

## **EMIERT Executive Board Meeting and All Committee Meeting**

June 26, 2016

10:30 am to 12:00 pm (Rosen Centre, Room Salon 15)

and 12 pm to 1 pm (Rosen Plaza, Room Salon 12)

**Present:** Leslie Campbell Hime, Elliott Gertel, Mimi Lee, Lori Mestre, Wendy Stephens, Tess Tobin, Hazel Walker

### **Approval of Past Minutes**

- Wendy moved to approve June 3 minutes and Hazel seconded with corrections --
- Mimi motioned to approve the May 6 minutes and they were seconded by Leslie
- In future we agreed it would be fine to approve by email

### **Annual Programs for ALA in Orlando**

- Leslie reviewed the EMIERT discussions that occurred at the General Membership meeting yesterday. She asked about following up with those who attended. Mimi will send an email back to those who attended, encouraging them to join EMIERT and committees.
- Diversity Fair: Hazel mentioned that at yesterday's Diversity Fair five people expressed interest in more information about EMIERT. She will give them to MIMI to contact.
- Leslie was able to present the plaque and check for the David Cohen Award in person to Jaena Alabi. Lori will post the picture on the EMIERT site.
- We discussed the EMIERT programs, the attendance and did some rethinking about the program proposal selection rubric (including redesigning it to better assess the proposals) and also how we can communicate our expectations to those who are presenting. One question raised was if a program is still important to offer, based on the topic, even if it has low attendance, or should the selection committee try to choose programs that may have high attendance. There was some discussion about including a "theme, and some suggestions" in our Call for Proposals. Mimi, as EMIERT vice chair, will take charge of future programming.
- Eatonville Tour: Tess said it went well. She worked with a woman from the preservation of Eatonville who was very passionate about Zura Thurston. People were excited to have them there. People asked about the Taste of Chicago for next year. Last time EMIERT paired with the Polish Association of Libraries (and went to a Polish museum and restaurant—which was included in the cost, along with the bus). In the future for time of day 1-4-- we could supply snacks and water, but ask people to bring lunch, rather than EMIERT providing it. EMIERT only broke even, due to EMIERT providing the lunch. Leslie suggested that we consider co-partnering with other round tables for Chicago and New Orleans for both the social and Taste of...

**Distinguished Librarian Call.** The call will go out in September, with a decision to be made in December so that we can announce the winner at midwinter. We can email [cognates@ala.org](mailto:cognates@ala.org) to submit the announcement, rather than going through ODLOS. We can also go to the ALA office for ribbons. Lori will work with Jody Gray at ODLOS about setting up an online form where they can attach documents and it gets emailed to Hazel. We also would like a way to respond back to the nominator if the application is incomplete, as well as to see if all documents have been submitted. We might want to put in a disclaimer that if all documents are not turned in it won't be considered.

### **Committee Information**

- Vacancies in EMIERT were mentioned. We decided that for the treasurer position it should be someone already part of EMIERT
- Treasurer Report-- Leslie shared the current report of the budget, with the expenses, revenue and expenditures.
- There is also a Coretta Scott King report that Leslie can send us.
- Leslie shared that several people volunteered yesterday to be liaisons for the various ethnic round tables.
- We should do promotional volunteer openings for treasurer and secretary etc. in spring
- The Jewish Information committee only has two people, but it could have 47 members. Wendy will change the volunteer form to say they can participate virtually, hoping that will be a draw to potential volunteers.
- Volunteer Committee report: As a result of the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Call to Volunteers, there were 14 new volunteers, 9 returning volunteers, with terms beginning July 1. The-task force terms are 2 years and committee terms 1 year. Katherine Trouern-Trend sent in a report of the status of the work by the various committees and round tables, as well as current volunteer opportunities.
- Electronic Communication report (sent in by Katherine Trouern-Trend)

This year we have been focusing on sharing news and engaging members with ALA, EMIERT and member news, resources and events that highlight diversity in libraries. Our primary channels of communication are Facebook, Twitter and the emie-listserv.

We have 292 members in our Facebook group with EMIERT members and committee members posting regular content to engage membership. Hot topics this year are: diversity in children's literature, ALA Annual events, EMIERT programs at ALA Annual, job postings, race and libraries, microaggressions, ethnic archives, media projects, Black Lives Matter, new books and book reviews, multicultural grants and projects. We continue to monitor facebook and remove content that does not align with our mission such as political content about the presidential campaigns.

We have 302 followers on Twitter @ALA\_EMIERT. Content is primarily shared on twitter via committee members. Hot topics this year are: ALA Annual events, 2016 Coretta Scott King Book Award winners, 2016 Pura Belpre Award winners, EMIERT volunteer opportunities, ALA Annual Orlando school supply drive, member recognition: Jaena Alabi + Dr. Jaime Naidoo, We

Need Diverse Books, ALA Affiliate content - REFORMA, Freedom to Read Foundation, GLBTQ, EMIERT programs at ALA Annual.

We are looking to include more EMIERT member news and recognition via our social media platforms in the coming year. We welcome feedback on improving our presence with members as well as within ALA.

We welcome two new members to our committee starting July 1, 2016

### **Follow-ups**

- EMIERT brochure. For future programs, like the diversity fair and EMIERT programs, it would be good to have flyers and materials for the table and to hand out. The trifold EMIERT brochure needs to be updated. Wendy will work on that project and to have the brochure in the Coretta Scott King events, since they have to join EMIERT to be part of CSK. We could also produce a flyer with membership information on it.
- Midwinter. We will have another virtual general membership meeting, probably the last week in January, which allows more people to participate, than if it were held in person at midwinter.
- Mimi gave an update about the Equity, Inclusion and Diversity task force and future directions once that task force dissolves, and what subgroups will evolve.
- EMIERT, activism ideas and where EMIERT is going. These will be topics for future meetings, as well other ideas from the general membership meeting. We will also want to follow up on defining/redefining ourselves (EMIERT). EMIERT began from the social responsibility round table. We should focus on what we want to do with all that is happening in ALA, something faithful to the membership and our history, in a way that is meaningful to us and look at our task forces and relevance. We should invite/encourage the members of our Round Table to participate in that discussion and reestablish our identity.
- JCLC (Joint Conference of Librarians of Color) will occur in 2018. The location will be announced at midwinter

### **Global Literature in Libraries at the EMIERT All Committee Meeting**

The group then changed rooms to meet with the individuals from Global Literature in Libraries Initiative (also part of the EMIERT All Committee Meeting).

Rachel Hildebrandt, Annette Goldsmith and Marc Aronson met with our committee to discuss this initiative and ways that EMIERT might be involved, even if to help promote it. The Global Literature in Libraries Initiative strives to raise the visibility of world literature for adults and children at the local, national and international levels. It intends to do so by facilitating close and direct collaboration between translators, librarians and publishers, because they believe translators are uniquely positioned to help librarians provide support and events to engage readers of all ages in a library framework that explores and celebrates literature from around the world. They are using a facebook group to facilitate dialogue between members located around the world: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/globalit/> This is a bit different than “We Need

Diverse Books”, as it seeks an alliance for translators for books from other cultures—in communities where people know the stories, and a translator shares the stories from the original language, with art styles from that community.

The group is working on a variety of ideas, such as book lists (themed book lists), building a searchable database from publishers from all areas, building ideas for programming, helping to bring publishers to librarians to discuss this. With themes, librarians could write to the group to ask for suggestions of books to pair (that are translated from other countries).

We can post some information to the EMIERT website and discuss other opportunities to promote this.

Submitted by Lori S. Mestre, secretary to EMIERT