

Publications Committee Meeting, June 30, 2008

Attendees: Linda Stein, Aline Soules, Millie Jackson, Laura Taddeo, Chris Ruotolo, Liorah Golomb, Tim Hackman, Leigh Anne Palmer, Angela Courtney, Michaelyn Burnette, Aparna Zambare, and Shawn Martin. **Absent:** Vince Graziano.

The members introduced themselves. Chris Ruotolo is the new LES Web Editor as of July 1. Shawn Martin is the outgoing Web Editor. Liorah Golomb is the new LES-L Moderator. Millie Jackson is the outgoing Moderator and new LES Member-at-Large. Laura Taddeo is continuing as *Biblio-Notes* Editor. Vince Graziano and Aline Soules will work with the wiki. Leigh Anne Palmer, Tim Hackman, and Angela Courtney are the members of the blog team. Aparna Zambare and Michaelyn Burnette handle the LES *Bibliography: Studies of Interest for Literatures in English Librarians*. The name of someone interested in joining the Publications Committee was given to Angela Courtney.

LES-L Plans: Contact Adam Burling about LES-L Moderator change. Liorah will be moderating the separate e-list for the LES Executive Committee as well as LES-L. LES-L is an open list. LES has had very few lurkers. Since ACRL plans to announce that all ACRL discussion lists are open, we may get a few more outside people. Liorah will post the discussion list guidelines at least once a year. We may want to state ACRL's policy on political messages.

LES Bibliography: The group discussed a move of the bibliography to the wiki. The move would enable LES members to contribute citations on a regular basis. Also, all LES publications should be housed on the LES website and wiki rather than the institution of a committee member. Responsibility for the bibliography passes from person to person, and it is sometimes difficult to add information and compile use statistics. If the bibliography requires too much space, older citations can be archived on the website. The link to older citations would be placed next to the access point for the current citations. Chris checked to see if Google access was available, and it was. If the bibliography can be moved to the wiki, Michaelyn and Aparna will create guidelines for LES members who wish to contribute citations to the bibliography. Laura will put a request for contributors in *Biblio-Notes*. Michaelyn shared an initial draft of some citation guidelines. The group discussed problems with cross-referencing and the use of ISBNs and ISSNs.

Blog: The new author series was launched before the conference. Leigh Anne sent an announcement to LES-L and introduced Angela, who posted questions about her book with answers. We have had one question to Angela from Arianne Hartsell-Gundy on June 23. Angela will answer Arianne after the conference. The author questions created by Angela will be utilized for the next author. Tim connected with Melissa Van Vuuren, chair of the LES Reference Discussion Group, about promoting the conference discussion about librarian office hours on the blog. Mary Claire Vandenburg, author of a recent *Biblio-Notes* article on this topic, contributed a comment to Tim's posting. Tim will contact the leaders of the discussion groups prior to conferences. Laura will work with Tim and the discussion group leaders to see if a *Biblio-Notes* request for blog/discussion-group liaison volunteers is required. LES-L may also post the request. It is important to

connect with the discussion groups so that the mission of the blog is understood and LES members contribute. Postings need to come from people other than blog team members. Pubs members should remember to connect wiki and website with blog and newsletter; each tool should promote and connect with the others. The group talked about the possibility that some members of LES may welcome “tech tips” on posting to blogs, requesting RSS feeds, etc. This kind of blog training would be professional development. We could ask people if they would like to sign up for RSS feeds. Leigh Anne volunteered to handle a blog “tech tips” series for LES members. She is currently working on the spam problem and contacted David Free at ACRL. Would LES have to pay a sum in order to categorize RSS feeds by subject so that members could ask to receive tech tip postings and not other blog postings? Leigh Anne will investigate this. A possible topic of interest is the new connection between MLA and OCLC. If Barbara Chen is willing and able to answer questions on the blog, members may be interested. If she is not able to do this, she may be able to write a short announcement about this for *Biblio-Notes*. Another idea: Linda and Faye Christenberry will be working with beta versions of WorldCat Local this fall. They may be able to provide info to other LES members.

Website: Changes can now be made, but they should be made “in bulk” rather than “on demand.” The Web Editor is only able to see the code that is being changed and not the surrounding code. This makes the process difficult for the Web Editor. Everyone would like to see an attention-getting site that would attract new members to the section. Chris and Linda showed the group the ANSS and RBMS websites. ANSS is using the ACRL structure, but adds some color to its site. Linda asked if color gradations could be introduced to the LES website. Shawn recommended waiting until we receive design assistance from ACRL. Karen Munro requested funding for Web redesign as part of last year’s strategic plan. The request was deferred rather than denied. John Staller, ACRL’s new Web guru, starts on August 30. Linda would like to see some website improvements as soon as possible, even if only to the “skin.” The flat aqua block could be stretched (e.g., ANSS site) and a larger, more decorative font used for the banner. LES should consider a redesign of the LES logo as the image is fuzzy. We only have a jpeg image. The committee members may want to consider submitting information to the new LES policies and procedures about how/when the Executive Committee should submit corrections for the website. They will be made “in bulk” at regular intervals.

Wiki: Very successful. Will need a \$99.50 for renewal of the Silver Package for 2009. *Notes from LES Executive Committee Meeting 2* – Trial period ended for wiki. Wiki will be a permanent LES publication. Linda currently seeking money for 2009 renewal from remaining section funds. Will seek confirmation about blog trial period. Discussion Group chairs plan to continue posting information on the wiki and blog. Priscilla Finley, Chair of Membership, placed the literary theory bibliographies distributed at the “Talking Theory” General Membership Meeting on the LES wiki. May want to consider a strategic action plan discussion on the blog.

Additional Information

Items for consideration for strategic plan:

- Redesign of website (resubmit)
- Blog author series addresses need for publishing mentoring expressed at General Membership Meeting in 2007.
- Blog “tech tips” series would provide professional development for members.
- Collection of bibliography citations by the membership rather than one or two members involves all in the examination of studies of interest to literatures in English librarians.
- New online methods of discussion (such as those listed above) serve to involve LES members who cannot attend conferences.
- Consider a discussion of opinions on LES strategic plans on the blog.

Item for consideration for update of LES policies and procedures:

- Need to change website updates by the LES Executive Committee. Should be at regular intervals rather than a continuous process.
- Plan to state ACRL’s policy on political statements as well as discussion-list guidelines on LES-L at regular intervals.

For both:

Add blog and wiki to mentions of LES publications if blog is officially approved by LES Executive Committee.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Stein, Chair, LES Publications Committee on 7/15/08