



# ULA General Board Meeting

Friday, December 6, 2019

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## Attendees

### Present

Vern Waters, Rebekah Cummings, Daniel Mauchley, Jen Kirk, Teagan Eastman, Christopher Davis, Brandon Bowen, Trish Hull, Tyson Thorpe, Dan Compton, Joe Frazier, Carla Zollinger Gordon, Angela Edwards, Kim Fong, Benjamin Wilson, James Britsch, Jeffrey Buydos, Emily Darowski, Mary Ann James

### Via Zoom

Allie McCormack, Barbara Hopkins, Jenn McKague, Ashley Bassett, Greg Reeve

## Opening

### Call to Order

Vern Waters, President, calls the meeting to order at 12:03pm.

### Previous Minutes

Approval of minutes from September 20, 2019: Trish Hull makes a motion to approve the previous minutes. James Britsch seconds the motion, which passes unanimously.

### Consent Agenda

Trish Hull makes a motion to approve the consent agenda. Angela Edwards seconds the motion, which passes unanimously.

# Agenda

## Old Business

*No old business*

## New Business & Reports

1. Report - Conference Updates (Teagan Eastman)
  - a. Keynote speakers (Vern Waters)
    - i. Wanda Brown, ALA President; Andrew Smith, YA author; Christian McKay Heidicker, author.
    - ii. Contracts for all three speakers are in progress.
  - b. Conference logo (Jeff Buydos)
    - i. Logo for conference was sent out. Jeff invites everyone to take a look.
  - c. Program (Teagan Eastman)
    - i. We should have a program soon once all the sessions are selected in the next meeting. Generally things are coming together well.
2. Report - ACRL (Mary Ann James)
  - a. Workshop idea
    - i. The ACRL Co-Chairs would like to host an ACRL workshop. They have put out a call for people interested in doing the training. Anne Diekema from SUU suggested a workshop on either assessment or scholarly publishing. This has all come together very recently and the chairs are both new to the position, but the workshop has good potential for the round table.
  - b. Budget request
    - i. Their current request is \$200 for a speaker honorarium if in person, either at Marriott Library or the Viridian Event Center, aiming for Spring. Vern says stay in communication and we can make this happen.
3. Report - AMSC (Allie McCormack)
  - a. They are trying to increase engagement in the round table. One tool has been sending surveys. They got 64 respondents on the most recent one, where they tried to elicit ULA session proposals to address concerns expressed by round table members.
4. Report - DSRT (Jenn McKague for Katie Wegner)

- a. They are updating the content on their website and trying to be intentional about it. On the horizon are efforts to get new members and increase involvement.
5. Report - MPLA (Joe Frazier)
  - a. The joint conference with the New Mexico Library Association was in October. Daniel and Christopher also attended in preparation for the 2021 combined conference in Utah. Joe reports that MPLA is happy with where we are in preparation for that conference.
6. Report - Utah State Library (Liz Gabbitas for Colleen Eggett)
  - a. Bookmobile: The State Legislature has asked for a report on bookmobile services in rural areas, to be delivered in August 2020.
  - b. Creativebug: The Resources team finalized a new contract with Creativebug, and adult learning platform focusing on arts and crafts. The database is designed for libraries and will be a great asset for our small rural libraries. Creativebug is available to all Utah residents with a public library card.
  - c. Book Buzz: We have finalized partnerships with the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM) and the Utah State History Division to enhance our Book Buzz program.
  - d. Census: USL is working throughout the state to help libraries be prepared for the 2020 census. Promotional materials will be distributed to every library location and mini grants will help libraries conduct outreach in their communities. A complete count is crucial because those numbers determine the allocation of resources. Libraries play an important role in encouraging public participation in the census.
  - e. Blind Library: On October 22 the Blind Program and DSBVI held a joint open house for customers with low vision or blindness.
  - f. Braille collection: 20 states contract with the Utah Library for the Blind for services to their residents. The Multistate Center West warehouse (which houses this collection) received an onsite inspection and positive assessment from the Library of Congress.
7. Report - YSRT (Erin Warnick)
  - a. They are currently planning the Winter Workshop which will take place in February. There will be two events, one in Northern Utah and one in Southern Utah.
  - b. Right now they are getting keynote speakers, arranging presentations, and finalizing the budget.
8. Report - Financial Report (Javaid Lal)
  - a. First 6 months are always slow. Current balance shows \$118,000 in funds. We started the year at \$132,000 and are currently at \$118,000 since we have been paying conference bills. Revenue for the first of the year is close to last year's, although the membership jump from last year hasn't kicked in yet.

Some of this change would be due to calendar year memberships changing to a 12 month rolling year.

- b. New requests outside regular process
  - i. Peter Bromberg has requested \$480 for 8 people to attend and table at the Utah Cultural Advocacy Awards, an evening event after Library Day on the Hill.
  - ii. Mary Ann James has requested an honorarium for a speaker and refreshments at an upcoming ACRL workshop, as well as funds to sponsor some attendees. The exact amount is unclear since the workshop is still in the planning process.
  - iii. Javid clarifies the General Board can approve these expenditures outside the regular annual budget process. Vern expresses his support for both requests.
  - iv. Trish Hull makes a motion to approve the requests. Daniel Mauchley seconds the motion. It passes unanimously.
9. Macmillan Embargo Response (Vern Waters)
  - a. Vern asks whether ULA as an organization needs to take a position to support library directors in Utah. There are conflicting needs from libraries of different sizes and different areas, and even some libraries of the same size don't agree on the approach. Some are boycotting and some are not. Group discussion of the embargo and its effect on libraries follows.
  - b. Daniel asks if there is consensus on no position and no statement. Kim Fong agrees that's the best move. Trish Hull says there are other pieces in play such as ALA's legal action. IFRT has in their bylaws that they cannot take a stance on issues like this, so they would be at odds with the rest of the organization if there were a statement.
  - c. Someone suggests a statement addressed to patrons like libraries and platforms have been doing which explains what is going on and why they might see long waits rather than taking a position. There is group consensus on this idea.
10. Candidates for Presidential Election (Rebekah Cummings)
  - a. She currently has one candidate, although we need a second for an election in accordance with our bylaws. If anyone is interested or has suggestions, please send Rebekah your ideas.
  - b. Trish Hull says we have had two public librarians in a row, so it might be positive to have an academic librarian as the next president. Some ask if we have ever had a special librarian. Dorothy Horan was a special librarian during her presidency, but that was some time ago. We are overdue for another.
11. Advocacy 101 (Rebekah Cummings)

- a. Library Day on the Hill has a set date. The Advocacy Committee is looking for a date to host this training beforehand.
12. Bylaw Changes (Daniel Mauchley)
- a. Bylaw changes will not be ready for ballot this year, since we want to get it right. He says the group will keep working on these things to get them more ready for the 2021 ballot.
  - b. Specific changes:
    - i. Finances - clarification of ULA membership. Robert's Rules says voting rights are not removed for unpaid dues until the individual is dropped off the membership rolls, which current bylaws state is after 5 years of unpaid dues. This will be left the same.
    - ii. Lifetime membership: At \$1000, there are only 3. This works out to 17 years of dues, and nobody is going to buy that if they aren't high salaried and high level. No institution will pay that either. Daniel proposes dropping this membership option. All agree.
    - iii. Institutional memberships: The group did a lot of research and ultimately decided it would be best to drop this option and push any affected towards sponsorships or exhibitor contracts. All agree.
    - iv. Elected officers cleanup: Daniel wants to add rules that no member can hold two voting positions at once. He also clarifies that all officers shall serve in their position until a successor is appointed. This means if there are no new candidates, the current officer stays. Kim Fong asks what happens if someone dies or cannot serve the rest of their term. A vice- position takes over whenever possible. Daniel clarifies that this is for elected officers, not appointed. All agree to this change.
    - v. President ex-officio member of all units except the Nominating Committee: This is proposed so the president has a say in all smaller groups, giving them the right to participate in all, though not the obligation. All agree.
    - vi. Members at Large of the General Board currently have no specific duties. Daniel proposed new jobs. Kim Fong and James Britsch expresses strong support for this, saying it's good to have specific responsibilities. 6 proposed responsibilities were pulled from elsewhere and are listed on the circulated document; some are existing, while the Awards Committee MAL and two Conference Committee MALs are new responsibilities. Each MAL will have one specific role outside the General Board.
    - vii. Public meetings electronic participation is to be codified, clarifying that board members can participate electronically.
    - viii. Currently it is not allowed for members not specifically invited to the meeting to submit agenda items. They propose that all members can

- attend the general meeting and submit an agenda item prior to the meeting; additionally, any group can have one spokesperson.
- ix. A process for emergency meetings does not exist. Daniel suggests adding one following the Public Meetings Act requirements.
  - x. Nominations and elections: If an individual takes a newly vacant appointment in the middle of the term, are they eligible for their regular full term lengths? Daniel says this term should not be part of the limit on elected terms, which means individuals are allowed two full terms (where specified) plus a partial term. Tyson Thorpe asks about times when a person takes a vacant position early in the elected term (for example, MALs are 3 years; if they take over after a few months they almost get a full extra term). Daniel says Robert's Rules suggests if a person serves more than half the term it counts as a full term. Tyson suggests less than two thirds of a term does not count as full term. All agree.
  - xi. The group suggests adding provision to leaving ALA if ever needed. This will mirror ALA bylaws.
  - xii. Discussion point: Some appointed offices are difficult to fill
    1. Working group suggests eliminating the Federal Relations Coordinator, which is intended for national advocacy but does not fit ULA's prioritization of local, state-wide advocacy.
    2. School section chair: Daniel asked this chair if they could take on UELMA relations, and the chair agreed wholeheartedly.
    3. Academic section chair: Similar arrangement moving UALC position into this chair's responsibilities. Mary Ann James asks how ACRL should fit in this discussion. Daniel asks Mary Ann James and Greg Reeve to come to the next bylaws meeting so this discussion can continue.
    4. Utah Nonprofit: Some discussion of dissolving this position into the Advocacy Committee. However for Library Day on the Hill the Advocacy Committee is working with Utah Nonprofit.
    5. Utah Center for the Book: These arrangements are better handled on a library by library basis. The group agrees to dissolve the position.
  - xiii. President Elect has fundraising responsibility listed in the bylaws, but Daniel says he is not aware of any fundraising outside of conference. All agree to remove this.
  - xiv. Program board chair: While this is a big role in annual conference, it is not involved in other programs during the year. YSRT, Continuing Education, and others all do their own conferences or workshops without the Program Board Chair. They propose removing

responsibilities outside conference. Dorothy Horan suggests the intent was to help the President with programming all year long and not just conference, although this does not happen in practice. Trish suggests moving it into the Conference Committee. Dan Compton mentions there is an inconsistency where the Program Board Chair is invited to the Executive Committee Meeting and the Conference Chair is not. This discussion will need to continue, as nothing is resolved.

## Closing

### Adjournment

Daniel Mauchley makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Rebekah seconds the motion and it is approved unanimously. Meeting is adjourned at 1:07 pm.