

Research in College Librarianship Committee
July 10, 2000
ALA National Conference, Chicago
MINUTES

Present: Alice Bahr, Anne Ciliberti, Lynn Livingston, Christopher Millson-Martula, Michael McClane, Bill Nelson

1. Alice called the meeting to order and Anne agreed to record the minutes.
2. The minutes of the January 16, 2000 meeting were approved as distributed (Livingston's motion, seconded by Millson-Martula).
3. Alice clarified the extension of terms and announced the names of the new members of the committee. Michael McClane, Anne Ciliberti, Christopher Millson-Martula and Alice Bahr will be extending their terms primarily to assist in the completion of two projects which spanned different membership years (the Mid Winter Panel and the web version of *Inprint*). The new committee members are Bill Nelson (Augusta State University), Inga Barnello (Le Moyne College), Ravil Veli (SUNY Plattsburgh) and David Lesniaski (St. Olaf College).

Alice also explained that the Committee generally meets on Sunday mornings at Mid-Winter and Monday at Annual ALA meetings and that its work consists of:

- a. developing a round table discussion for ACRL conferences,
- b. developing a panel discussion for ALA MidWinter conferences, and
- c. maintaining and developing the Web version of *Inprint*.

4. Alice also announced that Chris will be taking over as chair of the Committee, effective July, 2000. The group warmly congratulated Chris.

5. A suggestion was made at an ALCTS Preconference to create an ALA Research database and the group concurred with Alice that it would be worthwhile to suggest broadening the parameters of such a project to include all ALA research-type activities. Alice will forward this suggestion up the ALA chain of command.

6. Chris and Anne brought the group up to date with plans for the MidWinter Panel Discussion. The tentative title of the panel will be 1-800-PUBLISH; Helplines for Advancing Yourself and the Profession. The focus will be on ALA-sponsored activities related to mentoring opportunities leading to publication. Three pairs of mentors/mentees will discuss their experiences. The speakers will represent the CLIP Notes Mentoring Program, the ACRL Research Mentoring Program, and the informal mentoring provided by the editor in ALA's Publications in Librarianship program to authors converting dissertations to monographs. Several strategies will be used to advertise and promote the program, including announcements in C&RL News, the CLS Newsletter and various listservs.

7. Those present concurred that the program sounded valuable and suggestions were made to consider turning it into an ALA program for a national conference and/or an article for *College and Undergraduate Libraries*.

8. Alice reported that the College Library Section had approved up to two "virtual" members per committee and the group discussed the possibility of recruiting virtual members to maintain and update InPrint. It was also suggested that they might survey state library organizations to determine what publication/research mentoring assistance they offer in order to publish it in C&RL News/CLS Newsletter.

9. Alice reviewed the progress and problems encountered in converting the print *Inprint* to a web-based, searchable database. Although more than 2/3 of the current entries have been updated and sent to ACRL Publications, the remaining 1/3 still need work. There is a definite need for an editor to review all entries for consistency and accuracy. It appears that vendors are being reviewed by ACRL Publications for taking over the development of the web interface, but concerns were expressed about whether "outsourced" vendors would fully understand the purpose and potential use of the database. Other concerns were expressed about how a committee can maintain computer files, keep entries current, and oversee the technical aspects of an ongoing web-site/database. It was suggested that Alice discuss these issues with ACRL Publications and obtain a written commitment or agreement specifying the level and type of support it can and will provide. Alice also mentioned possible future areas of expansion for *Inprint*: enlarging the section on mentoring opportunities and inviting other ACRL research/publication committees to add/maintain new journal entries.

10. Alice suggested that any new titles appropriate to the project be sent to her for consideration.

11. Lynn Livingston, although no longer an official member of the committee, volunteered to update the *Inprint* bibliography for inclusion in the new web version. The group thanked Lynn for this offer and for all her previous work on the print *Inprint*.

12. Several ideas were discussed for further projects. These included writing an article for the College Library Section Newsletter on mentoring opportunities and other tips for overcoming research/publication hesitations. A second idea was to promote more collegiality and closer relationships between and among the various ALA research and publications committees.

13. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:00 am.

Minutes prepared and respectfully submitted by Anne Ciliberti