

RBMS Executive Committee Minutes

ALA Midwinter Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts

Monday, 18 January 2010

8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Sheraton Boston (Back Bay C)

Call to order

The RBMS Executive Committee (Exec) meeting was called to order at 8:12 a.m.

1. Introductions /

Attendees

Executive Committee

Melissa Conway (Member-at-large; University of California-Riverside), Mary Lacy (Past Chair; Library of Congress), Deborah J. Leslie (Chair; Folger Shakespeare Library), Jeffrey Makala (Member-at-large, University of South Carolina), Kate Moriarty (Secretary; Saint Louis University), Fernando Peña (Member-at-large; Grolier Club), Henry Raine (Vice Chair/Chair Elect, New York Historical Society)

Guests

James P. Ascher (University of Colorado at Boulder), Lois Fischer Black (Lehigh University), Erin Blake (Folger Shakespeare Library), Annie Copeland (Penn State University), Danielle Culpepper (Rare Book School, University of Virginia), Donna Davey (Tamiment Library, New York University), Erika Dowell (Indiana University), Christian Dupont (Atlas Systems), Ellen Ellickson (Yale University), Jane Gillis (Yale University), Hjordis Halvorson (Newberry Library), Barbara Heritage (Rare Book School, University of Virginia), Ruth Hughes (Library Company of Philadelphia), Athena Jackson (Louisiana State University), Elizabeth Johnson (Indiana University), Will La Moy (Syracuse University), Martha Lawler (Louisiana State University-Shreveport), John Lehner (ACRL Board Liaison, University of Houston), R. Arvid Nelsen (University of Minnesota), Margaret Nichols (Cornell University), John Overholt (Harvard University), Verónica Reyes-Escudero (University of Arizona Libraries), Jennifer Schaffner (OCLC/RLG), Nina Schneider (Clark Library, UCLA), E.C. Schroeder (Yale University), Stephen Skuce (MIT), Elaine Smyth (Louisiana State University), Michael F. Suarez, S.J. (Rare Book School, University of Virginia), Shannon Supple (University of California-Berkeley), Beth Whittaker (University of Kansas),

2. Review and finalize agenda

Leslie noted the following changes to the agenda:

Consent agenda item 6.3 (Traditional Cultural Expressions) was moved to New business as 8.3;

These items were struck out: 8.2 (Publishing preconference survey results), 9 (Programs and conferences), 10 (Task forces), all of 11 (Publications) except 11.4 (Web Team), all of 12

(Committees) except 12.3 (Budget & Development) and 12.10 (Scholarship); 13.3 (ACRL Budget & Finance) and 13.4 (ACRL Communities of Practice Assembly).

Secretary's note: Information Exchange reports are appended to the end of these minutes.

No other adjustments were requested by attendees.

3. Meeting protocol

Leslie noted that there were no disagreements with her Jan. 7, 2009 RBMS-L message on meeting protocol and advised that as the RBMS Executive Committee meeting is not a full membership meeting, we are not required to follow full parliamentary procedure. However, since decisions made are binding on the section, minutes will record decisions and votes.

4. Approve minutes from ALA Annual 2009

The minutes of the July 13, 2009 Exec meeting were approved.

5. Reminders for committee chairs

Leslie reminded committee chairs that they are expected to attend the meetings of their committees, post a draft agenda on RBMS-L approximately one month before the conference, and send draft minutes (already reviewed by their committees) in a Word or PDF email attachment to Moriarty by February 19, 2010.

5.1. Meeting schedule, rooms

Meeting schedule: Feedback on the current discussion group schedule was positive with a desire expressed to continue scheduling discussion groups concurrently, at an hour later than 8 a.m., and during a time in which no RBMS business meetings take place. The issue of wanting to attend more than one discussion group meeting was discussed briefly. Additional comments may be sent in response to Leslie's call for intentions for Annual 2010.

Meeting rooms: For the most part, people were pleased with the setup of their rooms; the 2011 Preconference Planning Committee room was changed, resulting in a more cramped space.

Leslie advised that meeting schedules for Annual 2010 are due in February and will send out a notice for schedules shortly.

6. Consent agenda

6.1. Charged the Regional Workshops Committee

6.2. Approved RBMS basic services funds for 2010 Midwinter

The consent agenda was approved.

school visit

6.4. *Approved co-sponsorship in name only of the 2010 conference program of the ACRL Asian, African, and Middle East Section*

6.5. *Supported proposal by ACRL WESS and LES to establish a formal liaison between ACRL and the Modern Language Association*

7. Old business

7.1. *RBMS image database*

Ascher reported that the Web Team had experimented with posting images of RBMS chairs on Facebook, Flickr, and ALA Connect using both public and private settings. The images on Facebook received comments, but there was little indication that the other images were viewed. He observed that ALA Connect is an attractive platform as it is cared for by ALA and provides a granular control of images. The Web Team ALA liaison will continue to explore the image database further. It was suggested that the Web Team announce prior to Annual 2010 that pictures are posted and observe the subsequent viewing activity.

8. New business

8.1. *RBMS web footprint*

Ascher noted that, based on Google alerts, it appears the RBMS Web footprint primarily sits on rbms.info. There was some Flickr and Twitter activity during the 2009 Preconference. The Web Team will continue to observe Google alerts until Annual 2010 in order to quantify our footprint and will report to Exec at that meeting.

11. Publications

11.4. *Web Team Virtual meetings and business*

Ascher reported that the Web Team has been investigating and utilizing several Web tools for the use of conducting virtual asynchronous meetings and business, particularly: ALA Connect, wikis, and Skype. They will continue their investigation of these tools and DimDim (a Web virtual synchronous meeting tool) and will report to Exec at Annual 2010. They have also submitted a proposal for a preconference seminar in which they would present their findings and recommendations. They continue to monitor the Web tools used by ACRL and ALA but observe that things are still dynamic and no best practices have yet emerged. Exec members and others discussed their experience using ALA Connect, concluding that the benefits are that discussions and

documents are collocated in one place, that documents are saved on ALA Connect and thus easily transmitted to future committee members, and that discussion is open to all ALA members. The primary drawback of ALA Connect is the extra login required to post comments, particularly from mobile devices. It was also observed that it is best to limit discussion on an issue to one tool, for example, either email or ALA Connect. Exec will continue to use ALA Connect and Leslie will post to RBMS-L announcements of any discussions taking place there.

Hosting minutes and agendas on rbms.info

Ascher suggested that RBMS committee agendas and minutes be posted to <http://www.rbms.info/committees/minutes/minutes.html> with a 'minutes and agendas' link to that page from each committee's home page. After discussion, it was agreed that committee chairs will be responsible for posting agendas and draft minutes to their committee page on ALA Connect and that final committee minutes will be posted to rbms.info by the RBMS secretary. Committee chairs will be responsible for furnishing retrospective minutes and agendas to the Web team.

Motion

Each committee chair will send their approved minutes to the RBMS secretary who will then send them to the RBMS Web Team to be posted on the Conference Agendas & Minutes page of rbms.info. Motion carried.

Link checking

Ascher reported that the Web Team receives numerous link repair requests and that there are currently 400 broken links and 2,000 orphan files on rbms.info. It was agreed that committees will be responsible for their Web content and Leslie suggested that this be added to the list of reminder items for committee chairs. The role of the Web Team will be to conduct overall evaluation. The Team will explore a way to provide to committees regular automated reports on link checking.

8. New business

8.3. Traditional Cultural Expressions: Nurturing Understanding and Respect

Leslie and Makala gave the background on the ALA Office of Information Technology Policy (OITP) document, the 7th draft of which is being discussed at and may be voted on at this conference, and the RBMS letter of response which was sent to the ALA Office for Information Technology Policy December 10, 2009. RBMS is concerned about the process of consultation in drafting the document and the content of the document. [Note: the ALA Committee on Legislation withdrew the resolution from the Council agenda.]

Discussion on the content of the ALA document focused on its provisions regarding restrictions on access. The majority opinion was that the ALA document's support for tribal restrictions opposed the first principle of the ALA Code of Ethics on equitable access. There was a minority opinion that tribal restrictions may not be different from other donor restrictions.

Concern was expressed regarding the lack of consultation with SAA, RBMS, and CALM.

There was also discussion on whether RBMS should take further action. It was decided that we would await the outcome of actions at the conference and follow up as appropriate.

13. ACRL

13.1. Candidates for vice-president / president-elect

13.1.1. Joyce Ogburn

We communicated to Ms. Ogburn that we are interested in hearing about ACRL developments regarding virtual meetings, would like to be contacted when issues of cultural heritage arise, and wish to be kept apprised of operational changes in ACRL.

12. Committees

12.3. Budget and Development

Motion

The Budget and Development Committee moved that RBMS use its share of the excess revenue funds from the 2009 RBMS preconference to support 2010 RBMS preconference scholarships and that remaining funds be used to hire a professional to edit and prepare for online distribution the digital recordings of the preconference seminars and plenaries. Motion carried.

13. ACRL

13.2. ACRL Board

John Lehner reported on the ACRL board.

Strategic plan: they are moving forward with their strategic plan and will begin work on a new strategic plan at Annual 2010.

Value of academic libraries project: Megan Oakley of Syracuse University was selected as the lead researcher of the project.

Findings will be presented at several conferences in the summer and fall of 2010. Exec voted unanimously to commission Christian Dupont to contact Ms. Oakley to see if she is interested in rare materials literature reviews, and if so, to furnish the reviews.

Change in funding processes: ACRL is doing away with action plans.

Budget: ACRL has significant reserve funds and intends to run a budget deficit in 2010 for the planning of the 2011 ACRL conference, all of which is expected to be recouped.

Virtual meetings and members: in response to a question regarding ACRL virtual committee meetings and members, Lehner stated that ACRL is still in the exploration stage. The ACRL board has been asked by the ACRL executive director to identify current committees that can be virtual committees.

12. Committees

12.10. Scholarships

The discussion centered on the committee charge and membership composition (similar to the Regional Workshops Committee). This

will be a virtual committee and its meetings will be closed. Based on the discussion, Leslie will post a draft charge on ALA Connect for public discussion and will announce it on DCRM-L. Raine requested committee member nominations immediately so that the committee can start as soon as possible.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

Information Exchange Reports

ALA Midwinter Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts

Sunday, 17 January 2010

4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m., Boston Convention & Exhibition Center, Room 257A

Secretary's Announcements

Chairs were asked to submit to Moriarty: 1) their Information Exchange reports as soon as possible, 2) draft minutes of 2010 Midwinter meetings by February 19, and 3) final minutes of 2009 Annual meetings.

Programming

2010

Preconference

Program Planning

(Philadelphia) –

John Overholt

The 2010 RBMS Preconference will be held in Philadelphia from June 22nd-25th. The theme is “Join or Die: Collaboration in Special Collections.” The website is now live at <http://rbms.info/conferences/preconferences/2010/index.shtml> and we expect to open registration in February.

The preconference will open on Tuesday with three workshops:

Reference Sources for Rare Books, presented by Joel Silver

Latin for Rare Materials Catalogers, presented by Jennifer MacDonald and Jennifer Nelson

Building Collections: Acquiring Materials and Working with the Antiquarian Book Trade, presented by E.C. Schroeder and Daniel J. Slive

The latter will include a visit to the Booksellers’ Showcase, which will be the largest yet held at an RBMS preconference, thanks to the tremendous enthusiasm of the ABAA membership. The Showcase will also be the site for the opening reception.

Wednesday will begin with a plenary on the Philadelphia Area Consortium of Special Collections Libraries (PACSCCL), the inspiration for this year’s theme. This will be followed by our first block of

seminars. In the afternoon, we'll hear four panels of case studies, short reports on collaborative activities, organized around the themes of Outreach, Digitization, Teaching, and The Profession. We will conclude with a round of discussion sessions.

Thursday, we'll travel to Philadelphia's Old City area for two sessions of seminars, followed by an extended lunch break to allow for a plethora of tour opportunities in the area. We'll reconvene in the late afternoon at the spectacular Union League of Philadelphia for a plenary on digital collaboration in special collections, followed by a reception.

Friday morning we'll begin with a final block of seminars, followed by a closing plenary on collaboration between faculty members and special collections librarians.

We have focused the programming throughout the preconference on providing practical, real-world information sharing that attendees can take back to their home institutions. We look forward to welcoming the special collections community to Philadelphia for an event that we hope they will find rewarding, informative, and enjoyable.

*2010
Preconference
Local
Arrangements
(Philadelphia) –
Ruth Hughes*

The Doubletree and Drexel University dorms are fully lined-up.

There are 7 tours scheduled for Tues., another 5 for Thurs. afternoon, and 6 tours on Fri. For a list of tour sites and additional information, see the Tours tab under Events on the website: <http://rbms.info/conferences/preconferences/2010/events.shtml>.

Two of the Fri. tours are full-day, and compete with the closing sessions of the Preconference. We decided that this was acceptable but should not set a precedent. We are going ahead with the tours, but limiting participation to 20 people each so that we do not diminish the audience for the final sessions. The tours could not be scheduled to take place on other days, the Philadelphia area has not been a venue for RBMS in over 20 years leading to high demand for participation, and PACSCL is contributing so much to the preconference that Deborah felt it was reasonable to allow these tours to take place.

We have a very cool tote bag sponsored by Philadelphia Rare Books and Manuscripts Company.

Fundraising is going very well. At the time of the meeting, we had contributions and pledges totaling \$21,500.

*2010 Conference
Program Planning*

The 2010 RBMS Conference Program Planning committee met on Saturday, January 16, 2010 at 4 pm.

(Washington, D.C.)
– Nina Schneider

The title of the program, “To Catch a Thief: Cataloging and the security of special collections” is scheduled for 1:30-3:30 pm on Sunday, June 27th, 2010.

We have four confirmed speakers: Travis McDade, assistant professor of library administration at the University of Illinois College of Law and author of *The Book Thief* will provide historical context; Mark Dimunation, Chief of Rare Books and Special Collections at the Library of Congress will discuss cataloging and security from the curatorial point of view; Bonnie Magness-Gardiner, Director of the FBI Art Theft Program will address collection security and law enforcement; and Jennifer Shaffner, Program Officer with OCLC Research and the RLG Partnership will discuss OCLC’s missingmaterials.org database.

The committee is on track to meet the ACRL deadlines, the four speakers participated in a conference call on January 5th to discuss topics and strategies, and all seems to be well in hand.

2011
Preconference
Program Planning
(Baton Rouge) –
Henry Raine,
reporting for
Steven Smith

The 2011 RBMS Preconference will be held in Baton Rouge, La. The site visit was conducted in November. The location offers a wide variety of interesting and exciting venues--the Old State Capitol building, the LSU Rural Life Museum, the campus of LSU, and many other locations. The main conference hotel will offer reasonably priced, recently renovated rooms, some of which are said to be haunted by the ghost of Huey Long. The hotel offers lovely views of the wide expanse of the Mississippi River flowing just a few feet away. Other lodging options are also in the works, including dormitory housing at LSU. The area is home to many fine restaurants and eateries, offering fine food as well as wonderful local fare. The 2011 Preconference committee will finalize the program theme well in advance of this year's preconference. The committee met for a very productive and enjoyable committee meeting yesterday afternoon. We discussed and made decisions regarding everything from website features to the conference structure and schedule to possible themes and sub-themes. The seminar committee is already hard at work with several great programs. We look forward to 2011. Laissez les bons temps rouler!

2011 Conference
Program Planning
(New Orleans) –
Ellen Ellickson

“Tough Economic Times and Special Collections.” That is not the title but it is the topic for the 2011 Conference Program in New Orleans. June 2011 will mark the end of two full fiscal years of budget cuts, freezes, etc. We want to look at how these changes have affected special collections in three types of institutions: 1.) a large university with a separate special collections library; 2.) a smaller university or college where special collections are part of the main library; and 3.) an independent research library. We propose to do this by presenting a

moderated panel discussion among representatives from such institutions, and questions and comments from the audience will be part of the discussion.

Publications

*Publications
Committee –
William La Moy*

The Publications Committee met on 16 January and reviewed the mechanisms by which it will continue producing the exhibition award certificates on behalf of the Exhibition Awards Committee. The chair of the Exhibition Awards Committee was present, and these procedures were agreeable to that committee.

The committee also discussed some slight internal inconsistencies in *Your Old Books*. We would like to address these and continue our attempt to create a compact PDF version with properly imposed pages so that people could print this out for themselves on two pages of letter-sized paper.

The Web team made an extensive report to the committee, and James Ascher, the Web editor, will summarize the work of the unit within the committee at Information Exchange.

In terms of our liaison work, I attended the joint meeting of the ALA Publishing Committee on 15 January, and then that of the ACRL Publications Coordinating Committee on 17 January. The former group outlined the full spectrum of production services available to ALA divisions and sections and then fielded questions. The latter group is exploring a proposal to modify its charge and to reevaluate its publication strategies.

*RBM – Beth
Whittaker*

Issue 10.2 was published late 2009. Issue 11.1, which will feature material from the 2009 RBMS Charlottesville preconference, is in preparation.

Peer review continues to be a popular option and we appreciate the help of more and more “experts” throughout the field. We are investigating using the Editorial Manager software in the future to track and manage peer review submissions.

We have a number of new and returning board appointments in the works, but always welcome interest from people who would like to serve.

We are continuing to examine the relationship between RBMS membership & journal subscription. We welcome comments, concerns, etc.

*RBMS Website –
James Ascher*

This has been a very active season for the Web Team. We are delighted to report that since the Annual Meeting, rbms.info has had over fifty-three thousand visitors and one-hundred thousand page views and thus remains a major resource for section business, promotion, and communicating the ideas of the Section.

We have expanded our service this year by hosting the 2009 Preconference. Our own Christopher Smith designed the pages, the Section provided hosting, and after the conference the Team integrated the recordings of the talks into rbms.info. To my knowledge, this is the first time that the Section hosted all of its own content for the Preconference. Based on the success of the service, we are also providing hosting for the 2010 Preconference.

Our experimental liaison/emeritus model, by which individuals are charged to work with a particular committee, has been a smashing success. The Team has fully trained three new liaisons who now respond independently to the needs of the Committees they work for: Randal Brandt, Katie Carr, and Jason Kovari. In addition to satisfying their assigned responsibilities, each of these liaisons completed ambitious alpha projects that are rapidly approaching a public beta test. Randal Brandt also worked with Bob Maxwell to bring the Latin Place Names File under the rbms.info banner.

We have introduced a new Team member, Lynne M. Thomas, as the Social Media Liaison to begin to explore issues of Section involvement in social media and Web 2.0 technologies.

Lastly, based on the increased interest and requests for virtual meeting support, the Team has sponsored a seminar at the coming Preconference on several new collaborative technologies.

Committees & Task Forces

*Bibliographic Standards –
Stephen Skuce*

The tremendously hardworking and productive Bibliographic Standards Committee and its associated editorial teams and subcommittees will have met for a total of 39 hours by the conclusion of Midwinter 2010 in Boston.

There are four DCRM documents in the works; two of them – Manuscripts and Graphics – had sections reviewed at this year's Bibliographic Standards Committee meeting. The Graphics group has begun the work necessary to make its document the first RDA-compliant publication in the DCRM suite.

Bibliographic Standards is sponsoring both a seminar and a daylong

workshop at the upcoming 2010 Preconference in Philadelphia.

We have groups working on a BIBCO Standard Record for Rare Printed Books; on a revision of Standard Citation Forms for Rare Book Cataloging; and on Examples to Accompany DCRM(B). And our Controlled Vocabularies Subcommittee continues its work on merging our multiple thesauri, among other important tasks.

*Budget &
Development –
Elaine Smyth*

The RBMS Budget & Development Committee congratulated the 2009 Preconference Program Planning and Local Arrangements Committees and Past Chair Mary Lacy on a very successful 50th RBMS preconference, which netted more than \$20,000 in excess revenues. The committee will be recommending to the Executive Committee that its request to ACRL to spend the RBMS half of this amount include generous funding for scholarships as well as funding to support the editing and preparation of sound files recorded at the 2010 preconference for further distribution via the Internet. Between Midwinter and Annual 2010, the committee will be gathering information about what it will cost to provide different types of web-based access to continuing education, preconference, and conference events, and it will be consulting with the RBMS Web Editors, ACRL staff, and other sections as appropriate. The committee is looking for additional members, and particularly those interested in this topic would be welcome.

*Conference
Development –
Elizabeth Johnson*

At its meeting on Sunday morning, the Conference Development Committee reviewed reports from the extremely successful preconference in Charlottesville, the upcoming preconference in Philadelphia, and annual conference programs for 2009 and 2010. The committee is still seeking proposals from potential hosts for the 2012 preconference when ALA annual will once again be in Anaheim, California.

*Diversity –
Veronica Reyes-
Escudero*

The Diversity Committee met with 4 guests for a total of 9 attendees and had a lively discussion despite the early time. The committee discussed the Toolkit, as it was used for Mid-Winter Recruitment Presentation to Simmons students at Boston Public Library. It works and is ready to be used. We encourage the RBMS membership to deploy it at or near your local institutions. It is primarily designed to assist in preparing and making presentations about careers in special collections librarianship to students and paraprofessional staff, particularly those from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups. We discussed the seminar presentation on the Toolkit to be offered at Pre-conference 2010. As well, we are already discussing ideas on seminars for 2011. We also discussed continuing with our efforts to liaise with other RBMS committees as well as keeping abreast of the larger diversity initiatives

across ALA.

Exhibition Awards
– *Richard Noble*

The committee met all Saturday morning to choose the 5 winners (plus an honorable mention) in our categories of expensive, moderately expensive, and inexpensive catalogs, brochures, and electronic exhibitions. The numbers were up a bit this year, enough to be encouraging—especially the electronic submissions. In this cycle we made use of a newly instituted interactive PDF form, savable by the filler-in and with a submit button, which worked fully as well as we hoped. This will make it all the easier to submit entries at any time of year, as part of the production cycle, which we encourage people to do, please.

The Leab endowment has recovered about half of its late losses and now stands at above \$28,000, though the spending account is not quite as exciting, alas.

Discussions at this morning's business meeting (Sunday the 17th) had much to do with thinking again about our divisional categories and judging criteria, and especially how we present those to potential contestants. Above all we're seeing rapid evolution in the electronic category as digitization of isolated images chosen for exhibition gives way to selection from digital libraries to produce digital exhibitions. We also decided to make use of ALA's Connect facility for this particular discussion, as well as some of the initial work of judging, to make the best use of our face-to-face time at Midwinter, every minute of the 240 allotted to us being precious.

Katie Carr, of the RBMS web team, showed us the alpha version of what will become our retrospective and ongoing online exhibit of winners, to form part of the Committee's pages on rbms.info. The metadata for the exhibit will involve a crosswalk from MARC data to Dublin Core, and Katie brought us proposed cataloging standards—we are becoming our own Bib Standards Committee, so to speak. This represents a further instance of the Publication Committee's function in communicating committee content to our various publics.

Molly Schwartzburg, a current committee member, as well as Lynne Farrington of the University of Pennsylvania and Declan Kiely of the Morgan, will present a Preconference seminar moderated by Richard Noble, Chair of EAC, on the topic of collaborations—inter and intra-institutional, as well as curatorial/technical—in the mounting of exhibitions and production of catalogs, etc. While not billed specifically as an Exhibition Awards Committee affair, this seminar will certainly be of interest to our “community”.

*Membership &
Professional
Development –
Donna Davey*

Following are the highlights from our meeting on Saturday. All the details will be in our minutes. Our biggest initiative right now, which we have been working on for a while, is an online FAQ Resource for people new to the profession. I am happy to report that it is now ready to go and we'll be sending a link to the Executive Committee for their approval after Midwinter.

The Mentoring Program continues to chug along. Since ALA Annual last year, we have matched 7 pairs. That makes 72 pairs since the program began in December of 2004. We've only gotten a handful of evaluations back so we can't generalize on the data, but we appreciate your suggestions and will keep doing our best to improve the program. Thank you very much to everyone who has volunteered. We are always in need of people to serve as mentors, so please consider signing up if you can.

The Buddy Program continues to be very popular and successful. We had two volunteers and no requests for Midwinter, but had 27 requests and 19 volunteers last year. The response rate for the evaluations was very good and the feedback was positive and encouraging. We'll have statistics in our meeting minutes. We're anticipating a lot of interest again this year, so please watch for announcements in the weeks leading up to the Preconference.

On behalf of the M&PD Committee, I would just like to say how much we appreciate the volunteers for sharing their time at preconferences and conferences with buddies. And we would also like to give an extra thank you to those RBMS members who volunteer for the buddy program on a regular basis.

Our Introduction to RBMS for the Preconference will be modeled after last year's event and we will be contacting committee chairs to request photos for the headshots loop. We have begun the initial planning with local arrangements for the new members social, so stay tuned for details.

*Nominating –
Christian Dupont*

The 2010 Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following slate of candidates for the spring 2010 elections:

Vice-chair/chair-elect:

Mike Kelly
Arvid Nelsen

Member-at-Large:

Jennifer Hain Teper
Nina Schneider

Candidate bios and statements have been posted to the ACRL and RBMS websites. Polls will open on March 17 and close on April 24. Results should be announced by April 30. Instructions on voting will be sent by email to all current ALA/ACRL/RBMS members in the coming weeks.

The members of the 2010 Nominating Committee – Christian Dupont (chair, as past section chair), Daniel J. Slive and Shannon Supple – express their gratitude to all of the candidates for their service to our section and willingness to stand for election to the Executive Committee.

*Regional
Workshops – Jane
Gillis*

The newly constituted RBMS Regional Workshops Committee had its inaugural meeting on Saturday, January, 16, 2010. Fourteen people attended. The aim is to have 2 workshops a year in the spring and in the fall. These would be recycled from popular workshops from the preconferences. Our first workshop will be in the fall of 2010. We need to work with ACRL to develop a budget, solicit host institutions and workshop presenters, and write procedures for the RBMS manual.

*Security – Richard
Oram*

The combined Security/Theft guidelines have been approved and are now available on the ACRL website
<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/standards/security_theft.cfm>. These have been forwarded to SAA for possible endorsement and will be brought to the attention of IFLA. Much of the discussion centered on the state and fate of online sources, such as missingmaterials.org, for listing missing and stolen rare materials. Records for such items are requested from all institutions; contact and listing information are available on the site.

*Seminars – Erika
Dowell*

The Seminars Committee is developing ten seminars for the 2010 Preconference. They are:

Inspired by the Library: Artists in Collaboration with Special Collections

Digital Tools for Collaboration

Bridging the Gap: Communication between Archivists and Catalogers

Recruiting Members—of Underrepresented Racial and Ethnic Groups—to the Special Collections Library Profession

(the following are not official titles)

Collaborative Exhibitions

What Can We Stop Doing?

Born-Digital Materials

Report on the OCLC/RLG Special Collections Survey

Manuscripts: The State of the Market
Using Undergraduates in Cataloging and Processing

Two of the seminars will be presented twice at the Preconference. If you would like to share your opinion on which seminar should be repeated, please email me or talk to one of the members of the committee. And, as always, if you have ideas for seminars you would like to see, send them along to me, either by email or through the online form.

*Guidelines for
Borrowing &
Lending Special
Collections Task
Force – Hjordis
Halvorson*

On Friday afternoon, January 15, 2010, the ACRL/RBMS Guidelines for Borrowing and Lending Special Collections Material Task Force met. The Task Force is charged with consolidating and revising two current sets of guidelines – one for interlibrary borrowing of special collections and the second for exhibition loans. We reviewed and worked on our current revised draft. We established consensus about our approach, the structure of the document, and the process and timeline. We are aiming to have a draft ready by spring to begin soliciting outside comments.

Discussion Groups

*Collection
Development –
Lois Fischer Black*

Ten Special Collections librarians assembled on the morning of Saturday, January 16, to share news of new acquisitions and grants received. Animated discussion and good conversation about collection development policies followed. More than half of those present acknowledged having such policies that they update on a regular basis. These policies appear to be used more often to decline potential gifts, rather than to build collections. This sparked a side discussion about the dos and don'ts of deaccessioning, including tax implications and restrictions imposed by public institutions.

Criteria other than subject matter were also discussed. Size of collections, as well as format, such as large artifacts, were cited as influential factors in making the decision whether or not to accept a collection.

Interesting discussion about the evolving nature of best practices in Special Collections collection development blossomed next, as attendees unanimously agreed that long term loans and collections being placed on deposit are a thing of the past.

Attention returned to the agenda with a look at metrics and the role that use statistics, number of majors in a particular discipline, and other factors play in making decisions regarding collections. Attendees acknowledged pressure from administration to take metrics into account, but attendees noted that users may come and go, but collections are here to stay. With that in mind, those present affirmed

their commitment to building diverse, unique collections. One attendee recommended that we count the things that will benefit us, such as the number of international scholars in the global economy.

In closing, we looked briefly at the impact of the internet upon collection development. While it was acknowledged that there are both benefits and pitfalls to buying online, one attendee summed it up nicely with the observation that "it allowed books otherwise unremarkable to come to light."

As the discussion was so successful, the co-chairs will revisit these topics at the Annual Conference in June. If there are other topics of interest, please let us know.

*Curators &
Conservators –
Kenneth Lavender*

Attendance was approx 25

Speaker was Dr. Michele Cloonan, Dean, SLIS Simmons College

Cloonan opened the program with the question "Is There Life after Texas?" A lively discussion followed about the future of conservation education after the closing of UT Austin's degree program.

Alternatives were presented since no institution seems to have the wherewithal to establish a full-fledged conservation training program. One viable solution might be a joint venture between an academic institution and a non-profit organization, such as NEDCC. Further discussion was generated by the announcement of new programs in preservation of cultural heritage, such as those of Catholic, Simmons, and Syracuse Universities.

*Manuscripts &
Other Formats /
Public Services –
Susan Odell
Walker*

Nineteen people met earlier today for a joint meeting of the Public Services and Manuscripts and Other Format Discussion Groups. Input of participants from those groups was sought by members of the Task Force reviewing the Guidelines for Borrowing and Lending Special Collections Materials regarding loan of materials for research use and education.

Some issues raised included pros and cons of working through ILL departments for loans for research, the effects of lending on readers at the home institution as materials are not available, and the time consuming and expensive aspects of preparation—conservation, registrar work, transport, and insurance.

Next we turned to the topic of serving non-print formats to researchers. There were a lot of people serving a wide variety of interesting formats which pose challenges, such as audio & visual, where the need to convert to digital was raised, and other things like costumes, dec arts,

and paintings, some of which may be stored off-site.

Public services impact of exposed, formerly hidden, collections was then explored. There has been a marked response seen in the reading room, to such things as posting abstracts to the web. Many places sought the input of public services staff in considering prioritization, and benefits seen included increase in efficiency for readers as they could identify what they wanted to see before coming, although the challenges of having requests made for less-than-fully processed collections were acknowledged as well.

MARC for Special Collections – Ellen Ellickson

Thirty-eight people joined co-convenor Annie Copeland and me for the MARC for Special Collections Discussion Group. We discussed matters relating to OCLC – the issue of permissible duplicates and the possibility of DCRM records being master records. And we took a look at whether the tough economic times have resulted in administrative directives to produce leaner, less elaborate catalog records or perhaps more collection level records.

Liaisons to Other Groups

ACRL Leadership Council – Deborah J. Leslie

The Leadership Council is composed of ACRL staff, board members, and division-level committee chairs, and section vice-chairs and chair-elects.

ALA and ACRL are both undergoing preparation of new strategic plans, and discussion about goals was the major part of the Leadership Council. ACRL understands that it isn't as nimble as it would like to be.

ACRL Communities of Practice – Deborah J. Leslie

The Assembly comprises the chairs and vice-chairs from all ACRL sections and interest groups.

- ACRL is abandoning the Strategic Action Plan. There were too few proposals of any size, and the process was correspondingly too cumbersome to make it a worthwhile way to provide the sections funds. Instead, ACRL will rely on individual section requests for additional funds.
- ACRL is changing the way it determines basic section funding. No section will get less than it is now, but additional categories will probably be created for more granularity, so that some sections now at the top end of membership numbers for their category may get put into a higher category with more funds.
- ACRL Friends' Disbursement Funds--these are the funds donated to the Friends of ACRL. It is anticipated that this fund will provide money for big ideas or big projects, while more routine or operational requests will be considered as part of the ACRL budget. ACRL is happy to work with people to develop ideas, and don't

want money to be an obstacle to anything deemed useful.

- A number of the sections have experimented successfully with virtual meetings. The Instruction Section held 18 virtual committee meetings in the six weeks leading up to Midwinter. All present agreed on the desirability of having an online space where the communities of practice can share their online and virtual practices, with perhaps an eye towards developing a best practices document.

*ACRL Budget &
Finance – E.C.
Schroeder*

Report not received.

*ACRL Membership
Advisory – Donna
Davey*

The Membership Advisory Subcommittee didn't meet at Midwinter but I do have a brief report. The Committee has an Action Form before the Board of Directors of ACRL to restructure the committee. Currently there are 17 ex officio members and 7 regular members.

The proposal calls for a Membership Coordinating Committee and four component committees: Membership Promotion; Membership Recruitment; Membership Retention; and Section Membership. Membership Recruitment will be a pilot virtual committee. The Action Form is posted on ALA Connect at <http://connect.ala.org/node/65341>. The Board's official response and recommendations will be available after midwinter.

*ACRL Professional
Development –
Donna Davey*

I have no liaison report for the ACRL Professional Development Coordinating Committee because it meets at the same time as the RBMS Membership & Professional Development Committee.

*ACRL Publications
– William La Moy*

Nothing to report.

*APHA –Fernando
Peña*

The American Printing History Association will hold its next annual meeting at the end of "Bibliography Week" on Saturday, January 30, 2010, at the New York Public Library. As usual, the meeting will feature reports by APHA officers as well as the presentation of its annual awards for distinguished contributions "to the study, recording, preservation or dissemination of printing history." The 2010 Individual Award will be presented to Johanna Drucker, prolific author, teacher, speaker and internationally recognized authority in the book arts. The 2010 Institutional Award will go to the Center for Book Arts in New York City for its encouragement of both traditional printing and of the contemporary exploration of the book as art object.

APHA has just issued a call for papers for its next annual conference, "Learning to Print, Teaching to Print," which will take place at the

Corcoran Gallery in Washington, DC, on October 15-17, 2010. This conference will explore the ways people learn to design, print, illustrate, bind, and make books and other printed matter, and how they are taught. The focus will be both historical, examining the way in which methods and styles are consciously continued, and contemporary, looking at how people learn now in an era in which new technologies and aesthetics coexist with tradition. Particular attention will be paid to the increasing and important role of letterpress and book arts programs at art schools, colleges, and universities. With its new M. A. program combining book history and book arts, the Corcoran, long one of Washington's premier museums and art schools, is the ideal venue for a conference on the theme of learning and teaching.

*ARL – Mark
Dimunation*

Report not received.

*BSA – Caroline
Duroselle-Melish,
reporting for
Daniel Slive*

In 2009, BSA-sponsored programs included sessions at the RBMS Preconference in Charlottesville; the ASECS conference in Richmond, Virginia; the SHARP conference in Toronto; and the St. Louis Conference on Manuscript Studies. BSA was also a co-sponsor of the Caxton Club / Newberry Library symposium in Chicago entitled "Pillage, Punishment, and Provenance: Books as Victims of Crime."

Looking ahead to 2010:

BSA will hold its annual meeting on Friday, January 29, in New York at the Grolier Club. The New Scholars program will include presentations on various aspects of book history by three participants. The annual address will be delivered by Eric Holzenberg, Director of the Grolier Club. All are welcome to attend.

BSA and the ABAA will be co-sponsoring a lecture on February 13 at the California Antiquarian Book Fair in Los Angeles in February. Rare Book School Director Michael Suarez will be presenting a talk on the value of booksellers' catalogues.

A one-day program devoted to "Reading in the White House" will be held on May 7 at the Library of Congress. The program celebrates the publication of *The First White House Library*, a catalogue produced by BSA to be issued by Penn State University Press. The plenary speaker is Sean Wilentz and sessions include "Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln: Books and Culture" and "First Ladies and Culture in the White House." The conference is free and open to the public.

Other programs being considered for this year include possible sessions at the RBMS Preconference in Philadelphia, SHARP in Helsinki, and

the St. Louis Conference on Manuscript Studies. Please stay tuned and please check the BSA website for additional information on BSA programs throughout the year.

*CALM – Christian
Dupont*

The ALA/SAA/AAM Joint Committee on Archives, Libraries and Museums (CALM) met on Sunday morning, January 17. Approximately two dozen members and guest attended in person, and another dozen joined by conference call – an especially large gathering. A representative from the new ALA Preservation Week initiative (<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alcts/confevents/preswk/index.cfm>) was invited to give an update on planning for the preservation awareness campaign that will run from May 9-15, 2010. At its ALA Annual meeting last July, CALM had advised that Preservation Week scheduling and activities be coordinated with similar long-standing initiatives in the archives and museum communities. Although the main focus of this year's inaugural ALA Preservation Week will focus on library preservation, organizers have said that they will work more on coordinating future programming with the broader cultural heritage community so that a more consistent public message can be given. The CALM co-chairs introduced the members of the new Emerging Leaders group that will be assisting CALM in the creation of podcasts on topics of common interest to CALM's constituencies. There was also some discussion of future CALM-sponsored program ideas for the annual meetings of its constituent organizations. The remainder of the meeting was devoted to a discussion of the "Traditional Cultural Expressions" statement (<http://wo.ala.org/tce/>) drafted by the ALA Office of Information Technology Policy (OITP) in order to articulate ALA's position on the issue in the context of recent efforts by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)/UNESCO to establish international treaties and best practices respecting the management and digitization of traditional cultural expressions (TCEs). ALA OITP staff Carrie Russell and ALA past-president Loriene Roy were invited by CALM to lead conversation about the document. Various members of CALM and other attendees from the special collections, archival and museum communities expressed a variety of concerns about the latest draft, ranging from substantive issues about the ethical and practical implications of various principles to matters of process in originating and reviewing the document. The conclusion of the discussion, quite vigorous at times, was a recommendation on the part of CALM leadership to forestall action by ALA Council on a resolution to approve the current draft principles and reconsider ALA's approach to the topic – a recommendation in line with the letter sent by RBMS Chair Deborah Leslie to Ms. Russell in December 2009, which was shared with CALM at the time through its electronic discussion list.

*IFLA – E.C.
Schroeder*

Nothing to report.

*MAGERT – Nancy
A. Kandoian*

MAGERT is celebrating its 30 years of existence all year. One outward sign of this is the ribbon appended to our name tags. We are also planning events and commemorative publications for the annual conference in June: a Sunday evening dinner or reception, a celebration at the members' pavilion, and the inauguration of a new logo. The much awaited publication of our map collection security guidelines and the revised edition of our cartographic citations style manual are planned to coincide with our anniversary celebrations at Annual.

MAGERT is organizing a program for Annual which is described in the Preliminary List of Programs under "Digital Information and Technologies." Titled "GIS in EVERY Library: Making it Happen," it will concern the implementation of geographic information systems in various library settings and is scheduled for Saturday, from 3:30 to 5:30.

As you know, MAGERT is co-sponsoring the RBMS program, "To Catch a Thief: Cataloging and the Security of Special Collections." We will make sure there is no conflict in the MAGERT schedule for that slotted time on Sunday from 1:30 to 3:30.

Three members of MAGERT's Cataloging and Classification Committee (CCC) will be conducting a map cataloging preconference Thursday and Friday in D.C. for ALCTS. It will concern general map cataloging and the cataloging of digital cartographic materials. Also in the realm of map cataloging, at the request of the Program for Cooperative Cataloging, the CCC has formed a task group to develop a bibliographic standard record for cartographic materials. And as you know, some of our members are participating in the DCRM(C) editorial group.

One of MAGERT's proposals for ALA's Emerging Leaders program was accepted, and there are now four emerging leaders working on this: to develop a marketing plan for MAGERT. Two of the four have some marketing education or experience, and two have map-related jobs. Their surveys, research, and planning will result in a presentation at Annual, eagerly awaited by the MAGERT executive board.

*SAA – Jennifer
Schaffner*

Report not received.

*SHARP – Caroline
Duroselle-Melish*

Report not received.

Submitted

February 15, 2010. Kate Moriarty, *Secretary*.

Approved

Approved at the June 28, 2010 Executive Committee meeting. Kate Moriarty, *Secretary*.