

LES Publications Committee, All Committees Meeting, Midwinter, January 14, 2008

Committee Members Present: Linda Stein (Chair), Michaelyn Burnette, Aline Soules, Shawn Martin, Tim Hackman, and Laura Taddeo.

Committee Members Absent: Leigh Anne Palmer, Aparna Zambare, Vince Graziano, Angela Courtney, and Millie Jackson.

Non-members: Jaena Hollingsworth, Candace Benefiel, Liorah Golomb, and Frank Gravier.

The meeting began with a “round robin” of introductions. Linda Stein announced that the committee would be initiating the wiki and blog in 2008. The LES Executive Committee approved of a year’s trial period for the two new communication tools. The blog will use ACRL WordPress software at no charge to LES. The wiki will reside on the PBwiki.com site. Publications received approval for the \$99.50 upgrade to the PBwiki Silver Package. There is a free ACRL wiki site, and Vince Graziano, leader of the Wiki Task Force, created the first draft of the LES wiki at this site. Unfortunately, the ACRL wiki site offered very limited space and authorization, and spam is a constant problem. Vince created a second wiki using PBwiki. LES information is now available at the PBwiki site. Linda talked with Adam Burling (ACRL) at the first LES Executive Committee meeting. Adam suggested that Publications remove its original wiki information from the ACRL site since LES would be using PBwiki. The committee may want to consider placing a link on the ACRL wiki page to its current PBwiki site.

The group selected Valentine’s Day (2/14) as the launch date for the blog and the wiki. They discussed whether to make one big announcement on LES-L or a series of preliminary announcements. The blog, wiki, and LES Studies of Interest bibliography were described at the General Membership meeting, and copies of each of the home pages were distributed. Guidelines would need to be set before Publications asked for member input. It was suggested that Publications initiate wiki input with the minutes from Midwinter meetings. Information in PDF format would be best. Aline Soules, a member of the Wiki Task Force, questioned whether PDFs would work with PBwiki. Frank Gravier volunteered to ask a colleague.

The group talked about ways of jump-starting the blog with sample posts on an interesting topic. At the moment, the blog, created by Leigh Anne Palmer with assistance from Tim Hackman and David Free of ACRL, contains an informative welcome statement from Tim. Some suggestions were to (1) ask Millie Jackson for recent, popular LES-L topics and (2) obtain a topic from the Midwinter discussion group meetings. Suggested topics were plagiarism and e-books. Linda mentioned that Leigh Anne had asked for a .png image of the LES logo for the banner of the blog. Tim said there may be some difficulties with adding the logo; contact Leigh Anne or Tim if you can assist them with this task. The idea of using the blog to post ACRL news was rejected.

The group discussed the necessary connections between the members in charge of the wiki, blog, newsletter, and website. Since the blog and wiki are on trial for a year and LES Bylaws are not easy to change, it seemed best for the moment to connect web with wiki and newsletter with blog rather than ask for two new ex-officio spots on LES Executive Committee. Also, members of the LES Executive Committee have to attend all of the executive meetings at all ALA conferences. Shawn Martin (website editor), Laura (newsletter editor), and Linda agreed to report on wiki/blog progress at meetings of the LES Executive Committee. Laura would be given an author-level password for the blog.

Links between the communication tools would be important. Shawn thought that he could place links to the LES bibliography, blog, and wiki on the website. These links would be a priority in the upcoming weeks. The group discussed the budget necessary to add easy blog access to the wiki. Aline was not sure this could be done on a PBwiki site. Frank and Linda said that they would check with colleagues using PBwiki.

The group talked about the next steps for the wiki. Aline reported that an “invitation” process would be necessary in order to provide LES members with password access to the wiki and directions/guidances for input, possibly contacting groups of ten people at a time. She volunteered to help with this task as a member of the Wiki Task Force. A member list would be needed as Sara Seton Berghausen’s directory contains literature librarians who are not members of the section, and the membership list is much longer. Aline would need to coordinate the invitation process with Millie and Vince. The two options to consider: (1) announcing that all could apply for an invitation and finding the best way to deal with large groups or (2) announcing that Publications would begin by contacting specific groups of people, such as members of the LES Executive Committee. The process would be discussed with Vince. Suggestions for possible wiki categories were made: collection development, instruction, reference, liaison work, new members, and LES minutes. (LES Executive Meeting suggestion: announcements of publications by LES members, e.g., LES book edited by Kathy Johnson and Steven Harris.) Members have often requested a place for sharing instruction materials, such as guides and teaching tools. This was the original focus of the draft wiki on the ACRL site, and Vince’s description could be utilized for this section.

Michaelyn Burnette and Linda talked about the two online bibliographies associated with literature librarians. There is the bibliography maintained by Faye Christenberry for the *MLA International Bibliography Academic Libraries Discussion Group* (Bibliography of Studies on the *MLA International Bibliography*). At the current time, the LES Publications Committee is charged with the maintenance of the Studies of Interest to Literatures in English Librarians Bibliography. The bibliography was recently moved to the CMU site and updated by Aparna Zambare. Webpage links connect the two online bibliographies together. The bibliography team of Aparna and Michaelyn will be working in 2008 to add further citations to the Studies of Interest to Literatures in English Librarians Bibliography. Linda asked Michaelyn if she would be willing to talk to Scott Stebelman, the first chair of LES and originator of the bibliography, about his methodology for citation selection. The original description merely stated that he drew from *Biblio-Notes* and “other sources.” Laura sent Aparna issues of *Biblio-Notes* in Word for easy scanning. Elana Karshmer, a LES member interested in joining Publications in 2008, assisted Aparna with the task. Not many citations were located. Linda and Aparna then examined a range of databases. It seems advisable to create a methodology for citation collection. Linda reported that she had talked to Faye about the MLAIB-related bibliography. Faye is continuing to maintain the bibliography, and appreciates the link that connects the two information sources.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Stein
Chair, LES Publications Committee