

Minutes from the ACRL-LA Executive Board Meeting
Conducted electronically via Moodle
Friday, November 20, 2009

Present: Kelly Blessinger, Tony Fonseca, Melissa Goldsmith, Jessica Hutchings, Megan Lowe, Michael Matthews, Karen Niemla, Boris Teske, Mark Zelesky

I. Call to Order at 1:05

II. Old Business

- a. Minutes of Sept. 30, 2009 approved without amendments
- b. Treasurer's Report: Attached as Appendix A
- c. CODEX Issues

Acceptance of logo:

The first logo was voted and accepted as the logo for Codex:



- i. Acceptance of appearance: <http://journal.acrla.org/index.php/codex>

Vote is approval of the journal design, sans the word "excellent."

- ii. Update on the Codex journal

Megan stated that peer reviewers currently have the articles. Once they are done, the authors will have a chance to make the recommended changes. After the authors make corrections/adjustments, we'll be able to put the articles up. Once the articles and reviews are up, we will be able to go live. The reviewers have until Nov. 30 to return their reviews.

There will be eight articles in the first issue of Codex, as Megan is also writing an intro/welcome article.

Mark suggested Dr. Dawson teaches Academic Libraries every spring, and one of the assignments is writing a book review. Perhaps some of them could submit reviews for possible publication. Mark will e-mail Tony privately to ask about details for book review criteria.

Tony stated that the deadline for the first issue is Dec. 6, but issue 2 won't be far behind.

d. Website Update by Karen

Spam is a problem. Karen has found spam code in many PHP files we have. Karen will ask our web host what to do about it. Spammers are coming to the forum often as well. She may tighten registration security so that she can confirm all accounts.

Codex has a few bugs (as in, actual parts of the code that don't work right and never did), but it will work just fine. Karen might reinstall the latest "build" if she can't solve its bug issues. Doing so would not (she thinks) affect the journal itself. This kind of software is constantly in the development stage and it never stops. There are a few things to fix with the appearance, and Karen needs to check different browsers. So far she has tried it in IE7, IE8, and FF.

Moodle provides us a way to offer online courses, for free or for fee. Karen can manage user accounts so that we can do both. It's a difficult software, but it's very powerful and has enormous potential-- so long as it actually works. We can talk more about this in regards to fundraising, but also as events.

Mike sees Moodle as a great way to offer professional development/education opportunities...with a substantially lower tuition. Tony wanted to do something to follow up on the Copyright program. Perhaps this is an opportunity.

Should we publish our membership database online? Karen could do it anytime, but there may be privacy issues so she has not. Discussion ensued regarding this topic, and most participants agreed that they would like for it to be online in an Access database that is password protected. There was also discussion on giving members the opportunity to opt out. Tony instructed those participating in the meeting to e-mail Karen with their concerns and there would be a vote on the weekend of Nov 28 and 29 via email. (Note: the option for the online membership database was passed at this time).

e. Quick Peer Network / Experts List Update by Megan

Megan has sent out documents regarding this network. Melissa moved to have the committee nest the various categories into 6 basic ones, as it will be more inviting looking online or on paper. Not any real change to the needs found, but nesting them could be up to Megan and the Committee. Examples would be: work-related; publishing; presentation; administration; assessment... Boris suggested a Yahoo-style stratified directory. Tony stated that any more than two levels of sub-categories, as it were, would turn people off. After three clicks they'll want a name. Megan will work on a stratified nesting structure and send it out.

Fourteen people have expressed interest in participating so far.

f. Quick Ad-Hoc Committees Update by Mike

Update on School to College Transitions Committee

Debra Rollins is planning a meeting to be held at LSUA week of Dec. 7 for the purpose of identifying concerns and shaping plans for a panel discussion that will be a presentation at the LASL Midwinter conference on 1/30/10 (also to be held at LSUA.)

Mike and Debra talked at length on Tuesday about the general aims, and would be both be satisfied if they could at least set-up a cohort in a high-school in a couple of years. Mike has thought about grants...it seems a natural fit for a Title III Department of Ed. grant, but that would be a huge undertaking. Perhaps we could go for a Regents PK-16 grant.

Mike will be e-mailing Debra to inquire whether Karen Niemla can be added to the committee.

Update on SLIS Committee

Dr. Dawson has asked that ACRL-LA work with developing students on doing poster sessions. Tony will add a poster session vote to the next agenda. Melissa and Megan have experience working on posters.

Melissa's suggestions:

- Tony and Melissa can make a short presentation to Dawson's class, if she welcomes us, or we can create a how-to sheet to get people started.
- A poster session should be done at our next (logical) ACRL-LA event.
- Melissa prefers the professional model over the science fair one: 200 word abstract required; posterboard specifications t.b.a--can

use a laptop with a PowerPoint as perhaps one prize division (also a green way to go);

- Participants should expect to make a 3-5 minute presentation (will have 2 or 3 rounds for audiences, awards judges)
- Awards could be best student poster (visual); best student poster presentation (can be combined visual/aural or just aural). Also best collaboration on a poster presentation (Note: this was voted on, and approved).

Mark talked about the discussion groups, after extremely low attendance rates for the evening sessions, he has moved them to Friday afternoons. After moving them to Fridays, he got a lot more involvement from the faculty at Middleton. He is still finding it difficult to get student involvement, and he is not sure why. Mark tries to present topics relevant to librarianship in general, so that all students would benefit. However, Natalie Palermo (our systems librarian) came to our last meeting and served as the "expert" on the state of OPACs. Everyone there seemed to learn a lot. The "expert" presence was welcome. The next one will be December 11 at 2:00 pm. This is the last day of finals week for the semester, so everyone should be done with homework. The topic will be Virtual Reference from the '70s to now. Tony mentioned that he could make some Friday afternoon meetings.

III. New Business

a. Selling webspace

Karen mentioned that there is no here is no need for a vote; selling web space, cannot be done. We are not allowed to do that with our contract with HostGator (our hosting service) unless we have Reseller Account, which is not the account type we have, and getting another one is out of the question. Security is also an issue. I can barely manage spam risks as it is now.

Karen already mentioned the obvious opportunities that Moodle presents.

NOTE: At this time Tony made motion that we adjourn and handle funding business via e-mail due to the software not operating at an optimal level. This was seconded by Mike Matthews.

IV. Adjournment at 2:57 p.m.