**Midwinter EMIERT (Ethnic and Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table) General Membership Meeting** Draft Minutes

**Thursday, January 21, 2016   at 11:00 ET via Blackboard.**

Recording:  [http://go.library.illinois.edu/undergrad\_bc\_playback](https://webmail.illinois.edu/owa/redir.aspx?REF=Xe32MyvUEbLOMnXP3UGvOtjnAa0TejcMSNtZ5hw18geP7G6IbyLTCAFodHRwOi8vZ28ubGlicmFyeS5pbGxpbm9pcy5lZHUvdW5kZXJncmFkX2JjX3BsYXliYWNr)

Present: Pauletta Bracey, Sarah Espinosa, Elliot H. Gertel Jody Gray, Leslie Cambell Hime, Mimi Lee, Lori Mestre,  Allison Santos, Wendy Stephens, Katherine Trouen-Trend, Hazel Walker, and guests: John Amundsen,  Jaena Alabi, Jody Gray, Christine Lind Hage, Lisa Janicke Hincliffe, L. Kafi Kumasi, Darden, Xan Goodman, Daniel Liestman, Ariana Santiago

**Welcome and Introductions** – Leslie welcomed everyone.  Lori introduced the Board members.

* Christine Lind Hage and Lisa Janicke Hinchliffe, 2016 Candidates for President-Elect of ALA, attended the meeting to introduce themselves and field any questions from the EMIERT E-Board and EMIERT members.
* Office of Diversity and Office of Literacy and Outreach Services - Jody Gray and John Amundsen discussed the merging of the two offices and the proposal for the suggestion for a name change to the office and mission.  Jody responded to questions and explained that the goal is that the name change and streamlining of the office will help people be able to navigate and find the services.  She also would like the office to be in a position to help everyone else who is doing work in this area and become a place that gets that information in a condensed manner and to help coordinate efforts. The office is asking for feedback until January 31st —by email: [diversity@ala.org](mailto:diversity@ala.org) or phone: 800-545-5433 FREE x4294

**Approval of Past Minutes**:

* November 18 2015 and December 15, 2015 minutes were approved by email. The motion to approve was made by Wendy and seconded by Leslie
* January 6, 2016 minutes: A motion to approve was made by Leslie and seconded by Wendy.

**Annual Programs for ALA in Orlando**:  The time slots will be determined in the next couple of months. The deadline for information for the printed program is in April or early May. John mentioned that we can revise descriptions and titles after, but they will only be reflected in the online scheduler.  Conference services will need speaker information and permission forms by Mid May. Programs will now be recorded for annual conference attendees.  Following are EMIERT programs for annual. Leslie has asked that the EMIERT programs and meetings be collocated.

* Leslie reviewed the three programs that EMIERT will sponsor at ALA
  + Intercultural Programs and Academic Libraries: An Urban Perspective
  + Let the Circle be Unbroken: Meditations on a Successful Mentoring Circle in 2014
  + Sunshine State Jews: The History and Culture of the Jews of Florida
  + Coretta Scott King Book Awards Breakfast will be 7:30-9:30 am, Sunday, June 26
  + The EMIERT General Membership meeting will be 10:30 am to12:00pm, Saturday, June 25th
  + The EMIERT Executive Board meeting is Sunday, June 26th, 10:30-11:30 am.
  + The Eatonville Bus Tour will be Friday, June 24th 12pm-4 pm at a cost around $40.00.  It is a two-hour tour of Eatonville, Florida known to be the first incorporated African American community in the nation along with the home of Zora Neal Hurston, and includes a picnic lunch. If anyone interested in helping with that, contact Tess Tobin [TTobin@citytech.cuny.edu](mailto:TTobin@citytech.cuny.edu)‎.

**Reports:**

* Chair Report:  Leslie reviewed some of the accomplishments since annual with the themes:
  + Visibility & Communication:  Through the EMIERT social media work and member engagement we have worked to be more transparent and visible to the profession
  + Programming:  EMIERT has been able to offer 3 programs per year, thanks to ALA funding.  We also look to partner and cosponsor programs with other groups
  + Succession: EMIERT has made a concerted effort to post documents and meeting minutes to ALA connect and to create folders and files within ALA connect that can be used for current and future committee work (including rubrics, form letters, key documents, and decisions).
  + Partnerships.  EMIERT has been more active in looking for other partnering opportunities—to cosponsor tours, events, and to draw on local memberships for activities of interest to members or to activate at a grass root level. EMIERT will partner with BCALA in 2017 for the First Walter Dean Myers Annual Memorial Lecture Meirs lecture.  EMIERT will offer an honorarium as well.
  + Member involvement. Leslie mentioned that our membership has become stronger.  She encouraged all to participate, even library school students.  We are looking for fresh ideas, new ways to connect, and to present collection and diversity  information.  She also mentioned that EMIERT is asking for a vote, in the upcoming ALA ballot, on some changes to the EMIERT by-laws to change wording about conference and meeting attendance, moving more towards opportunities for virtual attendance.  It is hoped that more virtual opportunities will encourage others to participate and get involved.
* Vice Chair Report—Mimi reported that these first 6 months have been mostly about learning what is happening in EMIERT and the great activities throughout the year. She also shared that she is chair for the OLOS (Office of Literacy and Outreach Services) advisory committee and is working with John and Jody in the transition of the office mergers. She feels it is a great opportunity to see EMIERT in the works of OLOS and ALA.  She looks forward to engaging more with EMIERT.
* Secretary and Web Editor Report:  Lori shared that she posts minutes, once approved every month to the membership so that everyone can see work being done. She also added that she is looking for additional suggestions for resources to add to the website. She asked John if he could comment on future transitions of ALA Connect. He said that they are looking for a replacement, but something that has the same type of functionality. There isn’t any information, yet, about the timeline but he will let all of the Round Tables know information as it becomes available. Lori also mentioned that the EMIERT executive board has been considering doing webinars and has been using Blackboard as a test in the last few months for meetings, and in today’s meeting. Since it seems to be performing well we may consider webinars, especially for some of the recent program proposals that were not chosen for ALA annual.  John agreed that Blackboard seems to be robust enough and his office can help with registration and payment for webinars.
* ALA EMIERT Round Table Councilor Report-- Catherine
* Membership Committee Report- Leslie reported for Nikitia: EMIERT now has 607 members, which is an increase.  This includes an increase in library and information science memberships, but a decrease in school library members.  She encouraged attendees to let others know about EMIERT and volunteer opportunities.
* David Cohen Awards Report: Hazel announced that Jaena Alibi will be awarded this in 2016 in Orlando.  Still to be determined is which of the three EMIERT programs she would like to attend to receive it.  Her winning article is: “Racial Microaggressions in the Academic Library Environment: Results of a Survey of Minority and Non-minority Librarians." Ten articles were reviewed and hers rose to the top. Leslie also thanked John for sending the press release (<http://www.ala.org/news/member-news/2016/01/alabi-recipient-2016-david-cohenemiert-multicultural-award>). John will help to get the plaque and honorarium check prepared and any other press releases.
* Coretta Scott King Book Award Committee Report. The CSK breakfast is 7:30a - 9:30a, June 26, 2016.  Tickets are $52 (early) and $62 at the door. More information will follow.
* Sub Committee and Task Force Reports—Katherine provided an overview of the committees and task forces.
  + She coordinates the task force and committees that build projects to develop multicultural resources. EMIERT is always looking for fresh perspectives and there are many opportunities to get involved. One must be a member in EMIERT to be on a committee. All the work is virtual, although the committees can meet at annual. She mentioned that last year, EMIERT transitioned to a set time period for volunteer opportunities. Between April 4-May 4 there will be a call for volunteers.  Terms begin on July 1.  The complete volunteer webform is available from the EMIERT website: <http://www.ala.org/emiert>. Interested members should send the form, along with a current resume to Katherine.
  + Guidelines for Outreach to Immigrant Populations Task Force. Katherine acknowledged the work of the task force including Mimi Lee, chair and the members who completed the Guidelines this fall.  They will be published online this year.
  + She also discussed work from other task forces and openings for chairs. <http://www.ala.org/emiert/emiert-committees-and-task-forces>
  + The social media presence continues to grow on Facebook and twitter, especially the award books.  Katherine acknowledged the active posters for social media and mentioned that posts are most welcome as they relate to multiculturalism, ideas, conference calls, and diversity/multicultural resources
  + Idea Exchange—resources, activities, sponsorship.  Leslie opened the floor for ideas.  Please send suggestions to [lesliecampb@gmail.com](mailto:lesliecampb@gmail.com)
* Closing Remarks

Adjourned 12:00 EST.  Secretary, Lori Mestre