

Literatures in English Section (LES) Publications Committee
ALA Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois
All Committees Meeting, July 13, 2009

Attendees: Linda Stein (Chair), Aline Soules, Liorah Golomb, Michaelyn Burnette, Tim Hackman, Chris Ruotolo, Laura Taddeo

Visitors: Amanda Rust, Naomi Lederer, and members of the LES Membership Committee

Absent: Vince Graziano and Aparna Zambare

Introductions

Current members introduced themselves to Amanda and Naomi.

Announcements from Executive Committee Meetings I and II

Variety of Publications

Karen Munro mentioned in the first Exec. meeting that LES Publications may want to consider collapsing some of the publication categories as the section now has a wiki, website, blog, newsletter, bibliography, Facebook site, and LES-L. If we move to ALA Connect, would we need a wiki that costs money, and should the newsletter be published on the blog? Committee members felt that having variety of publications is best as all are different. Publications would need to confirm continuation of the wiki before committing to the new LES directory because it would be difficult to transfer to another format. Vince concurred with this via e-mail.

Linda reported that she talked with the chair of Membership. Membership will continue to maintain the Facebook site and handle the LES directory. This is fine, but Publications should make sure the Facebook site is considered when decisions are made about connecting/advertising other LES publications. ALA Connect may help with polling/decision-making; it may be used by the LES Executive Committee without being administered by Publications.

There were no section brochures at the ACRL booth. Linda will ask why. There should be many left to distribute. Membership had them for the General Membership Meeting.

LES Archives

Publications should discuss the LES archives with LES Exec. in the upcoming year. The committee was asked to find a way to archive materials related to the section other than the box at headquarters. LES now has a wiki and a website. Should materials from the box be digitized? Chris felt that the website would be a good place for the digital archive.

Strategic Plan

Linda submitted suggestions to Kathy Johnson related to Publications. She encouraged consideration of plans that would not only emphasize librarians' work with scholars, but also librarians' view of themselves as scholars. LES should promote member publications in the LES bibliography, continue the blog's author series, post calls for papers on the website, have a separate discussion group for publishing concerns/tie this to mentoring, and advertise the ACRL workshops on publishing.

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Strategic Plan (cont.)

Calls for papers/presentation opportunities would be nice to add to the blog, website, and/or LES-L.

Reports

Chris Ruotolo (Website Editor, Upcoming Chair)

Chris will ask LES Exec. to vote on the new website design with the sidebar and Jackie's logo if Publications favors this design. LES Exec. approval would be needed to purchase the book image for the sidebar. The committee members voted yes. They discussed the possibility of a continuous news section in a box similar to stock quotes and using RSS. If Jackie's logo is approved, the committee should note that this is her design on the LES website. Chris should ask that a letter of appreciation be sent from LES Exec. and/or send a letter from Publications.

Aline Soules (Wiki)

No report.

Laura Taddeo (Newsletter)

The newsletter will be going completely electronic (PDF). The fall issue will be the last to be printed. ACRL will announce this. Postcards may be sent to members who do not have e-mail. This format change will help Laura improve the newsletter as there will be no limit to the number of pages she can use. The old deadlines will still be kept. Articles should be submitted by the end of September.

Laura mentioned that she was renewed for only one year. Linda said that there were problems with some of the terms when she last checked the roster for 2009/2010. Aline and Liorah did not have the correct dates. Members of Publications should check the ALA website roster as it is the official list of terms. Terms follow the academic year rather than go January to December. She will mention Laura's situation at LES Exec. II.

Linda said she still hoped to see the Tech Tips column in the blog and/or newsletter. Leigh Anne Palmer was supposed to write this column. Aline volunteered to handle this. She will begin with information on RSS feeds.

Liorah Golomb (LES-L)

LES-L is doing fine except for the missing archive years. There are 419 members of LES-L, and LES currently has 598 members. Linda thought that Liorah may want to consider turning over the discussion list responsibilities to another member of Publications as she may find herself busy as Vice Chair/Chair Elect. Amanda Rust said she might be able to take over as LES-L Coordinator. The committee encouraged her to consider this. Linda noted that the LES-L Coordinator is expected to attend LES Exec. meetings at conferences.

Michaelyn Burnette (Bibliography)

Michaelyn has been working with Aparna to update the bibliography. They will be leaving

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Michaelyn Burnette (Bibliography) (cont.)

Publications. New member Julie Buchsbaum volunteered to take over the bibliography. Michaelyn had several questions for the group. Should citations be placed under several subject categories rather than just one? This was O.K. Should there be a category for LES member publications? Chris said we could mark those by members rather than have a separate category. Aline suggested limiting member publications as many would not be related to library science. Linda said they'd have to fit the bibliography's scope note. The scope note may need further work.

Aparna would like to see literature-related website links in the bibliography. The committee thought they'd be best as a continuously-changing feature on the website. Chris will look into adding this feature. Can the blog feature a post on how to find good literature websites? Can Publications use Zotero? Michaelyn will add a note that the bibliography is best viewed with Internet Explorer. Otherwise, pages are cut off. Linda noted that this may cause problems with the new LES directory because it will also be lengthy. Aline will check on reason for this problem. Michaelyn was thanked for her hard work on the bibliography.

Tim Hackman (Blog)

The blog has had 36 posts and 61 comments – about two posts per month. Most of the posts have been written by Tim. He has enlisted a new author for the author series. Linda thanked Tim for handling all aspects of the blog (writing and technical maintenance) since Leigh Anne Palmer left the committee. She asked him to thank his wife for her work on the LES logo. Linda reminded the committee that Tim could use help.

Publications Met with Membership

Publications and Membership met to discuss the new wiki directory and the volunteer box that will be added to the website. Liorah will be organizing LES appointments. She will help to coordinate the volunteer form and information to be added. Her e-mail address will be linked. Membership will connect with Publications about Facebook links. Tim volunteered to be the liaison for this. Aline mentioned that lots of LES members will be asking for authorization to add information to the wiki directory. She volunteered to handle this. Linda will be a new member of Membership after the conference.

Linda thanked Publications members for their hard work and many achievements. She reminded them to check the ACRL online committee roster for 2009/2010 because it is the official record of service. Chris will be the new chair after the conference and will be handling assignments, so members should let Chris know if they would like to work on something other than their current assignment.

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LES Exec. II. Followed the Publications Meeting – Notes Related to Publications

Variety of Publications

Members of Exec. agreed to keep all of the LES publications at this time. The fee for the wiki will be paid in August by the ACRL office. Chris should have PBwiki submit the bill in August in the same way it was handled last year. Linda will send last year's bill and e-mails to Chris so she has this information. The bill is actually due in February. LES paid it early last year because the money was available.

The Member-at-Large may handle the discussions about the job shadowing project via ALA Connect.

Linda asked about the lack of brochures at the ACRL booth. ACRL felt that there wasn't enough space to display them at the small booth in the convention center. Linda suggested having some in a box under the counter if there is a similar problem at the next conference. Adam thought this would be possible.

Strategic Plan

There will be an article about the Strategic Plan in the newsletter. LES Exec. will discuss the plan with the membership on LES-L. The final changes will be made at Midwinter.

Archives

Kathy Johnson asked if Publications would keep an archive copy of the old LES bylaws on the website. Linda said this could be done. Kathy also thought that a paper copy should go to the box at headquarters. Does LES still plan to keep print copies of documents in the box? There was no time to discuss this at LES Exec. II.

Website

The new website design, Jackie's logo, and money for the book image for the sidebar were approved at LES Exec. II. Adam Burling said the new logo is fine. He reminded the group that it would not be on the brochure.

Laura's Renewal

Angela agreed to fix Laura's term of office so that she will be renewed for three more years.

Missing LES-L Archives

Adam Burling will check on the status of the missing archives.

Submitted by

Linda Stein

Chair, LES Publications Committee

8/1/09