

GODORT Steering Committee  
Friday, February 22, 2019  
2:00 PM ET/1:00 PM CT/12:00 PM MT/11:00 AM PT  
Virtual Meeting

Hallie Pritchett, Chair  
Julia Frankosky, Secretary

### **Introductions and Announcements**

Present: Hallie Pritchett, Samantha Hager, Julia Frankosky, Vicki Tate, Linda Kellam, Emily Rogers, Susanne Caro, Rachel Dobkin, Gwen Sinclair, Jim Church, Kris Kasianovitz, Rebecca Hyde, David Ownby, Kay Cassell, Andrea Craley, Marna Morland, Jennifer Boettcher, Emily Alford, Andrea Morrison

Quorum was not reached but proceeded to conduct business.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Rebecca Hyde: No new updates since Midwinter. The Springshare invoice has arrived for LibAnswers chat.

### **Old Business**

DttP (Hallie Pritchett, providing an update from Laura Sare, Chair of Publications): The Publications Committee voted after Midwinter and unanimously approved making DttP open access immediately and eliminating the embargo period for new issues.

Update on declining membership/Loss of Councilor (Hallie): Sent out recent membership statistics for last few months. We need to be at 1% of ALA's personal membership total, which would be 530. The most recent number for December is 463.

- Rachel Dobkin sent Hallie an email asking that we discuss ways to create interest in GODORT.

Rachel: Membership can create a marketing plan but if GODORT committees/task forces/interest groups don't do anything, how are we going to get people interested? What do we actually have for people to do if they want to join GODORT? if we don't have tasks, etc. then we can't successfully market and get new members. Maybe we should all have a cohesive theme to work with for Annual? ALA's Membership group and other groups in Big ALA want to get GODORT people involved, for example having a GODORT member write a column for ALA. Library Juice would like to have content created by GODORT available to help educate librarians, but we don't have the content created yet to provide to them.

- Suggested areas for GODORT to focus on: community engagement, civic engagement, promoting our LibGuides and LibAnswers, open government and open data (very important issues for government information professionals at all levels: local, state, federal, and international), creating an ongoing series of articles/podcasts/etc.
- Rachel will send out the information she has received from the various ALA groups, etc. to Steering so that we can work on assigning these tasks to appropriate GODORT members/groups.
- Rachel would like to have a forum created to allow for more discussion and brainstorming. At the moment, if you have ideas, please send them to Rachel and she will create a list for Steering, then an online forum for discussion will be created.

Technology Committee Proposal (Hallie): Will be writing the proposal and sending to Steering in the next few weeks for discussion and voting. We have a Web Master in the Bylaws and can use that person as chair and add 2-3 people on a rotating basis. They will focus on the technology-side of things, like maintaining the website, maintaining our online content, and solicit content from committees/interest groups/task forces, and ensure information is added online in a timely manner and everything is up to date.

Ad Hoc Committee on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion update.  
Tabled as Shari Laster was unable to attend today's meeting.

Annual 2019 Meeting Schedule Update (Hallie): Expects to get our choices for dates and times. Some things might be running concurrently and all meetings except the Steering Committee meeting will be done by Sunday. Steering will meet at 8:30 AM Monday. GODORT 101 will be Friday at 2:30 PM. Once the final version is received from ALA, it will be distributed. Steering will be considering having a virtual meeting a week or so before Annual.

### **New business**

Committee Appointments for 2019/20 (Hallie): Susanne will be working on putting out a call and will be contacting people to serve on committees or serve as chair. Let her know if you are currently chair and if you want to remain chair. Also let her know if you would like to be a liaison.

Proposal to Change the State and Local Documents Task Force to an Interest Group (Hallie): She Would like to propose turning this task force into an interest group. The Federal Documents Task Force changed to an interest group a few years ago. The term 'task force' seems misleading to people, based on discussion at the Midwinter State and Local Documents Task

Force meeting. Task forces are intended for short term projects but this has been ongoing for years and our needs have evolved. An interest group to discuss these areas is more inviting and is a more inclusive and inviting term to use.

- Jim Church: Would like to change the International Documents Task Force to an interest group as well if State and Local changes.

Hallie has tabled further discussion and written proposals to change both the State and Local Documents Task Force and the International Documents Task Force to interest groups will be sent out to Steering and Membership for a vote.

Potential GODORT Liaisons (Hallie): Several liaison positions not filled, such as liaisons to other round tables. This item was tabled for future discussion due to time.

Future of the Midwinter Meeting (Hallie): Midwinter Meetings as a whole have not been well attended over the past few years and this is true for GODORT events at Midwinter. The best attended meeting for GODORT this past Midwinter was FIIG at 30 people. Four committees plus Steering met in person and all the interest groups/task forces met in person. ALA is working to change the structure of Midwinter to make it more sustainable and more appealing to members and have fewer business meetings and more programming. What should future Midwinter Meetings look like for GODORT? Should we have virtual meetings in conjunction with in-person meetings that would happen during the same week? Virtual attendance at Midwinter for the Steering Committee meeting seemed to work well and it might be a good idea to add virtual meetings as an option for larger GODORT meetings. If we decide to only have GODORT meet during Annual, all committees will be required to have an in-person meeting.

- Gwen: Education Committees at Annual & Midwinter have been well-attended by non-members, but we have not had a quorum at in-person meetings in the past year.
- Rachel: non-members will not attend virtual meetings, and in-person meeting at ALA are the only way folks can learn about us, bring in their ideas, and bring in new members.
  - Lynda: Non-members might attend if we advertise the meetings widely.
  - Susanne: One of the issues might be that business meetings aren't very interesting. If a task force/discussion group/interest group has a theme and can promote the meeting as learn about x, there might be more non-members.
- Andrea: I don't know that it would be good to require virtual meetings only. However, Cataloging Committee had a great virtual meeting instead of meeting in person, with over 20 attendees.
  - Gwen: I agree that in-person meetings are valuable but to conduct business it seems that we need virtual meetings.
- There are other ways we can continue to have an in-person presence without Midwinter: meeting at DLC (while U.S. docs are the focus, at this past DLC meeting a

group of state and local docs people got together to discuss issues related to state and local government information), state library conferences, state GODORT meetings, PLA and other conferences. These alternatives will require more planning and coordination on our part. Discussion will continue via email.

### **Additional New Business**

Vicki Tate: Chairs, please review your chapter of the PPM and contact Vicki with updates as soon as possible..

Hallie will send out a poll to schedule another meeting towards end of March.

Hallie will send out proposals for the two interest groups and the Technology Committee in the next few weeks.

Susanne Caro motioned to adjourn. Vicki Tate seconded.