LES Publications Committee Meeting
January 26, 2009

Attendees: Linda Stein (Chair), Chris Ruotolo, Michaelyn Burnette, Liorah Golomb, and Julie Buchsbaum (visitor).
Absent: Vince Graziano, Angela Courtney, Aline Soules, Tim Hackman, Leigh Anne Palmer, Laura Taddeo, and Aparna Zambare.

Newsletter

Articles for the spring newsletter should be submitted to Laura by March 30. She will call for articles in early March. Laura would like to continue as newsletter editor. She hopes to have the column-like articles discussed at Annual on "Tech Tips" or "Active Learning Tips," and feature additional information on the blog. There could be a section on MLA-related issues. Other ideas: librarians collaborating with professors and incorporating digital resources into instruction. Volunteer writers will be needed. Laura plans to write a *Biblio-Notes* article as part of the Author Series with a continuation on the blog.

Wiki

It looks like we'll be moving to PBwiki2.0. This version eliminates the invite keys. Access controls will require e-mail addresses for all four levels (Reader, Writer, Editor, and Administrator). Every user will have to create a my.pbwiki.com account. The Administrator will assign one of the levels to each user. One new feature of PBwiki2.0 is the ability to add multimedia content, including spreadsheets, calendars, chat rooms, videos, photo slideshows, and more. For a demo, see http://pbwiki.com/features.wiki. The *LES Directory of Librarians* remains difficult to edit despite Amanda Rust's kind assistance. It is important that we fix the directory (with PBwiki2.0 tools?) because Sara no longer updates it. Members need to access and edit their information. Links to the ACRL/LES website have been fixed, minutes from Annual posted, committee lists updated (with e-mails removed to avoid spam), and program bibliographies/handouts uploaded.

Blog

Tim says we've had 23 posts by six different authors and over 48 comments on the LES blog. There were a few responses to his recent call for authors; only one author has posted an entry. He created an author account for Laura Taddeo. There has been no progress on the "Tech Tips" series (Leigh Anne's assignment). Linda will ask for the necessary in-person vote on the blog; the Executive Committee voted "yes" on e-mail.

LES-L

There are currently 385 subscribers, 58 of whom subscribed after July 1, 2008. As of January 12, 2009, 159 messages were posted since July 1, 2008. Everything seems to be working fine.

Bibliography

Michaelyn and Aparna will be working on the subject categories. There will be a separate subject category for LES member publications and one for e-journal evaluations. The subject category for member publications may be a good substitute for the Member Achievements section on the wiki. Only a few LES members have posted achievements.

Types of Information

The blog is a good place for comments on new products and websites. The website may be the place to add multimedia materials, such as a tape of the Digital Humanities program at Annual. Chris's husband may be a resource for taping the program.

Ideas for Improving the Website
Fix logo/background should be invisible.
Bigger, bolder title. Different style.
LES brochure link (get rid of words/link "in PDF format").
Update information on people mentioned.
Fix title of Past Officers page.
Description of LES should be same as description on brochure.
Headers/Subheadings confusing.
Varied text styles, indents, colors. Should be consistent.
Need to fix ACRL left side so it acts as a table of contents for site.
Need wide side bar on left side, colorful, with eye-catching volunteer box (e.g., ANSS website).
Can we use images from brochure on website? Quotes?
Links to "Professional Resources" needs work. Include link to MLAIB Discussion Group.
E-mail addresses should be consistently displayed.
The website links to several different versions of the LES directory.
Officers Manual needs updating. Do we keep or incorporate information into new Governance
pages created by Kathy Johnson's Planning Committee?

Other Recommendations
Keep the LES website on the ACRL site despite the problems. Keep the blog. LES members
directory decision: use a Comments column for comments rather than several columns addressing
faculty status. PDF versions of the LES directory and bibliography should be available on the
website for printing; use the wiki for easy updates from members.

Submitted by Linda Stein, Chair, LES Publications Committee 2/4/09