



ULA General Board Meeting

Friday, December 7, 2018

Attendees present

Dan Compton, Rebekah Cummings, Vern Waters, Emily Darowski, Shane Wallace, Brandon Bowen, Mike Goates, Rebecca Wiederhold, Amy Jamison, Wanda Huffaker, Joe Frazier, Trish Hull, Xiaolian Deng, Lis Pankl, Kim Fong, Valerie Buck, Erin Morris, Patrick Hoecherl, Daniel Mauchley, Elise Silva, Jessica Breiman, Colleen Eggett, Chaundra Johnson, Leticia Camacho, Allyson Mower, Mary Ann James

Attendees via Zoom

Barbara Hopkins, Pia Jones, Kurt Meyer, Jessica Van Buren, Joe Everett, Susannah Woodbury, Javaid Lal, Linda Liebhardt, Dorothy Horan

Opening

Call to Order

Rebekah Cummings, President, calls the meeting to order at 12:00pm.

Previous Minutes

Trish Hull makes a motion to approve the previous minutes from September 21, 2018. Kim Fong seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

Consent Agenda

Joe Frazier makes a motion to approve the consent agenda. Trish Hull seconds the motion. The motion carries unanimously.

Agenda

Old Business

[None]

New Business

1. Communication Tools (Barbara Hopkins)
 - a. Barbara has distributed a list detailing information on all the communication channels ULA has access to (Zoom, Wild Apricot, and Wordpress) and what they can do.
 - b. Rebekah will send this out to the board. In March Barbara will attend the board meeting and give a demonstration of the various tools. She suggests reviewing the document and emailing her with any questions beforehand.
2. Nominating Committee Report (Dan Compton)
 - a. Each round table is responsible for getting their candidates to Dan. Typically the current vice chair will become the new chair, and the round table will need to come up with new vice chair and members at large.
 - b. The Academic Section and Special Section are different. The vice chair does not become chair, so both will need new chairs. We also need a new president and two members at large.
 - c. The deadline is January 21st to get a slate of candidates for round tables or sections to Dan. Anyone is welcome to nominate any member using the form.
3. Proposal – Information Science Roundtable (Susannah Woodbury)
 - a. As a member of ULA since library school, Susannah explains she has always been eager to come to ULA and see what people are doing. Now she has moved to work with Overstock and wants to contribute to the organization in a non-library situation as a library professional.
 - b. Rebekah suggests she would definitely need 15 committed members before the annual meeting. Susannah says she is happy to find 15 people first. Rebekah also mentions because there was so much work to eliminate unused round tables last year, we need to be clear what the purpose is and if there is a unique need.
 - c. Jessica Breiman, Technical Services Round Table chair, says TSRT has struggled to find its voice recently. It sounds like there is overlap or alignment between the two groups. Perhaps both would be stronger if they

were to join forces. She says it can be a challenge to get a new thing off the ground, so the two groups should work together instead.

- d. Susannah responds her approach to taking a focus on information service only is because people in her position aren't necessarily user interfacing. She wants the group to deal with best practices, managing information, etc., and she isn't sure if TSRT does that.
 - e. Jessica agrees TSRT can be a confusing name. She clarifies it's not necessarily public facing and that it sounds like there are areas of alignment between the groups. We don't need to be narrowly focused on cataloging and metadata, we can focus on a variety of systems and topics. She mentions TSRT members have been thinking about renaming the round table and says that would be a good time to align objectives.
 - f. Daniel Mauchley suggests maybe the combined group doesn't have to be technical services, maybe it should change to information services, unless Jessica and Susannah have discussions and feel that they are doing very different things.
 - g. Rebekah asks how many members the round table has. Jessica reports Wild Apricot shows a lot but actual participation and interest is harder to judge.
 - h. Joe Frazier points out that the survey after the annual conference always requests more technical services programming. Jessica says she thinks the round table is slowly going there. This could help build momentum.
 - i. Valerie Buck says when people ask for technical services programming they are not thinking of IT. Combined this might be right but that's separate than the answer to the more complicated question of programming.
 - j. Rebekah asks Jessica and Susannah to meet offline and perhaps co-chair the group next year. She also agrees renaming the group could bring new life to it. She will connect them via email.
 - k. Daniel thanks Susannah for identifying a group of professionals ULA isn't helping yet and expresses his hope that this will come to something good.
4. ULA Fall Workshop – Registration System (Valerie Buck/Erin Morris)
- a. A registration issue made it appear that more people had registered for the Fall Workshop than actually did. The spreadsheet showed 80 people attending, so organizers ordered food for that many people. Less than half of those on the spreadsheet actually came. Valerie emailed Barbara wondering if people started registration and then didn't pay. They got a spreadsheet from Paypal which again showed strange discrepancies. Historically we have always had these types of issues, but this was by far the worst year we've had.
 - b. Barbara says going forward if using Wild Apricot makes it a more seamless process, we should be able to avoid what happened. Hopefully we will have it all smoothed out for the 2019 Fall Workshop.

- c. Valerie reports all the programs went well this year and she is looking forward to next year's Fall Workshop.

Reports / Activity / Discussion Items

1. Utah State Library Report (Colleen Eggett)
 - a. Colleen introduces Chaundra Johnson, one of two new program managers. Marie Erickson is the second and will start next week.
 - b. Colleen has been working with Rebekah and Peter Bromberg for IMLS reauthorization, which will hopefully happen before the end of the year. Next year we will be looking for \$1 per capita for the whole US, or \$325 million nationwide.
 - c. The top three needs Colleen sees in the state are as follows: library leadership, diversity and inclusion, and censorship. Training or focus in all these areas is advised; USL has taken a diversity and inclusion pledge.
 - d. READ posters are all over the state. They are looking for high profile people to feature in additional posters. They have done Real SL players, Jazz players, the governor, etc. Contact Colleen with any ideas for other people.
 - e. Daniel Mauchley thanks Colleen for taking the heat for Ebsco issues. The board gives her a round of applause. Rebekah thanks Colleen for being the only vote against taking it down right off the bat in the emergency board meeting. Colleen says all of the Utah library world united on a censorship issue and it was wonderful to see.
2. Technical Services Report (Jessica Breiman)
 - a. Art Library Society of North America will host a conference in Salt Lake. The round table has 4 scholarships available and would love to see people from small and rural libraries apply. She will send out a blurb for the scholarship.
 - b. They are looking for a vice chair/co-chair for this committee. The people who previously expressed interest have dropped out. The round table is looking for new ideas and wants to gauge interest from public libraries on technical services and what the needs are. That is an area where TSRT is falling short serving its members. This could be because of the misnomer about what technical services is, but there is definitely interest in collecting for diverse communities, bibliographic control, etc. Trish Hull says in a big library system technical services is far outside what she does, and maybe the technical services people aren't even in ULA. You might have to go outside membership to get that info from people actually doing the work. Jessica says in smaller libraries likely a lot of paraprofessionals are doing that work, so maybe they aren't members. Trish says that brings up dues because paraprofessionals don't make the money librarians do and won't want to join

the organization. Jessica says for academic librarians service is part of the job, so this involvement is important, but maybe not for other people. Trish asks how small libraries send people to ULA in areas where they barely have enough to stay open let alone drive so far.

- c. Colleen comments that a lot of technical services staff are very dedicated, great at their jobs, and would enjoy the camaraderie. ULA just needs to reach them. Rebekah suggests we need to build more partnerships to reach those people.
 - d. Jessica says maybe TSRT shouldn't be a round table at all. Maybe it should be an individual who works across committees to work with others.
3. MPLA Report (Joe Frazier)
- a. The next board meeting next week where they will be discussing the leadership institute and trying to decide the future of it because it is expensive and they don't know how effective that is. Colleen says in her experience it was awesome and they should totally keep it up. Joe will share this with the board.
 - b. This year will be a joint conference with the Kansas Library Association. Their new president will set the goal of increasing memberships. Joe says he is trying to figure out the benefits of being a member so he can share that information with ULA members. If any members have thoughts please pass that along to him.
 - c. The 2021 joint conference is scheduled for Sandy, although it is hard to plan much since we don't know who will be president yet. He asks where things are with the new conference planner. Rebekah says she and Vern interviewed her and she's great. She will work with Pia on the 2019 conference to be ready for 2020. They are still hammering out contract and rate and will check the market rate then likely offer a tiered rate.
 - d. Dorothy Horan says to take the contract back to Pia and see what she thinks about what Megan is asking for. Many members of the board say that we are way below market, so even with her proposed increase it's likely still below market rate. Rebekah says if anyone has worked with event planners let her know so they can get an idea of a true market rate. All agree the conference needs a planner.
 - e. MPLA has proposed charging separate pre-conference rates for the leadership event, which ULA might also consider. ULA doesn't currently charge for pre-conferences, though we have done it before. Trish describes general chaos of paying for pre-conference speakers and then trying to get enough attendees. She also says large institutions don't like paying for pre-conferences and small libraries often can't at all.
4. Intellectual Freedom Report (Wanda Huffaker)

- a. Ebsco is dealing with a coalition that has tried to shut it down for several years, arguing descriptions in text of books is pornographic and using back ways to find things they call pornography. This time it went to a senator who went to UETN who shut it down. Wanda says it is an organized presentation someone gave them because the same presentation has been given in other states. It was not a mother in Utah as the story was told, it was a coordinated effort. The board voted, Colleen voted against, it went down for a month, the State of Utah rallied, and it went back up. However, now if the UETN board has an issue and Ebsco doesn't answer it to their satisfaction, they can shut it down again. They can also determine what magazines are on and off.
 - b. Good things that came out of this include a national group of intellectual freedom chairs and representatives commending Utah's amazing rallying together and coalition and expressing their thanks for setting an example to other states. This was a big win. Daniel makes a comment that Colleen ran 4 searches comparing school Ebsco results to public Ebsco results and says school Ebsco is totally censored. Colleen says the goal now is to move them back to having a workable database. Amy Jamison asks how exactly this works. Colleen says there are thousands of search terms that are disabled, which denies the students information. She wants to work with schools to help them build a good collection development policy.
 - c. There is a challenge at Tooele, which Colleen suggested be handled at a local level with a reconsideration form which gets appealed to the board. We are starting to track those challenges with OIF, recognizing that intellectual freedom is more than just a book and a book challenge.
 - d. Reporting challenges: when someone comes in and complains about something they want removed, whether book, magazine subscription to be ended, database, etc., report it! Because then when ALA sees the same thing reported in various states, they can be aware there is an organized effort. All challenges from 2018 should be reported by the end of the year instead of February.
 - e. ALA's meeting room policy was passed, then rescinded. A new group with the Intellectual Freedom Committee and the Office of Inclusion and Diversity is working and has asked for comments already. It will be voted on at the midwinter conference.
5. Financial Report (Javaid Lal)
- a. The fund breakdown shows our balance is as healthy as it can be.
 - b. The first part of the year is always slow for us, but now sponsorships and membership renewals will be starting to come in. January will see us picking up more revenue as well.
 - c. Three certificates of deposit continue to mature with an interest rate higher than other the accounts. Overall we're in good shape.

- d. Valerie says she still has charges from the Fall Workshop. Javaid says she should email him the receipts and he'll send a check.
6. President Report (Rebekah Cummings)
- a. Ebsco: Peter Bromberg put in an impressive amount of effort and Rebekah asks all to please thank him when you see him. He was really well organized when he went into it. He had good messaging, including creating a Google Doc with talking points, concerns, etc. He worked with the media to change the conversation. He got on the radio with UELMA, worked with other organizations we have relationships with, and used software the library already had to generate 7,000 emails from within the state to UETN making it a local effort, not nationwide outrage. One board member reported 20:1 public feedback to reinstate Ebsco versus keeping it off.
 - b. Focusing on 2018 reauthorization of IMLS, which has passed the senate and is on to the house.
 - c. National Library Legislative Day is canceled for 2019. We had a big debate about if we would send the president and now it's not happening, so let's focus on how we can help at a state level.
 - d. Peter Bromberg is forming an advocacy committee. The first meeting will be in January. He has found a couple of people who want to be on it.
 - e. Rebekah is hoping going into 2019 we can get in the ear of local representatives.

Closing

Adjournment

Dan Compton makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Emily Darowski seconds the motion and it is approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 1:14 pm.