

## Learning Round Table Board Meeting

Monday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010

ALA Midwinter – Boston, MA

10:30am – 12:00pm

**Members Attending:** Angela Nolet (Emerging Leader Group N), Jay Turner, Lori Reed, Louise Whitaker, Kimberly Chapman, Pat Carterette, Sharon Morris, Melissa Lattanzi, Stacy Schrank, Shelley Walchak, Peter Bromberg, Sandra Smith, Steve Wishnack, Shirley Biladeau, and Darcel Jones (visiting Emerging Leader).

### **Call to Order:**

Pat Carterette called the meeting to order at 10:35am. She introduced Angela Nolet of the King County Library System who is one of the team members on the LearnRT Emerging Leader – Group N. Their group is working on putting together webinars that can provide continuing education while promoting the benefits of our Learning Round Table. Pat also mentioned that John Chrastka from ALA would be joining our group at 11:30am.

### **Budget:**

Melissa Lattanzi presented the current revenue and expenditure reports she received from ALA. She also presented the following recommendation:

A motion to accept Melissa's recommendation was made by Sharon Morris, seconded by Melissa Lattanzi. Motion carried.

### **Training Showcase:**

Louise Whitaker reported on the progress of the Training Showcase Committee. The committee has decided, after some discussion, that the Training Showcase and Presenter Showcase would be best conducted at the same time. There was also a discussion on the amount of funds to set aside for purchasing refreshments for the event. Many are concerned about the availability of sponsors with the economy situation. Louise will work with Peter Bromberg to get the application online.

Discussion took place regarding asking each participant in the showcase to provide their own prizes – would maybe help ensure that each participant gets a listing of people who attend and are interested in their service/product/activity. Participants would also be asked to consider providing a donation to help offset the cost of the refreshments, etc.

### **Endowment:**

Keith Brown with ALA accounting joined our meeting to discuss the committee's interest in starting an endowment with some of our funds. He informed the group that BARC has established that no operating funds can be moved into an endowment in FY11 due to cash flow issues within the organization. He also mentioned that this may continue through FY12 and FY13 if things do not improve.

Merrill Lynch is currently the investment advisor for ALA Endowment accounts. There are currently 69 accounts that make up the ALA Endowment. Withdrawals from an endowment account are governed by ALA Policy 8.5.1 and he recommends these entities to only budget for a 5% yearly return. There was a short question and answer period between Keith and the attending members.

#### **ALA Candidate:**

Molly Raphael asked for a few minutes of the group's time to share with the group a little about her bid for ALA President. Her platform focuses on advocacy, diversity, and defending the core values of libraries across this country. He provided a handout with more information on her candidacy.

#### **Learning Exchange Newsletter:**

Kimberly Chapman provided a short update on the group's newsletter. One area of concern is the consistency of the access points to this resource. It was also discussed on how best to archive the newsletter.

The groups also discussed on whether we should make the newsletter publicly available or keep it as a benefit of membership. Discussion of changing up the member profile section might help to keep it fresh. Kimberly reported that the next profile will feature Jennifer Spriggs who is the Learning Roundtable's Emerging Leader.

Kimberly asked the group to consider a move from print format to an online format in the future. Currently, every LearnRT member receives a mailed copy of the newsletter – currently printing 500 copies per quarterly edition. The group decided to discuss this more in our virtual meetings following Midwinter. Kimberly was asked to put together an overview of the benefits and challenges associated with this change to aid the group in making an informed decision.

#### **Emerging Leader Groups:**

Angela Nolet was in attendance to discuss the progress of Group N of the Emerging Leader program. Her group is working on gathering three years worth of topics for possible webinars that the Learning Roundtable could present to the membership of ALA and beyond. It was mentioned that lots of great topics for CE was discussed at the Meet & Greet event held on Friday night – Pat Carterette and Sharon Smith will get this information to Angela so she can share it with the rest of the group.

Darcel Jones was also in attendance at our meeting. She is serving on another Emerging Leader group that is working on establishing a clearinghouse of Continuing Education content across ALA which will be accessible in 3 clicks. Lori asked if their project, when completed, could be included on our [www.alalearning.org](http://www.alalearning.org) website – they will keep us posted of their progress.

#### **Membership/Recruitment:**

John Chrastka joined the group to discuss current trends in membership across ALA. Once again he referred the group to the ALAConnect site as a great way to keep informed on where the LearnRT

membership is throughout the year. As soon as someone renews their membership they are automatically listed in ALAConnect.

A discussion took place regarding the round table's mission. Much of the discussion focused on a need for consistency and branding of what our group does for members across the association. Lori Reed reminded the group that along with our name change after the Annual Conference last year is to work with a branding specialist to help our group do just that in the coming months.

**Other Action Items:**

Melissa Lattanzi will work on putting together the figures on having 4-6 months of operating expenses (with the Endowment listed) and she will also contact Darlena to find out when these figures are to be into ALA.

**Adjournment:**

Shelley Walchak motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Lori Reed – Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12:05pm.