

ACRL COLLEGE LIBRARIES SECTION
RESEARCH FOR COLLEGE LIBRARIANSHIP COMMITTEE

June 18, 2001
San Francisco

Members present: Alice Bahr, Inga Barnello, Eric Kidwell, Michael McLane, Chris Millson-Martula, Bill Nelson, Ravil Veli, Jill Woolums

Membership developments

Dave Lesniaski, a virtual member, resigned. A. Bahr picked up his section of titles of In Print that needed updating. M. McLane agreed to serve another term, while Anne Ciliberti is willing to complete her current term.

A larger membership is needed in order to update InPrint and in order to accommodate a large "graduating class" next year. C. Millson-Martula informed Section Chair Scottie Cochrane about this, and, as a result, the tentative committee roster for the coming year numbers 13 members.

College librarian activity at ACRL conferences

C. Millson-Martula is tracking college librarians' presentations at ACRL conferences back as far as the 1995 Pittsburgh conference. The data is difficult to obtain from any source other than official programs. It is known how many were accepted. How many were submitted is not always obtainable. L. Hardesty was asked to build this type of tracking into the process for the 2003 Charlotte conference. He had some concerns about the value of doing this and would meet with committee co-chairs in San Francisco to ask.

It was suggested that a check box on the program submission form may work. I. Barnello pointed out that the submission and approval process differs somewhat from conference to conference. The chairs of programming have evidently had discretion on how to handle the approval process. Nevertheless, college librarians have been active and successful at ACRL conferences. Yet, a standardized process for paper submissions would lend itself to tracking success of the proposals, and perhaps, easing the work of the chairs.

ACTION ITEM--A. Bahr moved that ACRL consider standardizing its procedures and responsibilities for submissions and acceptances of contributed papers and other presentations at ACRL national conferences. E. Kidwell seconded the motion. The motion carried and will be brought to the section executive committee.

The existing data shows fine figures for college librarians. This committee can use these figures to encourage submissions among college librarians. ACTION ITEM--They will be forwarded for publication in the section newsletter.

Committee conference proposal

C. Millson-Martula wondered if the committee should propose a program that would focus on college library support for staff to conduct research, publish, and present at conferences.

ACTION ITEM--The chairperson will attempt to have this as a topic discussed by college library directors at their semi-annual discussion groups at ALA. M. McLane commented that college librarians are more likely to participate at the state level before the national level. A. Bahr suggested we gather data on publishing opportunities, state by state. ACTION ITEM--She will contact Richard Hart to see if there is a publishing idea here. ACTION ITEM--The chairperson will solicit two new committee members to work on this.

InPrint

A. Bahr reported that we need to build transition (to new editor and new editions) with new committee members. ACTION ITEM--A. Bahr will contact Hugh Thompson of ACRL Publications to see if he is willing to list the committee and section on the title page, thereby giving appropriate recognition.

The print edition contained 86 entries, while the first Web edition (January 2001) contained 116 entries. The first revision (May 2001) brought the publication up to 129 entries, all but 2 of which were reviewed by their editors. Editorial review is important since it shows that editors are responsive and willing to lend a helping hand. The issue of editors' responsiveness was discussed. The publishing guidelines will be as follows: Any editors that indicated they wanted to be contacted every 24 months will be "grandfathered." From now on, the choices offered to editors will be 3, 6, or 12 months for updating their entry in InPrint. Editors will be given leeway to alter those on a 24-month cycle in order to get on our cycle.

The December/January update work is light, as 48 editors need to be contacted. June is heavy, as the great majority of editors will need to be contacted at that time. ACTION ITEM--The chairperson will solicit from among the new committee members: 1. an update coordinator, who will have oversight responsibility for each revision, coordinate the work of committee members acting as updaters, and serve a two-year term; and 2. two members to serve as updaters for the December 2001/January 2002 revision.

Now that the Web version of InPrint is established, a new editor is needed. ACTION ITEM--Ravil Veli agreed to succeed A. Bahr as editor and the transition will take place over the summer. Migration of the InPrint data to an ACRL server should also occur during the summer.

A. Bahr and C. Millson-Martula met with Hugh Thompson to discuss InPrint's success thus far. While ACRL sold about 700 copies of the print edition, no more than 30 subscriptions to the Web version have been sold as of June 2001. ACTION ITEM--ACRL will include the title in the ACRL approval plan, attempts will be made to have it reviewed in journals, and the title will be marketed to both U.S. and Canadian library schools as well as abroad.

Submitted by Inga Barnello