

# RUSA

RUSA BOARD		DATE: January 13, 2020	
Meeting Documents Landing Page:			
Approved			
Note Taker:	Bobray Bordelon		
Board Members:	<b>Attendance:</b>		
	<i>Quorum: 7</i>		
	Name	Role	In attendance [x]
	Beth German	RUSA President (v)	X
	Courtney McDonald	RUSA VP/President Elect (v)	X
	Ann Brown	RUSA Past-President (v)	excused
	Bobray Bordelon	RUSA Secretary (v)	X
	Greg Fleming	BRASS Representative (v)	X
	Pat Gregory	CODES Representative (v)	X
	Chris Pryor	ETS Representative (v)	X
	Melissa Gonzalez	HS Representative (v)	
	Cindy Levine	RSS Representative (v)	X
	David Ketchum	STARS Representative (v)	
	Alesia McManus	RUSA Division Councilor (v)	X
	Stephanie Graves	Director at Large (v)	
	Kathleen Kern	RUSQ Editor (nv)	X
	Ed Garcia	ALA Exec Liaison (nv)	X
Bill Ladewski	RUSA Executive Director (nv)	X	
Ninah Moore	RUSA Programing Officer / Continuing Education (nv)		
Shuntai Sykes	RUSA Membership & Programs Specialist (nv)		
Melissa Vanyek	RUSA Marketing, Communications, and Web Services Coordinator (nv)		

Additional Guests	Kathy Shields (History Section); Geoff Morse (ETS); Lauren Reiter; Joseph Thompson	
<b>Agenda Item 1: Welcome and Nesting</b>		
<b>Agenda Item 2: Executive Board Liaison, Ed Garcia</b>		
Discussion	Ed Garcia reported on <a href="#">Leadership Talking Points</a> . Highlights include new executive director starting in March; the sale of ALA headquarters; the sustainability pledge will be permanent; an update on SCOE. Garcia also reported that ALA staff felt with so many changes it was important the timeline for adoption be delayed to the new adoption dates. Question was asked about how the Moving Forward team is being chosen and how the divisions will be represented. This is not yet known.	
<b>Agenda Item 3: RUSQ Special Projects Position</b>		
Discussion	<p><a href="#">Assistant Editor Description and Proposal</a></p> <p>Kathleen Kern has modified this to be a special project rather than an assistant editor. In the future we may want an assistant editor for <i>RUSQ</i>. Similar journals have an assistant editor given the workload. The current proposal though brings no additional costs. Much of the work is before peer review. The proposal will come before the RUSA Board in February. We need to modernize the journal workflow. ALA is moving to OJS3 but UIUC (where Kern is based) has so we can perhaps move quicker. Kern is proposing this position as a 12 to 18 month position which would coincide with her current appointment as editor since she would split her stipend and does not want to commit future editors to this.</p> <p>Board was asked what we want to see in a proposal. There is currently a member of <i>RUSQ</i> board who has strong IT and technology skills that would be ideal for this special project. Board just wants details of the proposal and trusts Kern to know what is needed to carry out the work of <i>RUSQ</i>.</p> <p>Current production costs are \$75,000 to \$80,000 per issue. We have an opportunity to reduce costs but that has to be negotiated with ALA Publishing. Goal is a more streamlined layout so that more can be done internally. Would still need to pay for copy editing and hosting the journal.</p>	
Deadline	<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>
February	Bring motion to the RUSA Board for approval of a special project position for <i>RUSQ</i>	Kathleen Kern
<b>Agenda Item 4: Budget and Finance Update</b>		
Discussion	McDonald reported that the Board will vote on the budget at Annual. ALA Executive Document <a href="#">12.39</a> was discussed. The American Library Association made decisions to move funds to cover current obligations that will likely have a long term impact on the divisions. RUSA B&F discussed short term, medium term, and long term goals. The essential question is what is the purpose of RUSA? What parts of the organization bring value? What are our unique contributions? How might we go into the future? A small group within B&F is being charged with looking at these questions and will report to Board in April. The pending merger of ALCTS, LITA, and LLAMA could have an impact and we will want to closely follow their action and items learned.	
Deadline	<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>

April 2020	McDonald will work with B&F to come up with recommendations for the short, medium, and long term to bring to the Board in April.	McDonald
<b>Agenda Item 5: SCOE</b>		
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Forward Together</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">Division Recommendations</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <a href="#">ACRL/PLA letter</a></li> </ul> <p>What do your people need? 60% of ALA members belong to a division. The operating agreement has not changed in 30 years. Much of the discussion the division update focused on lack of trust between the divisions and ALA. The budget structure is very complex. Parts of the SCOE recommendations are very vague. A clearer timeline is needed. Divisions need a seat at the table for decisions. Could there be one rate to join divisions? Will Council vote to eliminate themselves? Should we sign the ALA/PLA letter? Do we have other things we want to say? Alesia asked if we want to address the new timeline and clarify if discounts for multiple divisions?</p> <p>What is the opinion of Council on eliminating Council? What is the most democratic way of governing? Items often come up right before Council meets so often decisions based on assumptions without time to gather input and do research.</p> <p>Will we gain efficiencies? SCOE says no losses but are their gains?</p> <p>The ALA <a href="#">Avenue M Survey</a> was referenced.</p> <p>More emphasis needs to be on retention. There are opportunities to improve communication and transparency. There is not much collaboration between divisions.</p> <p>Implementation planning is coming. We welcome the invitation to work with other divisions, particularly the library type ones (ACRL and PLA) in which we have much overlap among membership.</p> <p>What talking points do we want when SCOE comes to us? Questions should be from a membership perspective not a governance one. Planning on having in February.</p> <p>On February 13<sup>th</sup>, ALA will do a deep dive into the report for all ALA members.</p>	
Conclusions	German will put together a statement and have us provide input on SCOE.	
Deadline	<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>
	German will put together a statement and have us provide input on SCOE.	German
<b>Agenda Item 6: Communication</b>		
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Desired outcome: Plus/delta regarding the communication throughout the organization with the goal of generating action items to improve communication</i></li> </ul>	

	<p>We want to increase communication to the RUSA membership. Agendas are needed sooner and we need to ensure we at least satisfy the ALA open policy. Agendas should go out to full RUSA membership not just Board and RLC.</p> <p>What do the sections report from RUSA? Respond to questions about RUSA. Rosters. Timelines for awards, programs. Executive director reports shared. Any issues that arise with RUSA Board.</p>	
<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>
	Board agendas will be sent out sooner and to entire RUSA membership.	German and future Presidents
<b>Agenda Item 7: New Business/Open Discussion</b>		
	No new business	
<b>Agenda Item 8: Announcements</b>		
Discussion	<p>Midwinter Events</p> <p>Saturday, 1/25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RUSA Conversations, 3:00-4:00pm, PCC Room 123</li> <li>• Membership Social, 5:00-7:00pm, Regency C</li> </ul> <p>Sunday, 1/26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget and Finance, 8:30-10:30am, PCC Room 304</li> <li>• Board of Directors, 1:00-2:30pm, PCC 103-B</li> <li>• Book and Media Awards, 5:00-7:00pm, Philadelphia Marriott, Salon C-D &amp; E</li> </ul> <p>All events: <a href="#">Full RUSA Schedule</a></p>	
<b>Agenda Item 9: Wrap up, action items, next meeting</b>		
Discussion	<p>Meeting Schedule</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• February 10 - Round Robin Updates; Steven Yates, ALA presidential candidate; RUSQ Assistant Editor vote</li> <li>• Feb/March - Open SCOE related Forum</li> <li>• Feb/March - Definition of Reference Forum</li> <li>• April - tentative: guidelines update</li> </ul>	
<b>Notes of Interest / Next Meeting:</b>		

- Next meeting: February 10 - Round Robin Updates; Steven Yates, ALA presidential candidate; RUSQ Assistant Editor vote

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