

ALA Midwinter GODORT Steering meeting

February 11, 2018 @4:30pm, Grand Hyatt, Denver CO

Shari Laster called the meeting to order at 4:30pm.

Welcome & Introductions

Adoption of the Agenda

Agenda was distributed. Samantha Hager made a motion to adopt without any changes. Hallie Pritchett seconded and all were in favor.

Approval of Minutes from Annual 2017, and two virtual meetings

All minutes are posted on the wiki. Corrections: Keith Michael Fiels's and Rachel Dobkin's names are misspelled in the June minutes. [Secretary's note: Annual minutes have been edited and uploaded to the wiki]. Andrea Severson noted that the October minutes do not distinguish between her and Andrea Morrison; need clarification and last initials. Gwen Sinclair made a motion to approve, and Sarah Erekson seconded. All were in favor. Shari commented that members should check for technical corrections when minutes are posted.

Announcements

- The deadline for submitting meeting summaries to Shari for the DttP is February 19. Submit a brief paragraph including action items, calls for volunteers, etc. Do not submit minutes; those get posted on the wiki.
- The deadline for draft thank you letters for any event sponsors or committee speakers is February 28; submit those to Shari.
- ALA board representative Andrew Pace will visit sometime during the steering meeting, so we will pause when he arrives.
- Call for nominations for DttP editor. We should also start recruiting for an archivist, despite the fact that Vicki Tate has agreed to continue for a while.

Treasurer's Report, Rebecca Hyde

Report has been provided and posted. One item on the agenda may affect the budget, so Steering agreed to wait until after that discussion to move on adopting the proposed budget.

Councillor's Report, Bill Sudduth

Nothing in addition to what was already reported at membership meeting.

Task Force and Committee Reports

Cataloging Committee, Andrea Morrison

The GPO representative was able to attend the meeting virtually. Andrea M. moves that the GODORT Chair send a thank you to Stephen Kharfen for attending the meeting. Gwen Sinclair seconded and the motion was approved.

Awards Committee, Shari on behalf of Ann Marshall

Shari will circulate a confidential document among current members of Steering. The second page is a list of awards and the third page is notification of what we are voting on.

Nominating Committee, Hallie Pritchett

Action items: will put out a call for committee chairs. It is often a good choice to have a current committee member step into the role of Chair. Will also put out a call for volunteers for committee membership.

Conference Remodel for Annual 2018, Sarah Erekson

Sarah will work to get what we need for meetings, so let her know of any equipment requests such as Skype Kits needed for virtual participants. She has also spoken with all of the committees to ensure that their prepared Scheduler information is accurate and useful. It is helpful to think in terms of what subjects a program covers, and who the audience is, for committees that will be meeting in person.

Shari worked to get a Chair's program, and Susanne Caro organized proposals. The program will be a panel presentation, What Does Trust Mean in the Context of Government Information. Susanne will moderate, with the following speakers, Alicia Kubas, Yasmin Sokkar Harker, and Allan Van Hoye.

Government Information Online Proposal

This is regarding the GIO proposal provided to Steering in January, and discussed on the listserv. Gwen Sinclair gave a synopsis. GIO was formerly hosted by John Shuler at University of Illinois at Chicago. After John's death, UIC decided to discontinue hosting responsibilities. University of North Texas is currently hosting using LibAnswers, and can likely continue this indefinitely. However, it makes sense for GODORT to purchase a LibAnswers subscription so the service can continue independent of any one organization. Also, GPO may be able to reimburse for the cost of LibAnswers.

Questions for Gwen from Steering:

Bill Sudduth: Does one need LibAnswers at one's institution in order to participate? Answer: No, because the LibAnswers account would be on UNT's platform.

Shari: is GIO currently asking participants to pay in? Answer: No, UNT is paying the full cost. If the proposal is approved, GODORT would pay the cost, and anyone can volunteer for GIO.

If GODORT pays the cost, do we assume responsibility for running it? Answer: the arrangement would be similar to that of GOVDOC-L, run by volunteers. Perhaps the Education Committee would be responsible for running the service and recruiting volunteers.

Andrea Morrison: Do volunteers have to answer all the questions? Answer: There is no minimum per month; if we recruit more volunteers, each person has fewer questions.

Bill Sudduth: Will the responses be branded? Answer: We could certainly add something to the signature line. Current branding is only GIO, but GODORT could be added. Hallie Pritchett added that this is easy advertising that would be huge for membership and awareness.

Sarah Erekson: Is there a current ALA connection? Answer: Right now, questions are submitted through GPO or a question submission interface to which any library can link.

Sarah Erekson, question for treasurer: Would it be difficult for GODORT to take on the cost? Answer from Rebecca: No.

Shari: If GPO would be willing to fund GIO, we can work with Washington Office to arrange for GODORT to administer this with GPO funding since they don't have the staffing to do so themselves.

Answer/Response: we may want and MOA with GPO if this is an official partnership. Even if they don't provide funding, an MOA would be useful because we are answering questions directed to them. Shari asked Gwen to work with Gavin Baker in the Washington Office, since this is good for ALA. Sarah Erekson moved to approve the intent of this proposal. Bill Sudduth seconded and all were in favor.

Awards Document (from earlier), presented by Ann Marshall. Second by Hallie Pritchett to approve this slate of awards. All in favor.

Proposal from Depository Library Council, Robbie Sittel.

Depository Library Council would like to do something to honor the memory of former Chair, Karen Russ. They established a GoFundme campaign and would like GODORT to manage a scholarship fund that would support travel expenses to the annual DLC meeting for a depository librarian or information professional. Robbie initially shared this with Shari, Ann Marshall, and Rebecca Hyde; the proposed timeline was removed to give the Awards Committee greater flexibility for administering the award. Ideally, an endowment would be created. This would require \$50K, but not necessarily right away; a separate account could be created until we reach that amount. The suggested award amount is \$1500. The GoFundMe has been privately circulated but will launch publicly soon.

Questions/Comments for Robbie from Steering:

Andrea Sevetson: Would support this as a broader memorial award, to include other past chairs.

Answer: The current funds have all been raised in Karen's name, so the award would have to honor that, at least initially.

Bill Sudduth: Do we need approval for this through ALA's committee on grants and scholarships, and then Council? An endowed fund will need to be under ALA management. What we may consider endorsing today is that the Awards Committee takes this forward on behalf of GODORT.

Andrea Morrison: What is the length of time for this effort? Answer: The longevity of the award is dependent on funding. If GODORT does not adopt the proposal at this time, current members of DLC will distribute the funds as they see fit. If GODORT does take over this effort, we can decide if we'd like to distribute what is currently available or build the fund to administer more awards in the future. There are still some unknowns, but we can vote on principle.

Bill Sudduth: Would feel better knowing what members of Council will decide. If GODORT creates an endowment, we would need to factor in fees associated with endowment accounts; after paying fees, the money may not earn enough to pay the award from earnings only. Instead, would like to see how much DLC can manage first. Response: the GoFundMe amount is currently at \$3,500, so there is enough money to fund two awards. DLC is looking for an organization with which to place the money for the short term.

Rebecca Hyde: GODORT may not be able to take the money at this time.

Andrea Sevetson: Is it feasible to move to endorse the project in principle for now? It can be assigned to the Awards Committee, the Treasurer, and Robbie Sittel (as DLC contact). Once more information is gathered, perhaps we can formally approve the award at the Annual meeting. If there is prior approval from ALA, it can be brought to the reflector for a vote before Annual. Andrea Morrison seconded this motion and all were in favor.

Budget

Rebecca moved that Steering accept the proposed budget as printed, with the exception of \$1,000 in new expenditures to be spent on LibAnswers. Sarah Erekson seconded, all were in favor.

Andrew Pace, ALA Executive Board liaison

The ALA subgroup on organizational effectiveness will have a formal discussion at the Council 2 meeting tomorrow; all are welcome. Jim Neal and the Washington Office want to remind members that the fight for Federal funding is not over. Go to ala.org/fundlibraries to see how to get involved.

Executive Director search update: Mary Ghikas has been appointed through 2020. ALA hopes to interview candidates in fall 2019 and introduce the new Executive Director at Midwinter 2020. Council voted to remove the required MLS from the position description, but there was a petition to overturn that decision. The petition obtained enough signatures and the issue will be on the ballot; in order for anything to pass, there must be 25% voter turnout. For context, 2008 was the last year that voter turnout was that high. The Executive Board will wait until that vote to begin the new search.

The dues increase passed today and will be on the ballot as a one-time dues increase for a diversity and inclusion initiative. Registration numbers have declined; 2018 Midwinter has 7,894 registrants, down from 8,892 the previous year in Atlanta. As a result, discussions have started regarding the future of Midwinter, and a consulting firm is interviewing members. But it is important to remember that conference revenue directly supports ALA offices.

Questions for Andrew from Steering:

Andrea Morrison: What feedback is he getting about the shortened conference schedule? Answer: It has mostly been positive, at least from Councillors, but they will know more after Annual.

Shari: What feedback should Steering send directly to Andrew, and what should we communicate via our Councillor, Bill Sudduth? Answer: We can send anything regarding ALA offices or non-Council ALA committee issues directly to Andrew if that is easiest.

Sarah Erekson: The staff liaisons at the Washington Office did not have the communication needed for our conference scheduling needs. This isn't a reflection on our liaison, but rather it seems that she doesn't get the information that she needs. This isn't unique to GODORT, but part of a larger communication issue.

Interest Groups PPM

THE PPM chapter to create interest groups (also dissolving the Federal Documents Task Force) is in draft and we will have a discussion on the reflector. It has been asked that we approve the addition of the Federal Information Interest Group (FIIG) as the first inaugurated interest group. There was a call for any questions about the interest group or the process. We will vote on page 3 of the proposed text for the

first interest group, and Shari needs committee chairs to review the PPM and ask the other task forces how they would like to process. The goal is for this process to be completed by the Annual meeting, closing the last of the GODORT reorganization process. Anything regarding the PPM should be sent to Vicki.

Shari asked for a motion to extend the meeting by a few minutes. Bill Sudduth moved and Rebecca Hyde seconded. All were in favor.

Questions / comments regarding interest groups from Steering:

Justin Otto: The term "interest group" is recognizable across ALA, and this format provides a forum for anyone interested in these topics. The inaugural FIIG session was on library instruction, a topic of interest not just to GODORT.

Sarah Erekson: If these interest group meetings are advertised in the Scheduler with good descriptions, we can draw in others from around ALA, not just GODORT.

Andrea Morrison makes a motion to approve and Rebecca Hyde seconds. All were in favor.

Other Items

Andrea Sevetson: Regarding gathering input on Title 44, if we post to GOVDOC-L, we should simply post that GODORT members should check ALA Connect for more information.

Bill Sudduth: Hopes to discuss the Rozkuszka Scholarship in more detail on the reflector.

Adjourned at 5:33pm. All were in favor.