

**ACRL Literatures in English Section Annual 2010  
Executive Committee Meetings (Combined Minutes)**

Washington, DC

Saturday, June 26 2010, 8:00 - 10:00 Washington Plaza Monroe Room

Monday, June 28 2010, 10:30 - 12:00 Washington Plaza Monroe Room

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**Saturday, June 26, 8:00-10:00 a.m. Monroe Room, Washington Plaza.** *In attendance:* Michaelyn Burnette (University of California, Berkeley, Collections Discussion Group Co-Chair), Faye Christenberry (Washington), Angela Courtney (Indiana, Chair), Elizabeth Dupuis (University of California, Berkeley, ACRL Board LES Liaison), Liorah Golomb (University of Oklahoma, Chair-Elect), Frank Gravier (UCSC, Planning Committee Incoming Chair), Arianne Hartsell-Gundy (Miami University of Ohio, Member-at-Large), Jaena Hollingsworth (IUPUI, Membership Committee Chair), Karen Munro (University of Oregon, Portland, Past Chair), David Oberhelman (Oklahoma State University, Secretary), Chris Ruotolo (University of Virginia, Publications Committee Chair), Amanda Rust (Northeastern University, LES-L Moderator), Laura Taddeo (SUNY Buffalo, Outgoing Newsletter Editor), Melissa Van Vuuren (James Madison University, 2010 Program Planning Committee Chair)

**Monday, June 28, 10:30-noon Monroe Room, Washington Plaza.** *In attendance:* Adam Burling (Program Coordinator, ACRL), Michaelyn Burnette (University of California, Berkeley, Collections Discussion Group Co-Chair), Barbara Chen (Modern Language Association), Faye Christenberry (Washington), Chad Curtis (NYU, Reference Discussion Group), Angela Courtney (Indiana, Chair), Mollie Freier (Northern Michigan University, 2011 Conference Program Planning Committee Chair), Liorah Golomb (University of Oklahoma, Chair-Elect), Frank Gravier (UCSC, Planning Committee Incoming Chair), Steven Harris (University of New Mexico, 2011 Nominating Committee Chair), Arianne Hartsell-Gundy (Miami University of Ohio, Member-at-Large), Jaena Hollingsworth (IUPUI, Membership Committee Chair), Karen Munro (University of Oregon, Portland, Past Chair), David Oberhelman (Oklahoma State University, Secretary), Chris Ruotolo (University of Virginia, Publications Committee Chair), Amanda Rust (Northeastern University, LES-L Moderator), Laura Taddeo (SUNY Buffalo, Outgoing Newsletter Editor), Melissa Van Vuuren (James Madison University, 2010 Program Planning Committee Chair), Carrie Wajda (Berkeley College, Incoming Newsletter Editor)

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I. Welcome and introductions (Courtney)

Angela Courtney called the meeting to order at 8:00. She indicated that Barbara Chen and Arianne Hartsell-Gundy would be attending the Monday LES Executive Committee Meeting II. Introductions of those in attendance followed.

II. Approval of Agenda (Courtney)

Copies of the agenda were distributed, and the agenda for the meeting was approved.

III. Approval of Minutes from Midwinter 2010 (Oberhelman)

After one correction to a name and two minor errors, Jaena Hollingsworth moved to accept the 2010 Midwinter Minutes, and Melissa Van Vuuren seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

#### IV. Announcements from ACRL Communities of Practice & Leadership Council (Courtney, Golomb)

Liorah Golomb and Faye Christenberry attended the ACRL Leadership Council meeting on Friday. At the meeting they discussed various trends that are points of interest to ACRL. Among them are demonstrating Return on Investment (ROI) or demonstrating the value of libraries; new trends in scholarly communication; seeking to do more with less funding/staffing/resources; vendor relations; increased cooperation and collaboration between libraries and academic departments; and reacting to change. Demonstrating ROI was the most significant trend from most of the people.

Recommendations for action came from this discussion: First, ALA/ACRL might help provide research support to libraries for assessing ROI and measuring success. Second, ALA/ACRL might do more to work with leaders in higher education. News items could be submitted to the *Chronicle for Higher Education*; ACRL could have an increased presence at higher education and technology conferences such as EDUCAUSE; and ALA/ACRL could use tools to negotiate for increased resources. Incoming ACRL President Lisa Hinchliffe and the facilitator encouraged people to focus on long term plans in thinking about activities.

Liorah announced that ACRL is reexamining its dues, but there will be no changes before 2012.

Angela, Liorah and Faye attended the Communities of Practice meeting. There were reports from the various sections on their activities and programs at ALA Annual. Angela mentioned LES activities such as the LESS-WESS joint proposal for an ACRL liaison to the Modern Language Association (MLA), the job shadowing and mentoring programs, and the Promotional Video Task Force as well as the Virtual Participation Task Force.

Angela mentioned some activities planned by other sections that LES might consider adopting such as a gathering or meal before or after the all committees meeting, an open access committee/task force, discussion groups on subject librarians or related topics such as film studies, fundraising committees, and other ideas.

Angela also reported that ACRL is changing the procedure for funding its sections, and the changes would result in an increase of funding for LES and other smaller sections. Currently ACRL provides \$750 per section, but that amount would go up to \$1,000 per section, and then for every member over 200 the section would get 75¢. The new funding system would take effect on September 1, the start of the new ALA fiscal year.

#### V. ACRL Board Update (Dupuis)

Beth Dupuis reported that the ACRL Board of Directors is looking into a dues increase in the future. ACRL surveyed 20 other professional associations and found that they tend to increase their dues by small increments over time, often tying them to the cost of living index. ACRL could also use the higher education price index to keep the increase within a certain range. The Board does not have a proposal yet, but it is being discussed in the Budget and Finance Committee. An increase would come to a vote and the earliest it would be considered is 2012.

#### VI. MLA Update (Chen)

During the Monday Executive Committee II meeting Barbara Chen was asked about the program times for the 2011 MLA Convention since it will overlap with the 2011 ALA Midwinter, and MLA will take place in Los Angeles while ALA is meeting in San Diego. Barbara said that it was new schedule for the MLA and that it should not be in conflict with ALA Midwinter in the future. Some ALA attendees might also register for MLA and attend the Discussion Group.

Barbara also said that she would take the comments and concerns raised at ALA about the license agreement for the online version of James L. Harner's *Literary Research Guide* back to the MLA.

Liorah gave Barbara an update the MLA Liaison plans (see VII below).

#### VII. MLA Liaison Assignment (Courtney, Golomb)

Angela reported on the progress on the joint LES-WESS proposal for an ACRL liaison to the MLA. The ACRL Council of Liaisons was being reevaluated at the same time that the LES-WESS proposal was submitted, but ACRL will provide \$1500 per year for two years to LES to select a representative to work in an informal liaison capacity with the MLA until the Council of Liaisons is restructured and a more formal relationship can be established. The Executive Committee discussed partnering with WESS in this venture since, although the funds were granted to LES, the liaison proposal was submitted to ACRL jointly with WESS. It was agreed that LES would offer to work in partnership with WESS on this issue.

The Executive Committee discussed the timeline for selecting this informal liaison in cooperation with WESS. Since the MLA Convention in Los Angeles is in January 2011, the Committee proposed developing a streamlined application process based on the application form for liaisons on the Council of Liaisons website, and proposed having members of both the LES and WESS Executive Committees or appointed section members screen applicants in the late summer of 2010 so that one could be selected before the end of early bird registration for the 2011 MLA Convention. Faye Christenberry and David Oberhelman volunteered to serve on this joint selection committee, and Liorah was in conversation with the WESS incoming Chair Brian Vetruba, who was also in favor of the plan and indicated that he would take the proposal to the WESS Executive Committee. [Note: A four-member selection committee of both LES and WESS members was appointed after ALA Annual.] The informal liaison would serve for two years, and applicants would have to be members of either LES or WESS and the MLA. They would submit a letter of interest indicating how they would promote the value of librarians to MLA members and a curriculum vitae; the suggestion that there be one reference was dropped due to the compressed schedule being proposed. The Executive Committee also discussed some of the desired outcomes from a liaison relationship with the MLA, and suggested possible fundraising to help support the liaison relationship.

#### VII. General Membership Meeting Plans (Hollingsworth)

Jaena reported that the General Membership Meeting would be combined this conference with the New Members Discussion Group at 4:00 pm on Saturday, June 26. The topic would be strategies for keeping up with developments in the field of English for liaison and collection development responsibilities.

#### VIII. Old Business:

##### A. MLA Discussion Group (Chen)

Barbara Chen reported that Jim Kelly will have information on the MLA Discussion Group session he was organizing posted to his Amherst.edu website, and a link would go on the MLA Facebook page.

B. Vote on LES Strategic Plan 2009-2013 (Gravier)

Frank Gravier brought the ACRL Literatures in English Section 2009-2013 Strategic Plan to the LES Executive Committee. The following changes to activities were added [changes indicated in brackets]:

- Goal Area: Scholarship, Research, and Creative Activity  
  
3. Individual members of LES, who present papers at the MLA Annual conferences or other language, [literature or rhetoric and composition] professional organizations' conferences, share insights through LES electronic media and at Midwinter and Annual conferences.
  
- Goal Area: Leadership  
  
[3. Presentations by LES members at a broad range of higher education and scholarly conferences.]
  
- Goal Area: Membership  
  
[5. Foster and develop programming and publications that discuss multiculturalism in literature.]

Liorah moved to accept the Strategic Plan as amended; Oberhelman seconded the motion. Motion carried. Frank will notify the membership and post the plan on the LES website. He thanked Kathy Johnson for her hard work on the plan.

IX. Reports:

\* Chair: Courtney

No report

\* Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Golomb

Liorah thanked Angela for her work as LES Chair.

\* Past Chair: Munro

Karen reported that she had accomplished her objectives by helping with the MLA Liaison and the formation of the MLA discussion group on libraries and academia.

\* Secretary: Oberhelman

No report

\* Member-at-Large: Hartsell-Gundy

Ariane reported that LES received \$1200 in ACRL Friends' Disbursement Money to help with the Job Shadowing program; the money would possibly be used for lunches or Starbucks gift cards and marketing money. Ariane mentioned she would look into using Facebook advertising. If a library school student does not live close to a LES member, we could partner with WESS and have the student shadow one of their members if that would be easier geographically. She also reported that WESS is working on its own promotional video project, but it is one to recruit more librarians into Western European studies. We will contact WESS to get more information on their promotional video plans.

\* Membership: Hollingsworth

Jaena reported that there were approximately 20 people at the combined General Membership Meeting and New Members Discussion Group. The title of the discussion was "Do They Still Teach Edith Wharton?: Keeping Current with the Field of English," the group covered strategies and publications to consult in order to remain current with research in literary studies and with authors and titles for collection development.

Jaena next addressed the status of the LES membership directory. First, she proposed that the LES Membership Committee would be in charge of the directory, and the Publications Committee would clean it up and post it online. The Executive Committee agreed with her proposal and decided not to keep the Directory on the LES Wiki; a designated person from the Membership Committee would manually update it periodically, and Chris Ruotolo would be the contact person for getting the directory posted on the LES website.

Jaena reported that the Membership Forum at the 2011 Midwinter Conference in San Diego would be on the topic of Open Access resources in literature and the humanities (primary and secondary).

Jaena asked about getting LES brochures to our program at conferences. Adam Burling indicated that he brings the brochures to the booth, but the Executive Committee decided that the Membership Committee Chair would receive brochures to distribute at the LES programs.

\* Planning: Gravier

Frank indicated that Planning would now take the Strategic Plan to the membership to solicit feedback. He added that the Planning Committee would also review the Research Competency Guidelines to ensure that they are current. We discussed setting up a calendar for review of key LES documents by the committee.

\* Publications: Ruotolo

Chris reported that the website was running smoothly, and the new content management system ACRL had adopted was working well. She said she would need an assistant webmaster in the fall of 2010; Aline Soules volunteered if no one else wanted the position.

Chris turned to the LES Blog. There were approximately 60 posts, and about 2 new posts per month were added. She added that Josh Finnell, a new Publications Committee member, would be taking over the Blog.

On the LES Wiki, Vince Graziano is rotating off as editor, but Aline is staying on this year. The membership directory would go off the Wiki and onto the LES website.

We are still looking at using Zotero for the LES Bibliography. Some sample records have been uploaded and it seems to have helped with the past display problems and will allow sharing. We will look into tags to add to the records.

Jaena and Tim Hackman are both working on the LES Facebook page. We discussed using Facebook to advertise more LES offerings.

\* 2010 Conference Program Planning: Van Vuuren

Melissa Van Vuuren reported that the joint LES-WESS program on translation went well. The Bibliography would be posted on our Blog or the LES Wiki. It was a very successful collaborative effort between the two sections.

\* 2011 Conference Program Planning: Freier

LES did not get a program submitted for the 2011 Annual Conference, but Mollie Freier reported that LES is looking into co-sponsoring with other ACRL sections. One promising possibility is to co-sponsor the ANSS program on the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

\* Nominating Committee: Harris

Steven Harris reported that the Nominating Committee has a list of 8 potential names and would be contacting the possible candidates shortly. The paperwork is due by September, and the biographical statement needs to be submitted online approximately one month later. The committee would meet virtually to discuss candidates for office.

\* Reference Discussion Group: Hollingsworth, Curtis

Jaena and Chad Curtis reported that approximately 30 people came to the Reference Discussion Group. It ended with a discussion about assessing reference service; they might continue that discussion at Midwinter 2011. At Midwinter they will be flipping times with the Collections Discussion Group so that both do not always have the same morning time slots. Time slots will swap every year, not every meeting.

\* Collections Discussion Group: Burnette, DeVoe

The topic for this group was how collections can survive in the current economic climate as well as the push for e-formats in collections.

\* New Members Discussion Group: Thill/Hartsell-Gundy

Arianne followed up on Jaena's report on the joint session with the General Membership Forum and New Members Discussion Group. She added that although Mary Thill was not able to attend the conference, she has been instrumental in developing plans for the group.

\* *BiblioNotes* Editor: Taddeo

Laura Taddeo reported that Carrie Wajda is scheduled to take over *BiblioNotes* in September. The newsletter is now all electronic, and we are able to have longer, more in-depth articles with the electronic format.

\* Website Editor: Ruotolo

Report included in Publications Committee report.

\* Discussion List Moderator: Rust

Amanda Rust reported that LES-L has 454 subscribers. The group's archives go back to 2000 and are searchable, and we discussed access to pre-2000 versions of the list.

#### X. New Business

Liorah suggested that the LES Executive Committee should invite incoming committee chairs to the meeting before the start of their terms so they can observe the Executive Committee and learn about the issues. She can send an email about the meeting before their appointments begin.

Karen thanked Angela and Liorah for their hard work for LES this year.

#### XI. Adjourn

The second meeting adjourned on Monday, June 28 at 11:37 p.m.