

**ACRL Literatures in English Section
Publications Committee**

ALA Annual Conference, Washington, DC

Monday, June 25, 2007

8 a.m. – 10 a.m.

Minutes

Attendees: Linda Stein, Millie Jackson, Aparna Zambare, Tim Hackman [visitor], Michealyn Burnette [visitor], and Shawn Martin. Absent: Daniel Coffey, Laura Fuderer, and Laura Taddeo.

Welcome

Tim Hackman and Michaelyn Burnette were welcomed and encouraged to join the committee.

Announcements/Reports

LES Exec is soliciting ideas for activities that fit the section's strategic plan, so the committee should keep the plan in mind when suggesting ideas for new activities. LES Publications has been targeted as a committee that can contribute to the process of archiving section documents. Adam Burling is currently holding the folder of LES archival documents at the University of Illinois. The committee needs to scan and store the documents in a secure place on the Web. Unfortunately, ACRL does not have a Web repository for section documents at this time. Some documents less confidential than others have been selected for storage on the LES website. Bibliographies and announcements related to LES programs are being scanned and loaded on the site. E-mails on LES-L soliciting this material from members were not successful. Committee members obtained documents by contacting the individuals responsible for the various programs.

Shawn Martin, Web Editor, talked about the problems with the new ACRL system. The new system was announced this spring, but did not operate as planned. Shawn went back to using the old system. The problems with the system keep interfering with the section's plans to change the website and add new features, such as a wiki and a blog.

Millie Jackson, E-List Moderator, discussed the move to a new e-list system. The move went well, although she is checking to make sure we have not lost portions of the LES archives in the transition.

Linda Stein reported for Laura Taddeo, *Biblio-Notes* Editor. Laura does not have the exact deadline for the fall issue, but articles should be sent to the editor by the end of September. She had adequate articles for the spring newsletter. Laura is considering using pictures and photos, and proposed having an awards column, a column that introduces new literature librarians, and/or a column on librarians who are retiring. She mentioned the possibility of finding an assistant editor. There is precedent for this.

Old Business

Copies of the new brochure were distributed. The committee members were thanked for their efforts to create the brochure.

Linda discussed the progress made on the LES program bibliography project, the first step in providing electronic access to LES archive material. Kathy Johnson brought a number of

bibliographies to the conference for scanning. The new material will be added to the website in the upcoming months.

New Business

Michaelyn Burnette volunteered to become the new LES bibliographer and update the *Studies of Interest* bibliography. The group talked about Kathy Johnson's proposal that the scope of the bibliography be changed to encompass literatures in English rather than English and American literature. The members agreed that the change would be appropriate and worth pursuing. They also felt that LES Exec should investigate the term for LES bibliographer and limit the term to two or three years.

The committee discussed new ideas for *Biblio-Notes*. Members thought that the photos/pictures and the sections on awards/new/retiring librarians proposed by Laura Taddeo seemed appropriate. A profile or article by Bill Wortman, a long-time member of LES, was suggested. The newsletter could feature a plea for mentors and, possibly, articles by mentees on how they benefited from the relationship. They did not report problems receiving print copies of the newsletter, and thought that the spring mailing was successful. Linda mentioned that the online version of the LES newsletter does not have to be identical to the print version; it can be longer because there is no increase in cost associated with additional pages.

There was discussion about the possible need for an assistant newsletter editor: someone to nudge people for articles and proofread the issues before they are sent to be printed. In lieu of an assistant editor, the committee proposed the idea of having column editors. The committee may have a group of new members for 2007-2008 interested in volunteering. They have experienced problems with the volunteer form on the website.

Regarding other publications, the committee felt that *Biblio-Notes* should mention publications (articles and books) by LES members. An article or ACRL booklet about the "Research Competency Guidelines for Literatures in English" was recommended.

Actions

--Involvement of new members of LES

- Wiki and blog
- Column editors
- Plea for mentors in *Biblio-Notes*/articles by mentees

--Publications

- Acknowledge member publications in *Biblio-Notes*
- Suggest publish article or booklet on "Research Competency Guidelines"
- Update of "Studies of Interest" bibliography by Michaelyn

--Storage of LES documents

- Continue to pursue a secure online site for confidential LES documents on the Web
- Post documents not considered confidential on the website (e.g., program-related)

--Set term of office for LES Bibliographer

--Fix volunteer form on LES website

Submitted by Linda Stein, Chair, LES Publications Committee 7/13/07