

**ACRL Literatures in English Section Midwinter 2016 Executive Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

Virtual Meeting via Adobe Connect  
Monday, January 25, 2015 11:00 am (EST)

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- I. Welcome and introductions (Rust)  
Present: Jaena Alabi, Amanda Binder, Laura Braunstein (vice chair/chair elect), Lori Critz, Kristina De Voe, Brian Flota, John Glover, Liorah Golomb, Arianne Hartsell-Gundy, Ashley Ireland, Melissa Johnson, Carol Leibiger, Piper Martin, Amanda Rust (chair), Chris Ruotolo, Laura Taddeo (past chair), Zara Wilkinson
- II. Approval of agenda (Rust)  
Agenda was approved.
- III. Approval of minutes from ALA Annual 2014 (Rust)  
Minutes from ALA Annual were approved.
- IV. Guest Speakers/Announcements
  - Guests: New Board Liaison (Critz)  
The Section's new board liaison, Lori Critz, was introduced. She will be the liaison to LES for the next couple of years. The Board asked Lori to relay 3 things:
    - 1) Reminder that LibGuides will be available to sections to make easy websites. More information will be coming out in the next couple of weeks.
    - 2) The board will be approving the Plan for Excellence at its next meeting. A new goal area around new roles for information professionals has been added. The purpose of this addition was to acknowledge that library hires are increasingly not MLS people and ACRL wants to welcome and embrace them in the organization.
    - 3) The information literacy framework has been approved by the board. The board will be looking at the competency standards and how to sunset them, though that will not happen overnight.
  - ACRL Leadership Council and ACRL Board update (Rust, Braunstein, Critz)  
See above for the ACRL Board update. At Leadership Council, there was discussion on the new goal area for the Plan for Excellence, mentioned above.
- V. Old Business:
  - A. Review of 2015/2016 LES budget (All)
  - B. Swag: do we want it, and should it be physical? How much money? (All)  
Last year we decided to set aside up to \$500 or \$600 from this year's budget to purchase swag for the section. At that time, the conversation stalled out when the question arose of who would be in charge of storing and bringing the swag to conferences. The discussion on this topic was resumed. Suggestions for swag

included mini-business cards, bookmarks, temporary tattoos, and laptop decals. The group agreed that decals sounded like the best option—lightweight, easy to transport (and probably inexpensive to mail). The possibility of updating the section’s logo was also mentioned, but was tabled as a longer-term project. It was also suggested to send new members a “care package” that includes swag. **Action:** Offline, we’ll figure out who wants to do the work of pricing decals and figuring out postage for new member care packages.

## VI. New Business

### A. Discuss Membership Report (Martin) and outreach to new members (All)

Last spring, ACRL sent out the results of a large membership survey. From that report, Piper pulled out relevant information for LES, with the goal of getting a better idea of who our members are and what’s important to them, as well as to help us plan events/discussions and point us to where we could best promote the section. We do have 96 members who are in library schools, even though the report says 0% (but that’s because those members didn’t take the survey) – this is a good group to work on targeted retention efforts. Additionally, the report shows a slight drop off for people who’ve been members for more than 10 years (so that may be another group to focus our retention efforts on). It was also noted that we don’t have a lot of membership from 2-year and 4-year colleges. Part of that may be related to who gets travel funding and time/space to attend conferences. It was suggested that perhaps we can reach out to leadership of ACRL College Section to connect with this group. Additionally, it was suggested that we target the New Members Round Table, alt-ac and DH+Lib groups, as well as the new digital scholarship interest group.

**Action(s):** Piper will draft an article about the membership survey results for submission to BiblioNotes. That article may also be shared via the newsletters of other sections, too (like NMRT, etc.).

### B. Establishing working group to update LES IL competencies within new framework and open to membership – when (All)

Theodore Mulvey, from the IL Section, was part of ACRL group who worked on crafting the framework. He contacted LES to let us know that members of that group want to help sections work on their disciplinary flavors of the framework. Our “Research Competency Guidelines for Literatures in English,” based on the previous competency standards, were created by working group, so it was suggested that we create a working group to focus on a similar document based on the framework. A vote was called and the creation of this working group was approved. The general timeline is as follows: Establish the group now; publicize the working group at Annual; the group will begin work in the fall, and will then be prepared to work with Mulvey and others in the spring next year.

**Action:** Later this spring, Amanda will send out a call asking for members who would like to be on and/or lead this group.

### C. Discuss and/or approve Weeding Guidelines (Rust for Imhof)

The group voted to approve this document.

**Action:** Amanda will encourage Robin Imhof to share the document with C&RL News.

D. **Discuss and/or approve LES Strategic Plan (Alabi)**

The current draft of the LES strategic plan had been circulated prior to the meeting and the floor was opened for comments regarding the draft. It was suggested that the section on research & the scholarly environment include an objective specifically focus on supporting traditional sources/print collections. The group agreed and an objective will be added before the document is shared via LES-L and members' feedback is solicited.

**Action(s):** Planning Committee will make the requested change (add an objective, perhaps along the lines of "continued access to print research materials," or advocacy of traditional methods). Jaena will share the document with the list and ask for specific comments/feedback on the plan (a targeted list of questions could help focus feedback).

VII. **Reports:**

- **Chair: Rust** – See above: ACRL Board Update and Discussion of swag.
- **Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Braunstein** – LES had no official meetings at midwinter, except for a social shared with the dig lib group. As Vice-Chair, Laura will begin making committee appointments soon. Everyone interested in serving on a committee should fill out a volunteer form (due Feb 15), even if you're already on a committee. Also, let Laura know if you're willing to chair a committee and/or be on the conference program planning committee for 2017 (Annual in Chicago). If you have specific questions, feel free to contact Laura directly.
- **Past Chair: Taddeo** – Laura thanked everyone for all their hard work.
- **Secretary: Alabi** – Jaena reminded people about the deadline for submitting minutes. She continued typing furiously.
- **Member-at-Large: Wilkinson** – Exec had previously discussed the possibility of having vendor-sponsored events, such as the LES all-committees meeting. That project has stalled out, however, because some people's institutions have very strict ethics policies regarding vendor gifts and events.
- **Membership: Golomb** – Membership is up, probably because this was the first year where members could join more than two sections for free. The mentoring program has undergone some revisions and is now a bit more structured with a calendar and discussion prompts for mentors/mentees. The topic for the general membership forum at Annual will be impostor syndrome. Rather than have a formal panel, though, it will be round robin-style. Plans are underway for the social at Annual. Also, it was noted that when people leave LES, it's never because they don't like us; it's usually because people retire, their job duties shift, or sometimes they don't have the money to participate in conferences and/or professional organizations. Several members expressed their appreciation for Liorah's continued hard work on various LES committees.

- **Virtual Participation: Oberhelman** –The virtual participation committee met last week and decided that they'll work on offering probably two webinar sessions per year. The one this spring will be on a digital humanities-related topic, and one this fall may be on the IL framework and/or on Open Educational Resources. Both webinars will be held using ALA's adobe connect program. Other ideas discussed include collaborating with the membership committee to hold local/regional meetings in person, live chats via twitter (a la #critlib), and organizing LES socials at non-ALA conferences.
- **Planning: Alabi** - See Strategic Plan discussion above.
- **Publications: Glover** – The publications committee had previously mentioned adding program flyers/brochures from our previous annual programs to the wiki. It was suggested that some members of LES may have copies of those, so it would be a good idea to put a call out to the list for that. Also, the committee discussed creating a shared calendar of events around country of interest to LES and they now have at least one person who can commit to leading that effort. The committee also noted that Ruth Boeder will occasionally get questions about how to use the LES bibliography, so they will be working on making some simple instructional videos on how to add to and use the bibliography. After some discussion, it was agreed that the ACRL youtube channel would be an appropriate place to host these videos.

**Action:** John will check on whether the videos need to have an official credit line or branding for the tutorials on using the LES bibliography.

- **2016 Conference Program Planning: DeVoe** – LES partnered with WESS and SEES to submit a joint proposal focused on archiving the present (collecting contemporary primary sources/distinctive collections). The joint proposal was not accepted, though. Competition was tight: 60% of the program submissions were not accepted due to the limited number of program slots available to ACRL. Unfortunately only the WESS conference program planning committee chair was notified about the proposal status, so LES and SEES did not learn about the rejection until much later.

The three conference program planning committee chairs decided to move forward by offering a forum at Annual on the same topic. A forum is similar to a program except that funding for guest speakers is not provided, nor is enhanced promotion made available. The forum will be listed in the forum section of all ALA publicity, including the online scheduler, though. Room space has already been reserved and paid for by ACRL. Date and time information is still to be confirmed.

The LES, WESS, and SEES conference program planning committee chairs determined over Midwinter to identify and reach out to individuals who may already be planning to attend Annual in order to alleviate the lack of funding concern. WESS is currently proposing having a section member discuss Harvard Library's Charlie [Hebdo] Archive. SEES is still looking for a speaker.

The LES conference program planning committee met virtually to brainstorm presenter options. Ideas such as individuals from NYPL's erotica collection and Temple's Occupy Philly archive to Library of Congress' Twitter archive project and librarian/filmmaker Ashley Manor's web documentary focused on what happened to all of the condolence items from the 2012 Sandy Hook School shooting were discussed.

The committee sought ideas from Executive as well as feedback regarding the possibility of offering an honorarium to the LES guest speaker.

- **2016 Nominating Committee: Hartsell-Gundy**

The work of the Nominating Committee was fairly easy because we had a lot of people who were willing to serve, and those who were not able to commit this year were so thoughtful about their decisions. I think we have a great slate:

**Vice-Chair/Chair Elect**, 2016-2019: Christine Ruotolo and Harriett Green

**Secretary**, 2016-2017: Amanda Watson and Ruth Boeder

**Member-at-Large**, 2016-2017: Abby Scheel and Brian Flota

I'd like to give a thanks to my other committee members, David Oberhelman and Aline Soules. To improve voter turnout I suggest we send out an e-mail reminder before the January 31<sup>st</sup> deadline that people renew their memberships in order to be eligible to vote in the ACRL election. Also, it will probably help to send out one or two reminders once the election takes place.

- **Reference Discussion Group: Foasberg/Leibiger** - The LES Reference Discussion Group will be hosting a virtual meeting next Monday (1 Feb.) at 3 PM EST in AdobeConnect. The topic is the application of the IL Framework and IL Standards (both the IL Competency Standards and The Research Competency Guidelines for Literatures in English).
- **Collections Discussion Group: Blevens/Ruotolo** – Blevens has withdrawn as co-chair/moderator. Arianne has volunteered to co-moderate the upcoming discussion scheduled for Feb 4. Laura Braunstein will pull from the existing pool of volunteers for the collections discussion committee, and ask them to assume responsibilities at annual (rather than after). Amanda thanked Chris for continuing to host the discussion group (b/c also a joint discussion with WESS on MLA CORE). Chris will send out survey on proposed topics for our regular discussion.
- **Social Media Coordinator: Johnson** – Melissa thanked Amanda Binder for getting LES's social media presence organized before she took over. Melissa's been following posts on LES-L and sharing them via social media, but let her know if she's missed anything you want her to advertise/post. The Publications Committee also discussed creating a twitter army (to make conference tweets more cohesive/point back to LES). Several possible hashtags for this were suggested, including #lesalaannual16, #LES16, #alaac16, #alaac16LES, #LESalaac16, or simply adding "les" to the official ALA conference hashtag.
- **BiblioNotes Editor: Flota & Ireland** - The previous issue of BiblioNotes was positively received. Submissions for BiblioNotes are due on April 12th for the 2nd issue of the newsletter this year. The first call went out over LES-L a week or so ago. Let Brian or Ashley know if you have any content you'd like included ([flotabc@jmu.edu](mailto:flotabc@jmu.edu) or [aireland@murraystate.edu](mailto:aireland@murraystate.edu) ).
- **Website Editor: Rogers** –no report.
- **List Administrator: Binder** – Amanda Binder sent a reminder in late July regarding 1) the change in address for sending messages to LES-L (from [les-l@ala.org](mailto:les-l@ala.org) to [les-l@lists.ala.org](mailto:les-l@lists.ala.org)), 2) how to respond to messages, and 3) privacy guidelines for members

posting and sharing information posted through the list. Amanda will be stepping down as list administrator after ALA Annual 2016.

- VII. Adjourn  
Meeting was adjourned at 12:55 pm (EST)