

## **ACRL RBMS Conference Development Committee**

### **ALA Midwinter Meeting, Philadelphia, PA**

**Pennsylvania Convention Center -309, Sunday 26 Jan. 2014, 8:30-10:00 am**

#### **Members (regular and ex officio) attending:**

Deborah J. Leslie, Folger (chair); Lois Fischer Black, Lehigh University; Jennifer Borderud, Baylor University; Danielle Culpepper, Rare Book School; Erika Dowell, Indiana Univ.; Athena Jackson, Univ. of Michigan; Mary Lacy, Library of Congress; Jennifer MacDonald, Univ. of Delaware; Laura Micham, Duke University; Arvid Nelsen, Univ. of Minnesota; Jennifer Nelson, UC Berkeley; Ed Oetting, Arizona State University; Tory Ondrla, ACRL; Fernando Peña, Palmer/LIU; Jessica Pigza, NYPL; Maggie Ragnow, University of Minnesota; Heather Smedberg, UC San Diego

Members absent: Randal Brandt; Rebecca Fenning Marschall

Guests: Martha Conway, Univ. of Michigan;; Eric Holzenberg, Grolier Club; Ann Myers, Stanford University; Henry Raine, NYHS;

1. Welcome and introductions. (Lacy, recorder)
2. Minutes from 2013 Annual meeting were approved
3. Preconference reports

2014 Las Vegas. Local arrangements are on track for the Preconference (Tuesday-Friday, June 24-June 27). Future planners should look at the written comments from evaluations; slightly redacted versions are available to committee members on ALA Communities. Special events include, for those registering before March 31, participating in a drawing to be one of 7 given a midnight tour, by David Copperfield, of Copperfield's rare book collection for free. The reception Thursday night is at the Nevada State Museum and there is a Tuesday tour of the Clark County Historical Society. Conference events will take place at Bally's on the 22 and 23rd floor. The preconference website is up, and registration opens mid-February. The website is hosted at ACRL using WordPress, which is easy to edit. David Free trained Tory Ondrla and the RBMS web team, hosting on their server. The preconference program committee is partnering with Budget and Development to make giving prominent (primarily for scholarships, some for Leab award endowment). Such activities include acknowledging former scholarship winners. Room reservations for the RBMS block don't need to use the ALA OnPeak system, although Bally's is an ALA conference hotel.

2015 Oakland. D. Culpepper reported the conference is Tuesday-Friday, June 23-26. The first meeting of program planning hasn't happened, but the program theme will be the role of special collections in shaping the humanities (teaching and research). The committee has been assembled. Local arrangements: Oakland Marriott, across street from BART station, with

desirable price points. There will be a day at the Berkeley campus. J. Nelson: Thursday is day on campus; co-chaired with Randy Brandt. Ann Myers and Mattie Taormina are members. Expect Berkeley to fund the day on campus. There will be sessions/tours in the afternoon; and box lunches will be provided. Thursday night: restaurant night; possibility of Chez Panisse? Tours will be offered Tuesday, Friday; there are many possibilities.

2016: TBD. No proposals as yet, and a tentative expression of interest hasn't panned out. Contacts in Florida—Laila Miletic-Vejzovic? University of South Florida (Tampa); Central (Orlando); Florida Atlantic (Boca); Florida International (Miami); John Ingram? There are book-friendly people at FAU but they would need assistance. South Carolina, Georgia contacts. Eric Holzenberg would be willing to facilitate since he recently arranged Florida tours for the Grolier Club. Athena Jackson also volunteered to consult with local arrangements if a Florida site is selected.

2017: ALA in Chicago. A proposal submitted last year for a University of Kansas / Linda Hall Library preconference has been withdrawn. It may be re-submitted at the next call for proposals to be issued in September. We should think about developing proposals from Chicago institutions. Martha Conway wishes to go on record as expressing interest in hosting by the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

The RFP is online, but not schedules of when proposals called for or due. After discussion, we agreed that the optimal lead time is two and a half years. A call for proposals is made in September with a deadline in December. The committee reviews proposals and decides on next steps at Midwinter, which often involves working with submitters to develop a final proposal to submit to Exec for approval at Annual. The upcoming vice-chair/chair-elect is elected in the spring. The site will already be chosen, and the new chair-elect will begin putting together a program. For example: a call for proposals for the 2017 preconference will go out in September 2014, with proposals due December 2014. Conference Development will review the proposals at Midwinter 2015, submitting a firm recommendation to Exec by Annual 2015, between which the 2016/2017 chair will have been elected

There is some question about whether preconference hosting proposals need to be approved by the ACRL Board. They did in the past, at least when the preconference was in a different city than the conference. Recently, ACRL staff member Tory Ondrla has been so closely involved at every step of planning the preconferences, there may no longer be a need for a Board vote. Leslie will mention future ALA conference sites at Info Exchange.

Workshops: there were 9 or 10 proposals for this year. They included successful repeats as well as new ideas; 3 new ones were selected for 2014 but have asked for two repeats (Digital Exhibitions in 2015; E.C. Schroeder and Dan Slive's on working with the antiquarian book trade for 2015 or 2016. The workshops timeline is different from Seminars (one year behind seminars). The workshops committee would like to be on the same timetable to better coordinate with Seminars; this date would be June 6 for 2015 due date; then review proposals at Annual. Can

timeliness be preserved? Topics like DCRM workshops can be reserved as production dates are known. Q: could there be workshops at the ACRL national conference? Midwinter? For 2014, workshops were limited to 3 to match the number of rooms available. This number could be expanded if space were available at neighboring institutions. Jackson: Diversity has tips on how to contact institutions. May 9 is deadline for proposing a workshop associated with ACRL in Portland in 2015. Look at promoting proposals for various content at Preconference, and on the preconference website. Remember to close registration on the website after the deadline. Last year the charge of the Workshops Committee was updated but not comments and coordination; the committee can do without approval by Exec. The committee held a virtual meeting before Midwinter.

ALA Conference program reports: the RBMS proposal was not accepted as an ACRL program. We will have the program (as a "forum") but with no funding and no listing in ACRL's program list, although it will appear in the ALA schedule. Title: Sin and Vice in Special Collections: 3 speakers on using sensitive materials Kelli Stanley, mystery novelist in early 20th c. San Francisco; Thomas Lannon, NYPL MSS, on unveiling of Timothy Leary papers; David Schwartz, UNLV, historian of gambling. Only 45% of applicants (from sections and individuals/groups) were accepted. The proposals were judged blind. Proposals were desired to be tied more closely to the locale, and to ACRL plan for excellence. Might want to drop in on approved programs to see what they're looking for. What happens with co sponsorship in name only for proposal not accepted? Get Julia Gelfond (our ACRL liaison) to read in advance? If not approved, the section can have a forum that doesn't need to be approved.

Jason Kovari: chair for 2015 Chicago (committee will be meeting 3-4).

Preconference planning documentation: Leslie has been in touch with Jason Kovari; web team will work with us in getting document into WordPress; successfully did planning for Standard Citations Forms, worked out well. Erika Dowell can work on dividing up the manual, then send to volunteer with more recent experience (Jackson). Need to have chairs of appropriate committees look over their portion each year.

Leslie is interested in adding a co-chair, and/or someone willing to take over as chair after this year.