

Video Round Table Executive Board Meeting

July 30, 2018

Via Adobe Connect

Link to meeting recording:

Present: Andrea Battleground, Debbie Benrubi, Brian Boling, Ben Franz, Tiffany Hudson, Lowell Lybarger, Samantha Ann Mairson, Melanie McCartney, Michele McKenzie, Steven Milewski, Leigh Rockey, Gisele Tanasse

Announcements (Lowell and Brian, 5 minutes)

Welcome! Lowell says that ALA is still studying the viability of Midwinter. There are two task forces that the Roundtable Coordinating Assembly announced. They are about the future of midwinter and the new organizational effectiveness plan. We still have yet to select a VRT member to be on that last committee. Andy is on the former. Also we're on the jury for programs this year. Erin was to go to an ALA training session about that, but it was unclear whether or not a session was actually scheduled a few days before it was supposed to happen. So we have yet to hear from ALA on these fronts.

Brian has news about our scholarship: he says that Dennis has made contact with the people he knows at Alexander Street Press, and it looks like they may be willing to fund the scholarship. They will need to work through bureaucracy to get it approved. Brian will let us know what's going on.

Review of minutes from Executive Board and Membership meeting at ALA Annual (Lowell and Leigh, 5 minutes)

Any questions or corrections? Thank you for submitting changes to the minutes from Annual. You can find minutes on ALAIR <https://alair.ala.org/>.

Open discussion of name change implications for official VRT/FMRT documents (15 minutes)

Perhaps no changes are needed, but this is our chance to clarify the semantic implications of changing from "video" to "film and media". In an earlier email, Lowell laid out the changes we would have to make in some parts of our mission and bylaws. He highlighted every instance of the word video, for instance. What terminology should change? Gisele says that there are a few spots in the About on our website where we might switch video to media. Gisele notes the distinctions to film and video made in the founding of our round table years ago—that film is more about feature film, video is more about the education film market—do these still stand? Steven Milewski: Do we have a plan to change all the VRT name places to our new name? Lowell: Yes! The board seemed fine with letting the language ride as it is, with obvious name changes.

Program committee report (Erin, Melanie, Lowell, 15 minutes)

Report back on survey responses of ALA 2018 programs (held over to next meeting).

The deadline for ALA Annual 2019 program submissions is August 19th. Lowell reports that Erin could not make our meeting today, but she is on top of things.

For the online membership meeting/webinar, Lowell asks if we want to do something like this before Midwinter. Gisele says there was enough interest in the Streaming Video Open Forum where we might want to offer an online discussion in late fall, if we could put one together. We could do something before Midwinter--it should not involve so much planning that we wouldn't have time to get it together. Lowell suggests October. Who volunteered to work on this? The pricing model topic is still hot, so we

have an opportunity to reach out to people about it. Melanie agrees to work on our next online meeting.

IFLA nomination (Michele and Debbie, 5 minutes)

The board needs to review the new proposal of procedures for IFLA nominations ([VRT-IFLA nominations recommendation](#)). Michele is introducing this topic because she was on the nominations committee when they had a question about how we nominated our representatives to IFLA. We don't seem to have any documentation on this. We wanted to lay it out a little bit better so people would know what was involved. Current IFLA representative Debbie Benrubi came up with the plan proposed in the above document. Debbie's term expires August 2019, and Lowell must, per by-laws, nominate a successor for her. The recommended plan suggests that an IFLA liaison be added to the nominations committee to help come up with people who might be good to serve on IFLA. In summer or the early fall, the liaison will work with the nominations committee to identify possible candidates if there's a vacancy. They will send a nominee to the chair during the first week of October. If no liaison emerges from this process, then we will open it to the listserv. Another thing to do is to add a discussion about the IFLA liaisons to our handbook and make sure that it's clear that IFLA liaisons become members of the executive committee. These changes sound reasonable? The board says yes! Lowell says it will be good to note that the IFLA liaison should have institutional backing because they have to attend the conferences. Michele adds that IFLA liaisons are allowed to serve more than one term. Lowell would like the board to indicate their approval or disapproval in the chat box. The proposal carries.

Gala Committee Report (Lavoris and Ben, 10 minutes)

The board continues its discussion of the Gala 2019 program from our ALA Annual 2018 meeting. Ben provides some background. He saw a presentation at the Film and History Conference in Milwaukee, and he thought it would be great for our group. It is Kim Nelson's live, participatory documentary of an historian retracing the travels of German agricultural economist Max Sering and suggesting that what Sering saw in North America and applied to Germany eventually lead to the world wars and the Holocaust. At the annual meeting, people noted that for the Gala we usually try to draw on local resources. Tiffany suggests perhaps we could do the interactive documentary as preconference as it sounds fairly intense. Ben says it would be good for the Gala because we're trying to give people an experience. If anybody has any recommendations, they are more than welcome to join the Gala committee. Ben says to bring the four filmmakers to town it would be less than \$2000, and since we usually hand out a \$500 honorarium to the guest presenters at the Gala, there wouldn't be much more needed to give to the four filmmakers. The four people are the filmmaker, the historian, and two assistants (lights and sound). Michele looked at Kim Nelson's website, and she was trying to figure out how interactive the event would be. And she agrees with Tiffany that it might be too heavy for our Gala. Ben favors an event that is experiential, but the board indicates that perhaps the Gala is more for entertainment. Lowell suggests that perhaps the logistics of the idea would be prohibitive. He says that Brian's suggestion of doing something with the new National Museum of African American History and Culture might be good for us. Brian will check with Howard Besser to see if he's willing to help with contacts for a program surrounding Howard's students' work. Michele volunteers to reach out to Carla Hayden. Lowell will help to organize a broader discussion of this topic. Ben would like a firm yes or no vote as to his original idea. The board suggests that we should go for our traditional gala model of food, drinks and presentation in collaboration with a local venue, while perhaps pursuing a preconference model for the interactive documentary.

Lowell calls the meeting to a close as it has gone over the official time of one hour.