

SRRT ACI
2005 ALA Annual, Chicago

Present: Rory Litwin, Marie Jones, Jonathan Betz-Zall, John Gehner, Aureole Johnstone, Theresa Tobin, Diedre Conkling, Tom Twiss, Al Kagan, Elaine Harger, LaJuan Pringle, Mary Sue Brown, Dana Lubow, Ann Sparanese, Mary Biblo, Anu Pradhan, Teran Loeppke, Ginny Moore, Mark Rosenzweig

Boycott of Intercontinental Hotel

Guests Anu Pradhan and Teran Loeppke discussed with us the reasons for the union's call for a boycott of the Intercontinental hotel in Chicago, in support of the strike at the San Francisco hotel in this chain. Our jointly-sponsored SRRT program, the Googlization of Everything, is to take place on Sunday at the Intercontinental. While there are strike clauses in the conference contracts, there are no boycott clauses, so it was not possible to move the program once we became aware of the issue. Discussion evolved to a decision to take protest letters to the program for individuals to sign and to send a delegation to the manager to deliver the letters and express our concern over the situation in San Francisco. For more information on the boycott, see www.hotelworkersunited.org or <http://hotellaboradvisor.info>.

Announcements

- SRRT is now the largest roundtable, with 1803 members
- Sally Driscoll has resigned as newsletter editor. We will need a new editor to publish the next issue, which is scheduled to come out shortly before midwinter (Sally set a September deadline)
- Satia has questioned PLG's affiliate status. This may be an issue that will need to be dealt with in the coming months. Elaine cites Article X of the ALA constitution in regard to the formation of affiliates in ALA.

Resolutions

1. Resolution on Threats to Library Materials Related to Sex, Gender Identity or Sexual Orientation

Diedre Conkling presents this resolution, asking that we endorse it in principle, since some small changes to wording and content are underway (i.e., to include all levels of government in the wording; to drop the last resolved clause). The resolution is already on the council agenda.

Jonathan Betz-Zall moves to endorse in principle.

Theresa Tobin seconds.

Motion carries unanimously.

2. Resolution on the Connection Between the Iraq War and Libraries

Tom Twiss presents this resolution, which will be taken to the membership meeting. Discussion of slight changes in the wording are deferred, as such changes may be brought up on the

membership meeting floor, but changes cannot be made by SRRT at this time because the resolution is already on the membership meeting agenda, as is.

Aureole Johnstone moves to endorse the resolution.

Al Kagan seconds.

Motion carries unanimously.

3. Workplace Speech

Al Kagan provides background on this resolution. Mark Rosenzweig reports on meeting (along with Peter) with the IFC and the IFRT this morning, and presents the substitute resolution that the groups jointly arrived at. Much discussion centered around the phrase "within the framework of applicable law."

Al Kagan moves that we endorse the substitute resolution, as Mark Rosenzweig has presented it.

Fred Stoss seconds.

Aye: 12

Nay: 0

Abstentions: 1

4. Endangered Libraries List

Reports on the discussion that has been taking place regarding this list include concerns that the metaphor might cast a poor light on libraries, generally, as being "endangered" and questions about how libraries would be added to the list. Some spoke strongly for the initial resolution. The resolution is already on council agenda; Al needs direction in voting.

Aureole Johnstone moves that we endorse the resolution as it stands.

Ginny Moore seconds.

Motion passes unanimously.

Fred Stoss reports on the OLOS meeting.

Mary presents a certificate of appreciation to Rory Litwin for his participation in the Martin Luther King Sunrise Celebration at midwinter.

Rory suggests the idea of having a programming committee to avoid program conflicts and to coordinate programs. The idea is deferred until ACII, when more people will be in attendance.

Meeting adjourns early, at 1:08.

SRRT AC II
2005 ALA Annual meeting, Chicago

Present: Marie Jones, Mary Sue Brown, Jonathan Betz-Zall, Lauren Ray, Laura Koltutsky, Mark Rosenzweig, Dana Lubow, Tom Twiss, Lucas Hill, Alison Lewis, Jennifer Downey, John Gehner, Kim Edson, Katharine Phenix, Al Kagan, Aureole Johnstone, K.R. Roberto, Jane Glasby, Terry Epperson

Budget issue

KR Roberto has not been reimbursed for Annual 2004's Free Speech Buffet.

Aureole Johnstone moves to allocate \$2758.45 from this year's budget for reimbursement.

Marie Jones seconds.

Motion passes unanimously.

Task Force Reports

ARTF: Anti-Racism Taskforce

Jon distributes a statement of goals for the proposed taskforce and gives background for the need for such work. Some discussion of the process for creating a taskforce ensues.

Al Kagan moves that we grant this new taskforce provisional status.

Aureole Johnstone seconds.

Motion passes unanimously.

IPPI: Information Policy in the Public Interest

Mark Rosenzweig moves that the taskforce shifts from provisional status into full status.

The taskforce conducted a successful program at this conference. The taskforce is reminded that it must have a formal meeting at least once every two years, and that it therefore must meet at Midwinter.

Al Kagan seconds the motion to make IPPI a permanent taskforce.

Motion carries unanimously.

AIP: Alternatives in Publication

Rory Litwin reports on the "slow meltdown" of AIP, and efforts to continue. The Free Speech Buffet will take place here in Chicago, but the Eubanks award, Alternative Publishers of Books in North America project, and any other programs need an infusion of volunteers.

HHP: Hunger Homelessness and Poverty

Roughly 17 people are participating in this taskforce, which is working on a variety of publishing and outreach projects.

Taskforce on the Environment

Had one program at this conference; have been working on "Libraries Build Sustainable Communities"

Feminist Task Force

Had three meetings at the conference, and one program. The listerv, which is moderated, has approximately 850 subscribers. *Women in Libraries* will become an electronic serial publication. FTF needs volunteers for leadership positions within the organization. The Amelia Bloomer Award program is extremely successful, and dissemination of the award list is growing. The Award committee is looking into having medallions made for their award-winners.

IRTF: International Responsibilities Taskforce

Had a successful program at this conference. Their resolution on Iraq passed overwhelmingly at the ALA Membership meeting, and will now go to Council. Their website is in the process of moving to the libr.org website. Have plans for future programs and possible collaboration. LuJuan Pringle will chair; Al Kagan will co-chair.

Liaison report: Washington Library Association SRRT

The group is gaining new members and are doing new programs with outreach organizations.

SRRT Listserv

Mention of the FTF listserv being moderated brought up the idea of a moderated SRRT list. The lively discussion surrounding this topic resulted in a motion to add language to the "Welcome" message sent to all new subscribers to the list.

Mark Rosenzweig moves for the welcome message to say, in essence, that individuals should not respond to abusive language or baiting behavior on the list, as it only encourages further abuse. This language is to be further refined by Action Council members at a later date.

Aureole Johnstone seconds.

Motion passes unanimously.

Rory suggests that it is a simple matter to make replies go to the sender rather than to the list as a whole, and that might also help reduce unwanted replies.

Marie Jones moves to change default settings, as described.

Elaine Harger seconds.

Motion carries unanimously.

Program Committee/Volunteerism

The idea of a program committee is discussed, but issues of time and lack of volunteers to lead such a committee are barriers to its creation. Instead, Katharine volunteers to make a list of tasks that need to be done and to post to the list asking for volunteers for these tasks.

Among the tasks that emerged in discussion were:

- Working the SRRT booth
- Distributing SRRT brochures to program chairs or program sites
- Coordinate program scheduling so that SRRT programs and business meetings do not conflict with one another.

Resolutions

1. Resolution in Support of Immigrant's Rights to Free Public Library Access

Elaine Harger presents this resolution, that originated in REFORMA and is motivated by the passage of the REAL ID act.

Resolved, that the ALA work with REFORMA and other affiliates to develop a public information strategy to inform and educate public libraries and member constituents about the alternate forms of ID that will allow free public access to library services for all immigrant populations.

Aureole Johnstone moves that we endorse in principle.

Al Kagan seconds.

Motion carries unanimously.

Al Kagan moves to extend meeting to 5:15; Marie Jones seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

Intellectual Freedom Handbook and Workplace Speech

The next edition of the Intellectual Freedom Handbook is to include documents from the Committee on Professional Ethics, including their Q&A on Workplace Speech from 2004. This document has not been considered by the ALA Council. Al is concerned that this Q&A does not relate very well to the Workplace Speech resolution that was just passed by the ALA Council. However, there is also concern about the amount of effort that has gone into the Q&A document, and we did have a chance to comment on it when it was drafted. The Q&A relates to the ALA Code of Ethics, not the new resolution passed by ALA Council.

Aureole Johnstone moves that we express our objection to the Q & A being published in the manual, and that SRRT will be glad to work on a process to change the document with the IFC and the Committee on Professional Ethics. We would like the complete text of the Workplace Speech resolution to take the place of the Q&A document.

Al Kagan seconds the motion.

Motion carries: 6 in favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstention

New officers

Nominees for office for the coming year are:

Chair- Elaine Harger

Treasurer – Sue Dillinger

Secretary – Marie Jones

Auerole Johnstone moves that we elect the full roster of nominees.

Dana Lubow seconds the motion.

The motion passes unanimously.

The new officers are welcomed.

Freedom to Read Foundation

Terry Epperson suggests that SRRT become a member of the Freedom to Read Foundation and provides reasons why this is a good idea.

Following brief discussion, Theresa moves that SRRT become a member of the Freedom to Read Foundation for \$35 per year.

Mark seconds the motion.

The motion carries unanimously.

Membership meeting
2005 ALA Annual Meeting, Chicago

Present: Marie Jones, Mary Sue Brown, Jonathan Betz-Zall, Lauren Ray, Laura Koltutsky, Mark Rosenzweig, Dana Lubow, Tom Twiss, Lucas Hill, Alison Lewis, Jennifer Downey, John Gehner, Kim Edson, Katharine Phenix, Al Kagan, Aureole Johnstone, K.R. Roberto, Jane Glasby, Terry Epperson

Chair Rory Litwin introduces the purpose of membership meeting, and all those present introduce themselves.

Announcements

- Those who wish can sign a card for Miguel Vicedo Valdes whose visa was denied. Dana Lubow presented his paper in his stead at a program in this conference.
- Free Speech Buffet will be Monday night at Roosevelt University.
- Report on action at Intercontinental
 - Very successful program on Googlization
 - About a dozen people took letters to the manager and talked to him about the issues.

Public Relations Issues

Suggestion: When we are presenting a program, use the full name (Social Responsibilities Round Table) not acronym (SRRT) to point out the "Social Responsibilities" and make it easier for those not familiar with the round table amidst the alphabet soup that is ALA.

New brochure is in the works, but is bogged down in the design phase in the ALA office.

Cognotes Liaison

After discussion of a need for more PR, especially on actions like the one at the Intercontinental, it was decided that we should have someone who works with *Cognotes* for reporting on SRRT events.

Alison Lewis moves to have a *Cognotes* liaison

Kim Edson seconds.

Motion passes unanimously.

Mary Sue Brown volunteers to take the position.

Al Kagan points out that we need more SRRT ribbons. Rory volunteers to contact Beatrice regarding making more ribbons.

Jonathan Betz-Zall moves fund allocation of \$500 for ribbons.

Mary Sue Brown seconds.

Vote passes unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Copies of budget notes will be placed in TF folders in OLOS office.

\$50,000 starting the year; approximately \$66,725 at end of year (some encumbered debt outstanding)

Aureole is looking into why our membership numbers are so high, but don't seem to match our income from membership dues. Even taking into account student and other free membership, the income doesn't seem to match.

Motion to adjourn: Mary Sue Brown

Second: Katia Roberto

Motion passes unanimously.