

**ACRL Literatures in English Section  
General Membership Forum  
ALA Annual Meeting  
Saturday, June 25, 2011, 1:30-3:30pm  
Marriott New Orleans, Mardi Gras H2**

Minutes

- I. Introductions
- II. LES Reports/Announcements
  - a. Executive Committee Report

Liorah Golomb announced John Glover as the new editor of *BiblioNotes*, the section's newsletter. Liorah also reported on the ACRL Leadership Council meeting: the proposal to change the ACRL dues structure (where dues will gradually increase each year according to the Higher Education Price Index) went through; ACRL will phase out interest groups. Liorah encouraged members present to become more active in LES, which may be easier to do now that we'll be conducting Midwinter Meetings entirely online in 2012.
  - b. Membership Committee Report

Jaena Alabi reminded attendees of other LES events at Annual, including the New Members Discussion Group, Collections & Reference Discussion Group, and the MLA International Bibliography Discussion Group.
- III. Discussion Topic: Tensions within English Departments
  - a. Equitably allocating resources to a variety of programs, from linguistics to creative writing and from rhet/comp to a variety of literatures
  - b. Safely navigating organizational dynamics and departmental politics
  - c. Supporting faculty in their responses to external pressures
  - d. Additional examples from members present: Leisure reading collections, purchase on demand options, and discovery solutions were mentioned.
  - e. Ideas and suggestions from the group
    - i. Divide English fund into sub-fund and divvy up fund based on scholarship being done in the department. This doesn't work so well for serials, but can be handy for monographs.
    - ii. Sometimes you have to say "no" to faculty requests. Ask them to prioritize the items they've requested so that you can cover the whole department's top needs.
    - iii. In Gobi, you can set up slips to send to faculty (using sub-fund codes that all come from the same fund).
    - iv. Set up Google Alerts to find out what faculty are doing/publishing.
    - v. Create a LibGuide of faculty publications.
    - vi. Some institutions are clustering humanities disciplines to deal with vacancies created by retirements.
    - vii. When faculty move courses online, use that as leverage to get them connected with their librarian.
    - viii. In some institutions, tenured-faculty are being asked to teach more freshman-level classes. This may also be an opportunity for librarians to connect with faculty and classes.
    - ix. Use restructuring/reorganization as a way to talk with faculty about how to adjust library funds and plans for those lost faculty.