Online Courses: Curriculum & Fees Item #24

YALSA Board Meeting 2005 Annual Conference Chicago, Illinois June 23-29, 2005

Topic: Online Courses: Curriculum & Fees

Background: One of the new Strategic Plan's goals is Continuous Learning. As

part of an effort to provide more continuing education

opportunities to its members and to librarians serving teens,

YALSA is developing online courses. Currently we have about 20 course proposals from different individuals. At this stage it would be helpful for the Board to recommend the establishment of

be helpful for the Board to recommend the establishment of tuition fees and stipends for instructors, as well as a process for

establishing a curriculum.

Action Required: For Discussion/Decision

Fees:

Some basic questions:

• What to charge for a registration fee? Here is what other Divisions are currently charging:

	Length of	Division	ALA	Nonmembers	Students
	Course	Members	Members		
ACRL	3-4 weeks	\$135	\$175	\$195	\$60
ALCTS	4 weeks	\$99		\$119	
PLA	4-6 weeks	\$195	\$250	\$295	
RUSA	3-4 weeks	\$130	\$160	\$190	\$100

A library consortium in Canada is charging \$122 US for its 4-week online courses, and InfoPeople is charging \$75 for online courses, but it is partially funded by IMLS.

• What to pay course designers and instructors? Here is what other Divisions are currently paying:

	Length of	One time	Instructor fee
	Course	designer fee	
ACRL	3-4 weeks	?	?
ALCTS	4 weeks	\$2,000	\$200 per
			course
PLA	4-6 weeks	?	?

RUSA	3-4 weeks	\$1,000	\$20 per
			student

Allen Nichols recommends a simple cost-plus formula guaranteeing a profit of 20-25%. This would take into consideration budgeted expenses (including ALA's 22% overhead) and then an added profit percentage. Based on that recommendation, here's a draft budget:

Proposed Budget for Online Courses

Anticipated Expenditures:		
1. Promotion and Publicity Design (ad & flyers) Ad space Staff Time	\$0 \$_100 \$50	\$150
2. Instructor Fees Course Design Teaching	\$ 250 (\$1,000 per cou \$ 400 (20 students @	
3. Operational costs		
Bank fees	\$20	
Telephone	\$20	
Postage	\$	
Misc (IUT)	\$	\$ 40
4. Miscellaneous contingency (minimum \$500)	\$500	\$500_
5. Subtotal of expenses (lines 1-4)		\$300 \$1,340
6. YALSA Profit (20% of line 5)		\$ 268
7. TOTAL ANTICIPATED EXPENSES	(line 5 + line 6)	\$1,608
Anticipated Income 8. Registration Basic Fees (line 7 divided by 75% of anticipated atte 9. ALA Administrative Overhead (add \$24 Adjusted Basic Fee 10. Anticipated income from registration fe (anticipated attendance x line 9) 11. Other sources of funding	ndance) \$107 per attendee) \$131	_
(Describe)	\$0	
12. TOTAL ANTICIPATED INCOME (LI	NES 10 + 11)	\$2,620
13. "Breakeven" attendance figure		
(line 7 divided by line 9)		12.2

Curriculum:

- How will the Professional Development Committee handle the course proposals that YALSA received? What criteria will be used to decide which proposals are accepted?
- How often will courses be taught?
- How many courses will we offer at a time?
- What measures will be put in place to evaluate the success of the program and the individual courses?