

**ACRL College Libraries Section Research for College Librarianship Committee
Committee Meeting Minutes
ALA annual meeting, 6/25/05**

Present: Steven Bell, Rick Hart, John Shank, Nancy Sosna-Bohm, Rebecca Miller, John Riddle, Blake Landor, Bill Edgar (non-committee member who asked to join in meeting)

Absent: Rosemary Arneson, Ms. Paula J. Barnett-Ellis (new), Jamie Gill (new), Rob Lenholt, Garet Nelson

1) Steven Bell presented an overview of participation by college librarians in the ACRL National Conference in Minnesota. In the report to the CLS committee, he reported that 43 CLS members submitted proposals. 7 were selected for the conference, including 5 panel discussions and 2 contributed papers. This participation is similar to previous conferences. Comparing to the University Libraries Section, there were approximately a double number of submitted papers, and a similar proportion were accepted. A goal of the committee is to increase the number of members submitting proposals. For the 2007 ACRL conference, we should be considering how we can encourage more. Can we use "Your Research Coach" to encourage proportionate representation? There was a question about how many ULS members there are in comparison to CLS; might the difference in number be due to a larger number of members?

Action item: Find out how many ULS members there are.

Action item: One person on the committee is needed to gather numbers on conference participation. Steven Bell will contact someone from the roster who is not currently responsible for anything on the committee.

Action item: New rosters for the committee are available in the CLS web area. Everyone should log in and print out a list of the committee members.

So far we have collected information on conference participation for the last 3-4 years. We should consider how we can use it. We could create a report, distribute it through the CLS listserv to share where we're at with participation and promote "Your Research Coach."

Action item: If you're not signed up for COLLIB-L, be sure to sign up.

2) Hugh Thompson, publications director for ACRL joined us for a discussion of "In Print," which was started in the 1990s and is a directory of publishing opportunities for librarians. In 2000 an electronic version was created which is becoming out of date. We discussed whether to create a new print version or update the electronic version. The previous e-version was a subscription service; 65 people were subscribed for \$35 each. This was to cover the cost of the outside vendor who created the system. Haworth will be publishing a book called *Directory of Publishing Opportunities in Librarianship*. Steven Bell contacted the editors to find out more information about it, but hasn't heard back from them. There was a suggestion that we could partner with some other committees to regularly update the online database. If there were 10-12 people, they could each be responsible for updating 2-3 journals. ACRL may also have money available through an initiative to sponsor services or programs that can be linked to the strategic goals of ACRL, which include scholarship. A different interface may be more useful. In the current one, you could only search by journal title. With a PDF or word document you could scroll through the list. John Riddle volunteered to explore the possibilities and partner with other people.

Action item: Call for a few volunteers from our committee to help John.

Someone in a permanent administrative position (an ACRL staff person) could be in charge of compiling the data, and the volunteers could feed the info to that person. If we get money from ACRL, we may be able to make the system available for free.

Action item: Steven will work with Robin for the initiative to get money.

In the future, we could expand beyond librarianship and include other journals such as education.

Action item: Find out from Haworth if they are doing an online version of their book.

3) Look into co-sponsorship of programs at ALA about research and getting published. There have been many programs at ALA about research methodologies and with editors talking about ways to get published. For this conference, CLS is co-sponsoring a women's studies program called "Getting Started in Publishing." Our committee hasn't co-sponsored any programs, and we should look for opportunities.

Action item: Find a volunteer who will look for opportunities to co-sponsor programs. The previous volunteer resigned from the committee.

4) "Your Research Coach" - this year has seen a successful start to the program. We have been making progress, but also have challenges to face. Rebecca will be the new coach coordinator, Rob Lenholt will continue as the partner coordinator, and Rosemary will keep the data for both coaches and partners. Rob and Rebecca will work together to match coaches and partners, and then send the data to Rosemary. A few success stories were shared, including a person who has been helped to revise a rejected paper for publication. It had been theoretical, and the coach helped you make it more practical by gathering more data. Another story was about a person whose proposal was accepted for ACRL, and was panicked about writing up the paper. The coach successfully helped her do that. Some of the challenges include not getting enough coaches. We currently have 9 coaches and 15 partners. Another problem is that some of the partners are not active and haven't responded to the coaches.

Action item: Rebecca will send an email to coaches every 3 months asking for updates. The coaches should get in touch with partners to follow up.

Before coaches had to be a CLS member, now it is open to any ACRL member.

Action item: Increase the number of participants in the program. We will do another round of PR, send out announcements to listservs, report on the successes the program has had. We could directly market to new CLS members; when somebody new joins we can send them an email about the program.

Action item: Ask Stephanie Orphan of ACRL what they do now for new members. Is there any sort of information package sent to a new member, and if so we can include our brochure? Our goal is to double or triple our numbers in the next year, to 20-30 coaches and 40-50 partners.

Action item: Each person on the committee should make it a goal to recruit one new coach and two new partners. We can do this through our library, our consortium, those we know through email.

Action item: Steven will change the online form for coaches so that the info goes to Rebecca. Nancy will change the flier to include Rebecca's info.

Action item: Put a PDF version of the flier up on the website.

6) ACRL Research Committee – Steven is the liaison to this committee. He contacted the chair but hasn't heard from them. He attended the meeting at ALA last and expected to be invited this year. Jim Mullins is the new chair and he may be interested in "Your Research Coach."

7) Our next meeting will be a virtual meeting on Blackboard this November. The last one worked well and we had instant minutes. ALA is developing a program for online communities. It may be possible to have our virtual meeting there. The meeting will be planned for the week before Thanksgiving. We will continue to have ongoing email and phone conversations about our projects.

Action item: Look into how to use the ALA online communities.

8) Consider doing a survey of CLS members about their research behavior, including questions about submissions, rejections, presentations, barriers they've faced, if they're required to publish, etc. This info could help justify getting funds, and could help with "Your Research Coach." Steven's college has Survey Suite which can compile data. We should develop questions for the survey – what do we want to know? We can have a link to signing up for "Your Research Coach" if they're interested in coaching or partnering. Investigate the perception of librarians not being able to do good research, what is expected of them versus what they are prepared to do.

Action item: Steven will partner with John Shank to put together a survey.

--Minutes taken by *Rebecca Miller*