

# RUSA

**RUSA BOARD**

**DATE: August 10, 2020**

Meeting Documents Landing Page:

- [Agenda and Documents](#)
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Approved:

[RUSA Board Vote Log](#)

[Recording of Meeting](#)

Note Taker:

Board Members:

**Attendance:**

*Quorum: 6*

Name	Role	In attendance [x]
Courtney McDonald	RUSA President (v)	x
Chris Pryor	RUSA VP/President Elect (v)	x
Beth German	RUSA Past-President (v)	x
Jenny Presnell	RUSA Secretary (v)	x
Llana Stoebraker	BRASS Representative (v)	x
Mdgan Szwareek	CODES Representative (v)	x
Rachel Cohen	ETS Representative (v)	x
Kathy Sheilds	HS Representative (v)	x
Kelly McCusker	RSS Representative (v)	x
Jessica Bower	STARS Representative (v)	x
Alesia McManus	RUSA Division Councilor (v)	x
Kathleen Kern	RUSQ Editor (nv)	x
Ed Garcia	ALA Exec Liaison (nv)	
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)	
	Others in Attendance: Taina Evans, Rebecca Graff, Quiana Johnson, Julia Martin, Tatiana Pashkova-Balkenhol, Janie Richardson, Carol Shuetz, Lorelei Sterling		
Actions taken since last meeting			
<b>Agenda Item 1: Welcome</b>			
Discussion	Courtney went through the agenda.		
<b>Agenda Item 2: Approval of Minutes</b>			
Discussion	Minutes were approved by acclamation at the end of the meeting. The original minutes had some link issues and were distributed later than usual.		
<b>Agenda Item 3: ASGCLA Groups Transitioning to RUSA</b>			
Discussion	<p>ASGCLA will dissolve on Aug 31. Several groups would like to transition to RUSA – Federal Armed Forces Group (260 members); Physical Delivery Group (36 members); Accessibility Assembly is an interdivisional committee (7) members. No Division has dissolved before so we are in new territory. Transfer has been approved by ALA council.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thought we needed some kind of vote to acknowledge that we have seen the memo from ASCGLA.</li> <li>• Asked if groups needed to petition.</li> <li>• Remember that RUSA Staff has always been shared with ASGCLA. This will continue over the next year.</li> <li>• Physical Delivery would like to become part of STARS, but not as an interest group, but just as members</li> <li>• Accessibility will not be a new Section</li> <li>• We would be adding an interest group (Federal Armed Forces) a Division/RUSA level committee (Accessibility) and new members to a Section (STARS and other sections if they wish) (Physical Delivery)</li> <li>• Question about timeline and what is the expectations of STARS with Physical Delivery</li> <li>• Concerns raised that board representatives would like to take this information back to their Sections for discussion. Would like more time to read the document. Question about why we would not welcome these 300 people. Organizational structure was a concern.</li> <li>• This is a good opportunity for us to pick up members and to welcome groups that have been through a lot and now have no home. Federal Armed Forces looked at joining RUSA before and decided on ASGCLA.</li> <li>• Courtney will send a welcome letter and suggest that we think about onboarding.</li> <li>• A motion was made via letter from ALA Council and ASCGLA, seconded by Chris Prior. Felt too rushed for approval and we will vote online.</li> </ul>		

Conclusions	We will do an online vote from Aug 13 -19 to allow for discussion in the Sections.	
Deadline	Action Items	Person Responsible
August 13-19	<p>Create an <a href="#">online vote</a>, through Connect. Vote begins on August 13, ends August 19. <a href="#">Procedures</a> for establishing Online Voting.</p> <p><u>Text of online vote:</u></p> <p>“Move to accept the members of the former ASGCLA division into RUSA as of September 1, 2020 in the following ways:  Federal and Armed Forces Libraries Interest Group as new RUSA Federal and Armed Forces Libraries Interest Group  Physical Delivery Interest Group, with interest group members joining RUSA’s Sharing and Transforming Access to Resources Section (STARS) Accessibility Assembly, as a new interdivisional committee with members invited for appointment from all divisions, requesting if possible, that current Accessibility Assembly members with terms expiring in 2021 be grandfathered in, including the Chair Reed Strege.”</p>	Bill Ladewski

**Agenda Item 4: Update from the Executive Director**

Discussion	<p>Executive Director <a href="#">August Report</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No new financials since February. We are behind about 3% in income and ahead about 9% in expenditures.</li> <li>• ALA differed membership renewals for about 5 months because of the pandemic. Renewal notices are just starting to go out now. Finances are tied to membership dues, so depending on how those progress, the budget situation could improve or become worse. ALA’s current cash situation is very fragile.</li> <li>• Online learning has been very successful both for revenue and attendance. The recent webinar by BRASS’ Financial Literacy Group had outside financial support.</li> <li>• Town Hall led by the RUSA Futures Task Force. Aug 11, 12pm Central</li> <li>• ALA Furloughs begin next week (see dates below). Will not be able to post anything in Connect for security purposes.</li> <li>• PLA (Public Library Association) executive director, Barbara Macikas, is retiring August 31.</li> <li>• ALA staff will be working from home for the near future</li> <li>• ASGCLA (Association of Specialized, Government, and Cooperative Library Agencies) sunset date, September 1, 2020</li> <li>• Midwinter 2021 will be virtual</li> </ul>
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Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Question about renewals and that there was a grace period, which Bill is not sure is still in place</li> <li>• Asked about free webinars. Unsure that this is still in effect.</li> <li>• Sadness about midwinter going virtual.</li> </ul>
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**Agenda Item 5: Updates from Task Forces, Section Representatives, Division Committees, Interest Groups**

Discussion	<p>Updates. Just looking for information. The “reports” need not be formal or long, just to encourage communication.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nominations. Ann Brown. Ann shared that RUSA Nominations is going forward with the slate as planned, understanding that things may change. She will remain in close contact with chairs of section Nomination committees as well. The nominations process is usually wrapping up now, but everything is delayed and due dates will be extended</li> <li>• RUSA Council Representative. Lorilee Sterling. Introduced herself</li> <li>• Definition of Reference Task Force. Rebecca Graff. Town Hall gave a lot of feedback. Will read through and the TF will meet later in the week.</li> </ul> <p>Access to Information and Advocacy. Taina Evans. Introduction.</p> <p><a href="#">Letter</a> sent to ALA Council from Division Chairs about a number of ALA issues, including the upcoming ALA staff furloughs, Forward Together, and Review of the Operating Agreement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Reply</a> from ALA Council</li> <li>• <a href="#">Reply</a> from Tracy Hall. ALA looking into arranging some meetings to discuss this situation.</li> </ul>	
<b>Agenda Item 6: Discussion: 2020-21 RUSA Board Norms</b>		
Discussion	<p>Discussed the <a href="#">Board Norms</a> and the presentation that Bill had done a year ago about how to be part of an effective board.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Went through each of the norms and defined them <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Collective Action</li> <li>○ Respect our Shared Resources</li> <li>○ Focus on the Future</li> <li>○ Develop an Inclusive Culture</li> <li>○ Culture of Learning</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>
September 1 September 14	Send reminder to review norms before next meeting Review Board Norms	Courtney McDonald Board Members
<b>Agenda Item 7: Announcements</b>		
Discussion	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. RUSA Town Hall Tuesday: RUSA Futures Task Force, August 11, 1p EDT / noon CDT / 11 MDT / 10 PDT</li> <li>2. That New Competencies Smell: Taking the RUSA Business Research Competencies for a Drive. Aug 12, 1:00-2:00 CDT. Librarians who support business and adjacent disciplines are invited to learn about the newly minted Business Research Competencies (BRC). The BRC were recently approved by BRASS and RUSA Executive Boards, and they were endorsed by the Business and Finance Division of the Special Libraries Association (SLA B&amp;F).The BRC authors will demystify this document- how it’s organized, what it covers, and how it fits into the landscape of competency documents. Attendees will also have an opportunity to discuss and share ideas for how they might put the Competencies to use in their professional work. Attendees are encouraged to review the BRC in advance of the webinar: <a href="http://ala.org/rusa/guidelines/business-research-competencies">ala.org/rusa/guidelines/business-research-competencies</a></li> </ol>	
<b>Agenda Item 8: Wrap up, action items, next meeting</b>		

Discussion

Motion to end meeting: Rachel Cohen; Seconded Beth German.

**Notes of Interest / Next Meeting**

**a. Meeting Schedule -- All meetings to be held at 1-2:30pm (Eastern) / 12-1:30pm (Central) / 11a-12:30p (Mountain) / 10-11:30a (Pacific)**

- i. September 14
- ii. October 5
- iii. November 9
- iv. December 14
- v. January 11
- vi. Midwinter meeting [TBD]
- vii. February 8
- viii. March 8
- ix. April 12
- x. May 10
- xi. June 14
- xii. Annual meeting [TBD]
- xiii. July 12: Joint meeting, 2020-21 and 2021-22 Boards

**c. ALA Office furlough weeks**

- i. August 16 – 22, 2020 (alternate week August 9-15, 2020 for small number of staff)
- ii. October 11 – 16, 2020
- iii. December 20 – 26, 2020
- iv. March 14 – 20, 2021
- v. \*June 27 – July 3, 2021 or July 4 – 10, 2021, dependent on ALA Annual
- vi. August 22 – 28, 2021