

## Board meeting minute excerpts from open microphone agenda item

### Midwinter Meeting 2009

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**Kelly Janousek**, candidate for ACRL President, commented that the only questions that she has been asked about meetings concern virtual access/electronic participation at conference. She stressed that the membership needs virtual access/electronic participation and the ACRL leadership needs to respond. She reported that another issue of concern raised by members was that ACRL e-learning course fees are prohibitive to some members' participation. ACRL was encouraged to explore discounts or other ways to make these services accessible. She concluded by noting that overall, costs are impacting the members' abilities to participate and that in more cases there is only one member running for section chair positions.

*Discussion:* It was clarified that Janousek's feedback regarding members' meeting needs covered both virtual participation throughout the year to do business as well as attending the conference virtually. Many are interested in ACRL software to do meetings virtually. It was suggested that ACRL create a best practices of virtual meetings in sections to assist members in their virtual work. It was also noted that ALA Connect should fill this need and will hopefully be available soon.

### Annual Conference 2008

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No Speakers

### Midwinter Meeting 2008

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**Cynthia Steinhoff**, ACRL Academic/Research Librarian of the Year Award Selection Committee Chair, was pleased to announce that this year's Academic/Research Librarian of the Year is Peter Hernon of Simmons College, selected due to his extensive publication and public speaking on research of issues affecting libraries. His results have proven helpful to many libraries and library schools.

**Kathryn Deiss**, ACRL Content Strategist, shared that ALA's bookstore on the exhibits floor has reported that 2 recent ACRL publications, *Library 2.0 Initiatives in Academic Libraries*, edited by Laura B. Cohen, and *Information Literacy Programs in the Digital Age: Educating College and University Students Online*, compiled by Alice Daugherty and Michael F. Russo, are the second and third best-selling books at the conference so far.

Several candidates for ACRL Board were present at the meeting and introduced: Dan Lee and John Lehner, candidates for Director-at-Large, and current Director-at-Large and candidate for Vice-President/President-Elect Lori Goetsch. Everyone was encouraged to attend the ACRL Presidential Candidates Forum the next day.

### Annual Conference 2007

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No Speakers

## Midwinter Meeting 2007

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**Rod Hersberger**, candidate for ALA Treasurer and Dean of the University Library at California State University at Bakersfield, gave a brief campaign pitch and biography of himself.

**Mary Reichel**, Chair of the 2007 ACRL National Conference in Baltimore and University Librarian at Appalachian State University, gave a brief update of conference developments. Highlights included:

- There had been more than 1,100 advance registrations to date, about 250 more than for the 2005 conference in Minneapolis.
- Exhibit space was nearly completely sold out.
- The Colleagues Committee had pledges for \$217,000 in donations so far, exceeding the \$185,000 goal. The 2005 conference raised just over \$225,000 in total donations. The Executive Committee was deeply appreciative of the generosity of the vendors and libraries that had donated.
- ACRL should be very proud of the 80 scholarships that will be awarded for the conference, totaling \$45,000.
- Virtual Conference registration will open when the early bird registration for the face-to-face conference closes.
- Reichel thanked ACRL Manager of Professional Development Margot Sutton Conahan and Meeting and Special Events Planner Tory Ondrla, as well as every member of the conference subcommittees for their hard work.

In response to questions from Board members, it was also stated that the registration cost for the Virtual Conference would be \$195 for ACRL members, as opposed to \$325 for early bird registration for the National Conference itself. Like previous conferences, a daily registration rate would also be available at this year's conference.

At this Midwinter Meeting, both Sections Council and the Professional Development Coordinating Committee have discussed the idea of using the many contributed papers that were not accepted for presentation at the ACRL National Conference to develop a pool for "second tier" presentations at the Annual Conference. It was made clear that it would not be realistic for the National Conference's Contributed Papers Subcommittee to decide on such a pool at the same time that it selects those for acceptance to the National Conference and that a process for this would have to be carefully considered. The idea generated some interest as a possible source for quality ALA conference programming and as a way for ACRL members to have another, slightly less prestigious opportunity to present papers. No decisions or next steps were set at this time.

**David Dowell**, an ACRL representative to ALA's Library Support Staff Certification Project Task Force and Director of the Library and Learning Resources at Cuesta College, reported to the Board on the task force's progress. The task force met for the first time the previous morning and will meet again in March 2007. At the Annual Conference, they might need to ask the ACRL Board for additional support for a specific certification proposal. The project would need the Board's endorsement for ACRL's involvement to continue. Dowell also briefly reviewed the task force's purpose and reported that an IMLS grant proposal had been submitted to help finance the assessment piece of the plan.

**W. Lee Hisle**, Chair of ACRL's Government Relations Committee and Vice President for Information Services & Librarian of the College at Connecticut College, reported that the Legislative Advocate (LA) position approved by the Board as part of the recommendations of the Task Force on National Advocacy, which Hisle had also chaired, has been announced with a call for volunteers. The Board acted on these recommendations at the 2005 Midwinter Meeting.

Hisle thanked ACRL Scholarly Communication/Government Relations Specialist Kara Malenfant for all of her staff support and for getting the Government Relations Committee to this point. Hisle emphasized his belief that this advocacy plan needed to be a Board and presidential priority to be effective. The committee can work through procedures, but without Board support they won't find people who really want to do the work, not just get another title to add to their résumé.

Snelson encouraged Board members to commit to return to their home states and identify people who would be good at this and would be willing to do it and to prompt them to apply.

Hisle took several questions from Board members, bringing up the following points:

- Information about the LA position was currently up on the Web site, the application would be up soon.
- A recruitment push was planned for this spring. Hisle hoped to kick off the program with at least 20 people signed up and ready to show that the program was viable. Hisle think that it would be great to have 150 LA's someday, but believes 20 is a realistic and workable number to start.
- Ideally, LA's would attend ALA's National Library Legislative Day in Washington, D.C. each spring, but it would not be a requirement. They should, however, definitely be familiar with their home district legislators and their staff.

**Regina McBride**, Chair of ACRL's Assessment Subcommittee of the Research Committee and Associate Dean at Southern Illinois University, asked the Board to clarify the scope of the subcommittee's first assessment assignment. McBride summed up assessment as measuring "what was before," "what you did," and "what happened." The Board stated that one piece is looking at each year's incoming vice president's identification of a high-priority section of the strategic plan and following any activities that spring up around that area. The Board then also looks at the strategic plan once a year and decides whether there are any other specific areas that should be identified for assessment. As this is the first meeting held since the assessment plan was approved at the 2006 Annual Conference, the Board hasn't had such a discussion yet. It is currently scheduled for discussion at Board II and will be included on the Board II agenda for every Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference.

McBride also asked for clarification regarding the PowerPoint presentation that the Board asked the subcommittee to prepare about the basics of assessment. Snelson stated that this was planned for the ACRL Leadership Council at this summer's Annual Conference. It should comprise a 15-minute introduction to outcomes based assessment to help leaders understand how to frame the assessment piece of their strategic action plan proposals.