

**ACRL-LA**  
Minutes from the Business Meeting  
June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009, LSU Faculty Club  
10:00 AM-11:00 AM

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Present: Kelly Blessinger, Tony Fonseca, Melissa Goldsmith, Jessica Hutchings, Megan Lowe Michael Matthews, Karen Niemla, Boris Teske, and several attendees from the Scholarly Communications Workshop.

**I. Announcements**

- A. Introduction of New Officers
  - 1. Tony Fonseca, President
  - 2. Melissa Goldsmith, VP/President-Elect
  - 3. Kelly Blessinger, Secretary/Treasurer
- B. Farewell to the Old Guard (Mike and Jessica)
  - 1. Mike Matthews, President
  - 2. Jessica Hutchings, Secretary/Treasurer

**II. Old Business**

- A. Peer Networking Program/Focus Groups

Megan stated that focus groups gauging interest in a statewide peer support network have been held at McNeese State University, the Louisiana Libraries Conference (LLA), and with the Academic Libraries students in LSU's SLIS program. Two more focus groups remain to be held, one at Nicholls State University, and one at the University of Monroe.

Most groups have demonstrated that participants prefer a peer support network over a classic mentoring program. So far the focus groups have shown a disparity of needs (i.e. technology, work/private life balance, saying "no"). The theme for ACRL is management this year. Some potential peer supporters wanted to know the time constraints of the position. Tony stated that the program needs to be a balance of informal and formal, and that it is not a replacement for current programs, but a supplement. It would provide for a confidential source for librarians to receive assistance with every aspect of the job. ACRL-LA will do the hard work organizing it, so academic librarians don't have to.

## B. Scholar-Librarian Award

Boris discussed the work of the special projects committee for awards, in which he was the chair. At LLA, the first Scholar-Librarian Award was given to Sigrid Kelsey of LSU. Gale Cengage provided the \$250 award. This award was initiated to recognize and encourage Louisiana academic libraries to publish more.

It was discussed as to whether or not the scholar librarian award would be given every year. It was decided that calls for nominees should be sent out each year, but awards only given when merited. This was anticipated, and there is currently a provision in the paper work that discusses this.

Making this committee a standing committee would take an amendment to the ACRL-LA bylaws. New awards could be taken up by this committee. The floor was opened for suggestions for new awards, and the following were mentioned:

Writing Award: In addition of the research based Scholar-Librarian award, this new award would include other contributions to the literature such as written work for columns, reviews, bibliographic essays, or short articles. (tabled)

Best Program: Could be separated into different categories (tabled)

Innovative/Outstanding Academic Administrator (tabled)

It was discussed that ACRL-LA did not want to replicate any of the awards that LLA currently gives out, so this would have to be kept in mind when designating new awards.

## C. Election report

Boris chaired the Standing Committee for Elections, which recently held its first online election thanks to Karen Niemla.

## D. Pre-LUC 2009

Tony announced that the Pre-LUC ACRL-LA event this year will be about managing libraries during budget transitions. Everyone is suffering in the same way due to budget concerns currently, and this session will discuss tips for staying viable in these uncertain economic times. Currently slated to present is Scott Walter (Associate University Librarian for Services and Associate Dean of Libraries at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign). Beth Avery is another potential speaker (Head, Research and Instructional Services, University of North Texas Libraries).

### **III. New Business**

#### **A. Changes to By-Laws**

##### **1. Provision for Write-in Candidate**

Boris discussed a change to the ACRL-LA bylaw #9, section 3, which states that "Members cannot vote for a write-in candidate." The Constitution & Bylaws Committee would like to strike this. An amendment was suggested and seconded, and this will be placed on the ACRL-LA website for membership to vote on.

#### **B. Website Report**

Karen stated that the online form for the Scholarly Communications event worked out well with transactions paid via PayPal. Karen has to change the PayPal account from Jessica's name to Kelly's. Pictures of events are available through Karen's accounts on flickr and youtube.

Karen is working on the technical aspect of the open access journal. Things have been functioning well so far, she is just trying to iron out a few problems. Two items include needing to determine how to introduce people to using it, and how to properly back it up. Google contacted Karen regarding advertising, it was decided that there would be no advertising in this journal.

Jessica encouraged everyone to renew memberships online to be included in the membership database.

A movement was made by Tony to make the following positions permanent, with officers serving as long as they wish (tabled for further discussion):

1. Webmaster
2. Journal Editor

#### **C. Treasurer's Report (See Appendix A)**

1. Balance as of 06/15/2009 is \$6,220.32
2. Total deposits and withdrawals for SC Road Show workshop have not been accounted for in the report. Jessica expects us to break even with the Scholarly Communications Road Show.

D. The Future Business of the Chapter

1. Vision statement by Tony

- a) Increasing revenue without assistance from vendors, possible through a donation option on the website or having an ACRL-LA store to sell merchandise.
- b) Addressing the dearth in leadership. ACRL-LA has a good board, and has been working well for the past few years. He doesn't want interest to wane however.

2. Vision statement by Melissa

- a) Increasing membership—wants to work on partnerships to increase membership. For example, groups such as the Southeast Music Library Association. Other ideas include student memberships and associate memberships for public librarians/school librarians and the unemployed. Another suggestion was a “Friends of ACRL-LA” membership. These items were tabled for later discussion.
- b) Melissa also plans on organizing a scholarly conference (when she is President). This could mean something in the state, or partnerships with other ACRL Chapters such as Texas or Arkansas (possibly both) for contributed scholarly sessions. Each state has an expanding membership base, and would bring diversity to the group. Contributed papers would be about 20 minutes and would be an avenue for presentations.

3. Vision statement by Kelly

- a) Kelly mentioned that she expected to be doing the typical duties of a Secretary/Treasurer, but also added how pleased she was to see ACRL-LA come in the past few years and that she wanted to be a part of it.

4. The Journal

Megan stated that the idea for an ACRL-LA journal grew out of a discussion with John Budd, who has volunteered to serve on the Advisory

Council along with Vivian Solar of *Louisiana Libraries*. There was some discussion regarding the scope of the journal, but the basic premise was to give a voice to academic librarians in the state. There is no conflict with ACRL regarding this, as long as we use the ACRL-LA logo. Vivian expressed some concern as to whether or not this journal would compete with *Louisiana Libraries*.

The journal will be open access and allow authors to retain copyright. There will be a release form to be signed however. The journal will be peer reviewed, and follow a blind peer review process. Megan is currently looking for peer reviewers, section editors, copy editors and proof readers. A specific citation style is yet to be determined. Final policies will be presented to the Advisory Council.

The journal, tentatively titled “Scholar Librarian” or “Librarian Scholar” will be listed in the Directory of Open Access journals and registered for an ISSN once there is a consensus on the name. Megan thought that library assistants may be reticent to submit manuscripts if “librarian” is in the title. Boris suggested that whatever the name is, it should end with :The journal of the ACRL-LA Chapter. Megan would like all of this to be ironed out before the peer reviewers are allowed to play in the journal “sandbox” that Karen has set up on her site. This topic was tabled for further discussion.

IV. Adjournment, 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Kelly Blessinger, 6/19/09

ACRL-Louisiana Treasurer's Report

<b>Beginning Balance (2-9-2009)</b>	<b>\$ 4,407.43</b>
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**Withdrawals**

Focus Group Expenses	Roly Poly, McNeese Focus Group	\$ (92.45)
	Kelly Blessinger, Baton Rouge Focus Group	\$ (39.75)
	LLA Focus Group Booth Rental	\$ (150.00)
Student Sponsorship	Beta Zeta Chapter of Beta Phi Mu	\$ (10.00)
Scholar Librarian of the Year Award	Sigrid Kelsey	\$ (250.00)
LLA Meet and Greet	Room Rental	\$ (261.57)
Secretary of State	Domestic Corporation Annual Report Filing	\$ (5.00)
Scholarly Communications 101	Exxon Gift Card	\$ (106.45)
PayPal Transfer Fees		\$ (39.94)

<b>Total Withdrawals</b>	<b>\$ (955.16)</b>
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**Deposits**

Donation from Gale Cengage	\$ 250.00	
Reimbursement from Rowan and Littlefield Press	\$ 1,200.00	
Donation from Oxford University Press	\$ 175.00	
Scholarly Communications Fees	In-State	\$ 555.00
	Out-of-State	\$ 210.00
Membership Dues	\$ 280.00	
Leftover Paypal Funds Transferred	\$ 98.05	

<b>Total Deposits</b>	<b>\$ 2,768.05</b>
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<b>Current Balance 6-15-2009</b>	<b>\$ 6,220.32</b>
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