

SRRT Action Council I  
January 21, 2006  
San Antonio

Present: Susan Dillinger, LaJuan Pringle, Theresa Tobin, Mark Hudson, Erik Estep, Ann Sparanese, Larry McClung, Mary Sue Brown, Isabel Espinal, Lynn Anderson, Carol Gulyas, Dana Lubow, Mark Rosenzweig, Rachel Bridgewater, Rory Litwin, Jonathan Betz-Zall, Alfred Kagan, Ginny Moore, Mary Biblio.

### **Introductions and Welcome**

Call for additions/changes to agenda: Discussion regarding ordering of items on agenda in order to complete items in priority order. Task Force Reports and SRRT priorities discussion were moved down agenda.

*Agenda approved unanimously*

Minutes from AC I and ACII, with one change of "Jon" to "Jonathan" referring to Jonathan Betz-Zell moved by Theresa Tobin, second by Jonathan Betz-Zell.

### **Keith Fiels presentation**

Keith Fiels, ALA executive director, shared his perspective on the strategic plan and the proposed ALA dues increase. According to Fiels, the new strategic plan strategic plan calls for ALA to engage in a number of endeavors which will cost money. However, ALA has not had a dues increase in a number of years, and is "hitting the wall" with its budget. The proposed increase is for \$30 over 3 years, and "for every dollar in dues we generate, we will generate a dollar in fundraising." He indicated that this fundraising would be "socially responsible."

In response, a number of SRRT AC members raised concerns over the lack of gradation/sliding scale in membership fees, and asked about whether this issue has been thoroughly reviewed. While Fiels initial response was that it would take years to develop that scale, and that ALA needs the increase to happen right away; however, Fiels did agree to speak favorably to board members about working on a sliding scale dues structure.

After Fiels departure, discussion indicated that the fee increase is not unreasonable if the sliding scale is under development. We need to take a non-oppositional position in council, but we do need to get a firm commitment to a sliding scale.

Carol moved that we create a sub-committee to work on a resolution for council.  
Sue seconded.

Ginny would like to see it a coalition process. Others suggested specific groups to work with: NMRT, chapter councilors.

Mary indicated that the resolution should be ready in order to have it put on the agenda at the same time as the dues increase discussion. Al noted it's on the Council II agenda (Tuesday)

The committee was to meet immediately following ACI

*Vote: unanimous.*

### **Statement Concerning the Choice of Keynote Speaker at ALA**

A draft statement is presented concerning the choice of Madeline Albright to be Keynote Speaker at ALA Annual in 2006.

Discussion ensued, concerning a need to change the wording in the document to make it more informational and less a personal attack. Questions were raised about where the statement would be published (Cognotes, LJ, read at executive board council information session, distributed at a demonstration were possibilities raised). The broader issue of how speakers are selected by ALA was identified as a possible avenue for approaching the statement.

Elaine summarized by saying that the statement needs revision, and that those that were interested in revising it should meet after ACI, so that the *topic can be revisited at ACII*.

### **Resolution in Support of Academic Freedom**

Mark Rosenzweig presented the resolution. It has been sent to IFRT and ACRL.

Move: Mark Rosenzweig

Second: Al Kagan

Wording for the final clause was suggested to make it inclusive of all types of codification or legislation at any level.

*Vote: pass unanimously.*

**Newsletter report:** Erik Estep, our new newsletter editor, reported on the current status of the newsletter and called for suggestions and articles for the coming issue.

Defer other resolutions until AC II.

**Liaison:** no reports. Two are on the AC2 agenda. Elaine asked for volunteers to serve as liaisons to conference planning and legislative committees. Sue volunteered for Legislative. Theresa suggested that meeting times/days be announced along with such calls so that people can know if the meetings fit their conference schedule.

### **New Orleans meeting**

In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, individuals expressed concern about us being in New Orleans—in terms of social justice issues involved. Volunteer opportunities were discussed.

Mark R. motion: *SRRT endorses the organized ALA volunteer efforts to be held in New Orleans, thanks ALA for organizing the efforts, and encourages its members to participate.*

Second: Ann Sparanese.

*Vote: Unanimous*

**Finance Report:**

Funding from the former Coretta Scott King Task Force is to stop this year. We will need to work out new ways to fund our activities.

**Task Force Reports:**

FTF: deferred

Environment: Has improved website with lists of environmental justice contacts in New Orleans

Anti-Racism: Nothing to report.

IR: Planning program for annual, working on fundraising ideas.

AIP: Free Speech Buffet will be a ticketed event at \$10. Finding publishers is a challenge. Also planning a program for annual.

Information Policy in the Public Interest: Met at all-task-force meeting, so is eligible to move out of provisional status.

Motion: *Carol moved to give the Information Policy in the Public Interest Task Force official Status.*

Second: Jonathan.

Vote: Unanimous.

Motion to Adjourn.

SRRT AC 2

San Antonio, January 2006

Present: Marie Jones, Susan Dillinger, Carol Gulyas, Lynn Andersen, Terry Epperson, Isabel Espinal, LaJuan Pringle, Loriene Roy, Mark Rosenzweig, Dana Lubow, Laura Koltutsky, Rory Litwin, Mary Sue Brown, Theresa Tobin, Ginny Moore, Al Kagan, Mark Hudson, Elaine Harger, Diedre Conklin

**Welcome & Announcements**

Elaine shows the completed SRRT brochures and thanks the committee for their hard work: Carol, Rory, Fred and Teresa.

Call for SRRT members to run for ALA council via petition.

Introductions.

Agenda approved.

**Lorene Roy, candidate for ALA president**

Ms. Roy visited us, introduced herself, distributed a brochure, and answered questions. She has been a member of SRRT for at least 10 years, and hopes for the support of the round table.

After Roy left, Al moved that SRRT endorse her candidacy for ALA President.  
Mary Sue seconded.

*Vote: Unanimous to support Lorene Roy.*

**Resolution in Support of Academic Freedom**

IFRT is waiting for our endorsement. The version presented at AC I was rewritten, and a new draft presented.

Move: Mark R.

Second: Al

*The 1/23/06 draft was unanimously endorsed.*

**Task Force Reports (left from AC I)**

FTF: Annual Women's Night Out is moving to Friday night. The Amelia Bloomer list is in progress. Women in Libraries is now officially discontinued. We hope that the website will pick up some news, etc.

MLK: The breakfast went well, with over 300 attending. At annual, the task force is having a Multicultural Idea Exchange, where individuals from different types of libraries share what they do well. They need panelists.

**Satia Orange Presentation:**

Satia reminded us to nominate or self-nominate when award opportunities arise. OLOS is offering a pre-conference in June on library services to older adults. OLOS is celebrating its 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and will have a celebration on Monday of the conference in New Orleans called "Jazz in the Morning." Liaison groups can each have their own tables and she encouraged us to have at least 10 SRRT members to attend so that a table can be formed.

**Liaison reports:**

**IFRT:** The liaison to IFRT provided a report on the work of IFRT, including the Academic Freedom report endorsed above. Other topics include the Patriot Act, work with GLBT on a response kit for challenges, a membership survey, a Festschrift for Gordon Connable, and RFID.

**Freedom to Read Foundation:** The liaison provided information on this group's work, including information on *Gonzales v. Google*, *John Doe v. Ashcroft* and *John Doe v. Gonzales* (regarding section 215 of the Patriot Act). The Robert B. Downs Intellectual Freedom Award went to the "John Doe" of these cases. Other cases were discussed. ALA and FTRF plan to make a FOIA request regarding ALA board and staff members that may have been observed. About 100 named individuals.

**Committee on Ethics:** Working on rewriting the Q & A portion of the document on Workplace Speech, and they will share changes with SRRT. Planning a program for annual on the ALA code of ethics, and they want someone from SRRT to be part of the panel.

Elaine noted that there are liaison positions vacant. Also, we need a round table representative for Conference Programming Coordinating Committee (a sub-committee of which selected Albright—so we want to have a voice there).

**Budget:**

Susan provided a number of handouts regarding the budget, providing a 10-year history of SRRT's budget. She emphasized that if we want to maintain the same level of programming, it is vital that we begin to raise funds.

Proposed 2007 budget:

FTF: requests \$600 over income	\$1500
Bloomer Breakfast Income \$900	
IRTF: requests \$500 over income	\$1000
Fundraiser for \$500	
MLK TF: \$500 request	\$500
AIP TF: request \$500 over income	\$500
FSB ticketed event income (no amount specified); definite cost recovery	
TFOE: request \$500	\$500
HHP TF: request \$500	\$500
IPPI TF: no budget requested	
AR TF: no budget requested	

Sue moves.

Carol seconds.

*Motion to approve the above allocations for FY 2007*

Motion passes unanimously.

**Revised Albright Statement**

Discussion of where statement should be published, and whether or not it's a battle worth fighting. The issue of selection of speakers has been addressed, and SRRT brought it forward. Some speak for the statement as written, others speak against.

Mark R. moves to defer discussion.

Carol seconds.

Motion passes unanimously to defer discussion.

**USA PATRIOT Act**

Latest version of this resolution is not available.

Carol moves to instruct SRRT counselor to vote in a manner consistent with SRRT policies and values regarding this resolution.

Mary Sue seconds the motion.

Motion passes unanimously.

**Round Table Councilors**

Any round table with 1% of ALA membership gets a councilor.

Elaine moves to endorse

Susan seconds

Passes unanimously

**Reforma Program**

SRRT has been asked to co-sponsor.

Marie moves to co-sponsor.

Mark H. seconds.

Motion passes unanimously.

**SRRT Elections and Council Representative**

Discussion of the upcoming elections, including that of Al's position on Council as SRRT representative. A question arose about whether the 2-term limit for members of Action Council has any bearing on the Council position, since the councilor also serves on SRRT AC.

*Motion: SRRT interprets the bylaws to mean that term limits apply only to elected at-large Action Council members.*

Elaine moves.

Susan seconds.

Motion passes unanimously.

**SRRT Priorities & Listserv:**

This conversation will take place on the listserv. Any problems with having the discussion on the list can inform the creation of listserv guidelines, an idea that has recurred often in recent years.

Elaine moves that we engage in a discussion of SRRT priorities on the SRRTAC list and use this as a test case for the kind of guidelines that the list may need.

Rory Seconds.

Motion passes unanimously.

**Membership outreach**

Jenna Freedman has asked if Radical Reference could help staff the SRRT booth during Annual. Discussion of Radical Reference ensued.

Sue moved to have Radical Reference staff the SRRT booth at Annual.

Dana seconded the motion.

Motion carried:

Yes-7

No-3

Abstentions-2

Meeting adjourned.