

Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL)
Residency Interest Group (RIG)
RIG Virtual Meeting
Thursday, October 15, 2015
11:00am EST

Meeting recording: <http://ala.adobeconnect.com/p5wdzu0g9xs>

Meeting Minutes

1. Introductions

Nataly Blas (Loyola Marymount University, RIG Convener), Tarida Anantachai (Syracuse University, RIG Past Convener), Sara Arnold-Garza (Towson University), Sojourna Cunningham (University of Richmond), Katherine Donaldson (Loyola Marymount University), Nik Dragovic (Emory University), Orolando Duffus (University of North Carolina at Greensboro), Dominique Luster (University of Pittsburgh), Cindy Mediavilla (UCLA), Alyse Minter (Towson University), Martha Parker (University of Arkansas), Ariana Santiago (University of Houston), Shannon Simpson (Johns Hopkins University), Kaitlin Springmier (University of Chicago)

[Also in attendance: Elois Sharpe (ALA)]

2. Team Report Outs

- **New Members and Mentorship Team** – reporting out: Martha Parker
 - Have been sending welcome letters to new residents.
 - Have also been asking if new residents are interested in mentorship. Some have expressed an interest.
- **Programs and Proposals Team** – reporting out: Sojourna Cunningham
 - Met earlier this summer to try to codify membership and plan goals.
 - Created a document of ideas for the [RIG website](#), including specifics of what each RIG team does: [Website Redesign Google Doc](#).
- **Web Team** – reporting out: Katherine Donaldson
 - Received more volunteers: Twanna Hodge (University of Utah), Anthony Wright de Hernandez (Virginia Tech), and Quetzalli Barrientos (American University).
 - Continually updating website upcoming positions, as well as contact information on [People page](#).
 - Looking to add more information about RIG activities and what other teams are doing so they are more visible.

3. Plans for Midwinter 2016

- Nataly proposed sending a monthly update e-mail in which teams can provide any updates, calls to action, resident highlights, etc. Attendees agreed this would be a good idea. Nataly will be working on a template for this e-mail.

- Nataly proposed outlining the RIG mentorship program at the RIG meeting at [ALA Midwinter 2016](#). Other initial ideas include looking at what other groups are doing (e.g. [LLAMA Mentoring Program](#)) and assessing program as it progresses. Depending on interest, RIG can continue to offer its own formal program, and/or help pipeline residents to other mentoring opportunities.
- Nataly and the other RIG officers proposed creating a year-long task force to update the [Resources page](#) to make it more useful for residents and residency coordinators. Attendees agreed this would be a good idea. More information on this, including forming this task force, to come at ALA Midwinter 2016.

4. Diversity Alliance Institute

- Dominique, Tarida, and Orolando spoke about the first [Diversity Alliance](#) (DA) Institute, held at West Virginia University this past September. Currently, the DA consists of eight residents from four institutions—American University, University of Iowa, Virginia Tech, and West Virginia University—with the goal of not only recruiting, but especially retaining (i.e. the “pipeline” issue) early career librarians of color. Elements of the program include: three-year residencies, professional development funding, flexibility as to how individual residencies are structured (e.g. when/how rotations are scheduled).
- In the future, the DA is hoping to invite other institutions to join them. They are working on the criteria for participation, including residency requirements, timelines, annual Institute attendance and hosting, etc.
- Dean Jon Cawthorne (West Virginia University) is hoping RIG can be involved and help support the DA, including investigating what the DA is doing and providing an official statement of endorsement. Questions can be also directed to him at Jon.Cawthorne@mail.wvu.edu, 304-293-0304.
- Attendees expressed initial (unofficial) interest in supporting the DA, but RIG officers will also need to check with ACRL itself on any official endorsement policies.

5. Open Discussion/Contact Information

- **RIG Officers**
 - Nataly Blas (Nataly.Blas@lmu.edu)
 - Tarida Anantachai (tanantac@syr.edu)
 - Sarah Espinosa (sespinosa.lib@outlook.com)
- **New Members and Membership Team**
 - Martha Parker (map12@uark.edu)
- **Programs and Proposals Team**
 - Sojourna Cunningham (scunning@richmond.edu)
- **Web Team**
 - Katherine Donaldson (Katherine.Donaldson@lmu.edu)