

## Minutes of the CLS Membership Committee Conference Call

July 1, 2009, 3pm EST

Present: Gloria, Jennifer, Sandy, Lisa, Lizah, Millie and Sally

The minutes of the January virtual meeting were approved with one change

- Millie asked that the spelling of her first name which was misspelled in the minutes be corrected
- Retirees listserv: It has been difficult to get them involved via this mode--Sean Fields, the previous chair, had the same difficulty; current listserv has very limited activity; should consider closing down in favor of ALA Connect
- Sandy: Use ALA Connect instead of the listserv, and create groups such as ACRL retirees' group; that would have broader appeal. She thinks and some other members agree that the listserv is old technology
- On ALA Connect and elsewhere, they need to tell potential joiners *why* it is useful to join the various sections; give three reasons instead of just stating that it is "cool" to join. Why is it cool to join?
- Update CLS Wiki regularly as the email list, the newsletter and the website are not kept sufficiently current.
- Question asked whether one time contact with members was good enough for each monthly report or should we be going back to previous months reports and contact members again; Jennifer and others said that one time contact via email was sufficient and would prevent member inundation; also it was too time-consuming to keep sending additional emails
- Question asked if dropped members go to ALA Conferences—suggested that this question be asked on dropped member serve—unsure if this question was asked in the larger ACRL survey—suggested that it would be good to know that answer so we can better understand why librarians move to other sections
- Gloria reported notes gathered from ACRL survey results relating to membership-- said that 57% members dropping because they felt they were not receiving value from their ACRL memberships to justify the cost of their membership dues—Sandy said librarians attended conferences for different reasons depending on age, job, circumstances—some wanted to network, others wanted professional development or training---value of membership and conferences meant different things to different librarians—Millie and Sandy agree that section membership is costly and librarians need to make decisions based on budget and individual needs---schools and organizations streamlining what sections librarians joined if they paid for it—would affect which sections they joined or didn't
- Virtual members said that they really appreciated being involved and Lisa(?) said that she is a virtual member on three committees and ours is the most active.
- Jennifer said that we could try to collaborate with another Committee to see if we can get retirees more involved
- Jennifer will look over old notes (from at least 1 1/2 years ago) to see where and who from another committee expressed an interest in collaboration as she does not remember.

- Jennifer said there are no rules forbidding members from writing letters to new, re-instated and dropped members (I checked with the CLS head and she in turn suggested checking with ALA, and this was verified. So, others besides the Chair can definitely write such letters.
- Gloria reported that 6 new members were matched with the list of members attending the CLS Friday Night Feast at ALA and would receive free meals; also CLS would be represented at ACRL 101 program
- Gloria: thanked members for the input over the past year