present at ALA. Kim reported that the group will coordinate their work online. They are reviewing the eresources web pages.

(d) Instruction Committee

Diane Fulkerson was not able to attend the meeting, but emailed Jane before Midwinter. The committee is continuing to work on the information literacy standards.

(e) Membership Committee (Connie Phelps)

The committee analyzed and discussed membership statistics, including feedback from people who have dropped their section membership. They talked about social networking tools and developing a policy for what information would be communicated. The committee discussed recruitment efforts focused on raising awareness about the diverse job responsibilities of section members (not just WS librarians).

Memberships discussed the need for a new logo, redesigned web pages, including style sheets. Diana wrote scope notes for the twitter, for blog, for Facebook so that we can talk about who is in charge, who can post; which will be shared with the Publications committee. Also, they discussed who we would like to follow on twitter such as related organizations.

Membership also discussed joint socials. WSS was invited to join the GLBT Roundtable after the social had been planned. The social was successful overall, but it would be preferable to be more involved with the planning process. One suggestion is to do joint socials at the Midwinter meeting. Possible groups for joint socials: small ACRL sections like ANSS and related ALA groups like FTF, COSOWL, SRRT and the GLBT-RT.

(f) Nominating Committee 2011 (Jennifer Gilley)

Jane got a report from Jennifer Gilley that we have a full slate for 2011
Candidates for Chair : Jennifer Mayer and Sharon Ladenson
Secretary: Susan Wood and Diane Fulkerson
Member-at-Large: Piper Martin and Caitlin Shanley

(g) Program Planning 2011 Committee (Jane Nichols)

The theme for the ALA Annual 2011 program is scholarly communication in the 21st century: conversations for change.

Presenters include:

Danielle Hidalgo (Instructor at UCSB, Advising Editor, *Spaces for Differences*)

Marta Bruner (UCLA, Digital Humanities; Open Humanities Press)
Jennifer Laherty (Digital Publishing Librarian, IU ScholarWorks)

(h) Program Planning 2012 Committee (Pamela Mann)

Chimene Tucker and Kim Clarke will join Pamela Mann on the Program Planning Committee for 2012. The topic will come from Monday's discussion forum on digital natives.

(i) Publications Committee (Jennifer Mayer)

The committee met virtually and worked on the guidelines revisions this past summer and sent to WSS exec committee for consideration. Beth Strickland was appointed as assistant newsletter editor last summer & she is working with Marissa Ball who is the lead editor now. Jennifer Mayer has been maintaining the blog—last annual we talked about making this a 3 year term.

Exec reviewed proposed changes to the Publications manual. The biggest changes are under Appendix B and C and involve blog and wiki guidelines, schedules for uploading conference information, and policies for reviewing and removing content. In addition, the web site and all web content will need to be edited to reflect new name (WGSS).

The board discussed the need for clarification on the need to have the ACRL logo and the tax exempt notification on every page. Adam confirmed that the tax exempt statement (discussed on page 8 of the publications manual) only needs to be on the front page. Adam confirmed that the language about copyright, political speech and non profit status is likely just required on the main page.

The board approved the proposed changes to the Publications Manual and the creation of a three-year blog master term.

***Action Item:** Erin will be sure to include this language about political speech and tax exemption, outlined on page 8 of the publication manual on the section home page.*

***Action Item:** Jane will follow up with ACRL about what needs to be included on the section homepage, and if changes are needed pass on to the Publications Committee so page 6 of the Publications Manual can be revised to make explicit these requirements ("WGS home page should have these items: ...")*

(j) Research Committee report (Jennifer Gilley)

Jane received an emailed report from Jennifer Gilley:

- a. We will be sending out a call for papers in the spring for our annual Research Poster Session at the Membership Meeting in New Orleans. New researchers are encouraged to apply. In-progress research is also encouraged.
- b. The Committee is currently working on updating the Research Agenda for Women's Studies Librarianship that is available on our website. We hope to put together a working draft of the updated version at Annual.

(5) New Business

- (a) Review draft ACRL Plan for Excellence.

Here is the draft and three questions for feedback:

<http://www.acrl.ala.org/acrlinsider/2010/12/01/acrl-draft-plan-for-excellence-feedback/> .

- (b) Reminder to post Committee Agendas & Minutes to ALA Connect & send to Adam Burling. (all of our committees already have a space on ALA Connect: <http://connect.ala.org/taxonomy/term/6284>)

- (c) Proposed schedule for ALA Midwinter

Because attendance at the Midwinter meeting has declined, and the General Membership meeting does not seem to be well attended, there has been a recommendation that the time traditionally used for the general membership meeting (Saturday at 4:00) could become the discussion forum time, which is typically held on Monday morning at 8:00 a.m. This would allow the section to better use the 4:00 slot.

Another recommendation is to have all committees meet virtually at Midwinter, with individual committees deciding if they will meet in person. Connie asked about a scenario in which a committee wanted to meet in person. One option is to schedule All Committees before the Discussion time slot to accommodate in-person meetings.

Action Item: Jane and Pamela will follow up whether it makes sense to change the Midwinter schedule, such as finding an alternate time for the discussion forum. They will gauge membership interest in keeping All Committees meeting at Midwinter and on changes to the Midwinter schedule.

(6) Continuing Business

- a. Section name change to WGSS, Women and Gender Studies Section
 - i. Changes to committee charges, WSS web page, blog, logo, etc need to be made.

Action Item: Jane will follow up with Committees to facilitate changes.

- b. ACRL Liaison Program Update submitted by Cindy Ingold (via email)
- d. Vote on the revised Publications Guidelines-approved
- e. Vote on appointing a 3 year WSS Blog Master position-approved

(7) Report from ACRL Leadership Development & Strategic Planning, and Communities of Practice Assembly (formerly Sections Council) meetings (Jane Nichols & Pamela Mann)

A preliminary report about how communities of practice currently organize and function has been reviewed by Exec committee.

Linda Kopecky shared with us a bit of the background for this report. As new interest groups have been created and sunsetted, questions have come up about how to assess and revise the guidelines or parameters about the characteristics that distinguish a section from a discussion group, etc. No assessment is mandatory for sections or discussion groups. There are some large interest groups that want to be sections; no assessment for discussion groups; no assessment for sections; there are some really large interest groups; they are interested in becoming sections; and there are some sections that are thinking about merging; people were keyed in on number; 500; for new interest groups to become sections would have to have larger numbers; existing sections be grandfathered in under new rules; final number was sort of meant to be provocative; what is your value to ACRL as a whole? hoping sections will be able to tell this story of the value; what could you do better; celebrate strengths; shine like any good review and; intent of the review wasn't to have an assessment every three years; assessment project that every year the focus would be assessment; point was not to shut down work that you do and just focus on assessment. The draft document that came out was just an attempt to get feedback; very much in draft form; something simple enough that could be filled in as a template.

Jane emphasized the need to stress the value that WSS provides to ACRL as a venue for leadership within ACRL; people go on in their careers and continue to play key roles; WSS provides a leadership model that is different from some of the other sections. We discussed the high attendances at WSS Annual Programs. This is another thing we're doing for ACRL is providing programming engaging unique topics. We talked about the interdisciplinarity of our programming and section work which has broad interest in academia. This fits within the strategic plan of ACRL. Erin shared that she keeps her membership to ACRL for the WSS.

Linda suggested doing an analysis of the rosters for the last several years as a way to document the ways that people move through the section and into and out of leadership positions. Linda informed us that any member or interest group can propose a program; and raised as a question having us think about what are the tangible benefits of being a section as opposed to these other communities of practice. Linda asked us to think about what it is that our members value from the section as well as what we value from the section.

Mary Jane Petrowski has data about the section, including: history of section; members; programs; doing an assessment with this data would be possible. Linda asked us to respond to the question of sections assessment, what do you think about the idea of requiring units to do assessment reflection.

Phyllis suggested that any document discussing assessment with the sections should be framed as guidelines rather than rules and that allowing for flexibility will be critical for getting participation.

Linda affirmed her confidence in our work and suggested that we use this discussion as a way to highlight the work we've been doing.

Action Item: *Jane will forward Principles document to Exec.*

(8) Remarks/Q&A with ACRL Board Liaison Linda Kopecky and Program Coordinator Adam Burling

This occurred with the previous agenda item and throughout the meeting.

Jane Nichols motioned to adjourn the meeting. Connie Phelps seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned 5:30 P.M.