

## DRAFT MINUTES

Ethnic Materials and Information Exchange Round Table

Executive Board Meeting

January 20, 2007

ALA Midwinter

**Present:** Fran Ware (for Carol McCollough), Roberto C. Delgadillo, Toni Bissessar, Al Jones, Myra Appel, Gail Schlachter, Tess Tobin, Ellen Zyroff, Sylva Natalie Manoogian, Ani Matosian, Rebecca Stuhr

**Al Jones started the meeting off with introductions.** He encouraged everyone to use the listserv and reminded those present that all members of EMIERT should be receiving *Multicultural Review*. The *EMIE Bulletin* appears as part of the review each quarter.

Those present were also reminded that they should provide reports to the secretary (currently Rebecca Stuhr [stuhrr@grinnell.edu](mailto:stuhrr@grinnell.edu)) before each ALA conference. Rebecca Stuhr will send out a reminder before the ALA conference in June.

Jones also reviewed the mission of EMIERT. Its mission is bibliographic—providing information on quality publications and how to acquire them.

### **Treasurer's Report-Gail Schlachter**

Schlachter reported that dues and revenue were up and that EMIERT has an excellent membership retention rate. We do have some new members. The number of members EMIERT has determines whether or not we have a seat on ALA Council. If ALA has 62,000 members we need to have 1% or 620 members to have a representative on council. We have about 605 members. She recommends recruitment and aiming for 700 members so that we would have a cushion. If you make the 1% mark, you have to maintain that number of members to keep your seat.

**Sources of revenue:** We receive revenue from the Coretta Scott King Committee—3% of gross from their breakfast. The breakfast usually draws 700-800 attendees. 600 is a low number. The committee should advertise their activities in the *EMIE Bulletin* and on the EMIE listserv.

At present we are operating at a loss. We have been using our “savings.” Once our net assets are at zero we can no longer be a round table. At the present we have \$12,000 in our account.

Gail recommends that we think about revenue streams and that we prepare a meaningful budget. Revenue streams are books, Coretta Scott King Breakfast, and dues. A fee-based event would be a fourth revenue stream. .

**The discussion then turned to the possibilities of a fee based event. Midwinter, Philadelphia (2008)** was considered. To be determined: a relevant theme that is both fun and educational. Probably on the Friday night but scheduled to avoid the children's

publishers event. It should be advertised heavily in the *Bulletin* and on the listserv. It was also suggested that the event be presented jointly with REFORMA. Venue was discussed—and the obvious advantage of finding a venue that wouldn't charge EMIERT—such as the public library.

In terms of programming, Myra Appel reviewed speaker costs and honorariums and the high cost of AV equipment. Further along these lines, the poor communication across committees and with ALA regarding deadlines was discussed. Appel will send information to committee chairs and remind them about the details of arranging programs.

**Al Jones said that he would set up a separate executive board email list.**

The board then discussed the advantage of having fewer programs with limited overlap. We should consider more joint programming.

**Toni Bissessar will look into the status of Many Voices One Nation.** It was unclear whether this program would be presented at ALA this summer or whether it was something that EMIERT might take over. (This is a literary event usually featuring local authors, illustrators, and publishers).

**ALA SUMMER '07: Sunday is EMIERT Day.** We'll have a four-hour block of time from 8-12 on Sunday. Our overarching title will be Libraries, Immigrants, and the American Experience.

**The preliminary panel of participants** will include Rosalind Reisner for the Jewish Information Committee and panelists from REFORMA, The Armenian Librarians and Libraries Information Committee, Al Jones, and Homa Naficy. The program will begin with an introduction, followed by the separate presentations from panelists, and a question and answer session. We are considering having authors at tables to answer questions and sign books. We would have a business meeting and give out EMIERT awards. We would possibly be able to serve refreshments: coffee, tea, juice.

**Tentative schedule:** 8:30-9:00 awards, business meeting and introduction to the program (Al Jones); 9:00-9:30 Jewish Information Committee and Rosalind Reisner; 9:30-10:00 REFORMA; 10-10:15 break; 10:15-10:45 Homa Naficy; 10:45-11:15 Armenian Librarians and Libraries Information Committee; 11:15-12:00 Wrap up and questions. We still need to specify location.

Again, we would need to publicize this more actively using the listserv and the *Bulletin*, ALA Magazine, and ALA Direct. Also, encourage all members to send information about programming to their regional library associations/organizations lists.

**There was a discussion of the submission of David Cohen's name to ALA for an honorary membership.** Since that discussion, Al Jones announced via the EMIERT Listserv that David Cohen had received this honor.

Toni Bissessar announced that John Traska is interested in working with the round tables to help with attracting membership through the development of brochures.

**Toni will follow up with Traska.** There was some discussion about the possibility of an EMIERT logo, to use on t-shirts, a booth, and other items that could be labeled.

**Tess Tobin will look into shirts and prices.**

**Al will set up the Executive Committee listserv** for committee chairs and for ongoing discussion of programs.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Stuhr  
Grinnell College Libraries  
Secretary, EMIERT