



THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
AT
CHAPEL HILL

The School of Library Science

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Manning Hall 026 A
Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514

June 11, 1979

Dear Ms. Sutherland:

I hope this reaches you in time to be of help.

Point by point:

1. Cost--too much for something like the Detroit fiasco. For many members the cost is too much (probably) for the best of banquets.
2. The choice of the award winning books should be the focus of the process--not the celebration. Time should be spent facilitating that choice.
3. Yes
4. Why do we have to hear the winners? Granted it can be a very moving experience to hear a Katherine Patterson. But is it necessary? Perhaps some written statement could be published that would serve as a statement of artistic principles or whatever. All members could then share in a broader view of the N-C process.

Doing away with the banquet and perhaps using a meeting to make the official medal presentations would provide the same thrill that many seem to derive from the banquet ritual. The winners could speak--and perhaps even the honor book winners. Autographing of books might follow for all those who like a chance to touch and talk. The publishers would probably love that.

In any case, some trimming of the N-C banquet sails should be attempted. It would be interesting to see how the time and money saved would be spent—especially the staff at A&A.

Mary Kingsbury