

## **RBMS Exhibition Awards Committee Meeting**

ALA Midwinter Conference, Chicago, IL

Sunday, February 1, 2015

8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers, Mississippi Meeting Room

### **Agenda**

#### **1. Call to order**

8:30 a.m.

#### **2. Designation of recorder**

Molly Dotson

#### **3. Introductions of members and visitors present**

**a. Members Present:** David Faulds (UC Berkeley), Juli McLoone (University of Michigan), Gabriel Swift (Princeton University), Elizabeth Call (Columbia University), Molly Dotson (Yale University), Elisabeth Brander (Washington University in St. Louis), Alex Johnston (University of Delaware), Melissa "Maggie" Kopp (Brigham Young University), Deborah Whiteman (University of Toronto), Jocelyn Karlan (Harvard University)

**b. Visitors:** Kristin Leaman (Indiana University)

#### **4. Announcements**

None

#### **5. Review and approval of minutes from the 2014 Annual meeting**

Approved

#### **6. Financial report**

Leab endowment current principal: \$44,726

From September 1-November 30, 2014, the endowment earned \$275 in interest. Bank charges for the period were \$50. Current balance of the spending account is \$225.

Faulds updated the committee on the status of the Leab endowment and reiterated ALA's new guidelines for all endowments to maintain a \$50,000 minimum balance. Projections based on FY14 income and expenditures seem to indicate that RBMS may reach its goal of a \$50,000 minimum balance for the Leab fund as early as next year, which is well in advance of the 2018/2020 target.

#### **7. Review of 2015 award cycle**

McLoone reported on the suggested revisions to the Electronic Exhibitions submission form, and the committee approved the change to omit a request for electronic exhibition submissions on CD or DVD. Faulds will update the wording on the submission form. Only one 2015 entry included a disc.

Faulds conferred with McLoone and decided to table the discussion regarding the web archiving of Leab Digital Exhibitions due to Stromberg's absence. Faulds will follow up with Stromberg for an update on the status of this initiative.

At the 2014 ALA Annual Meeting, bookmarks were discussed as a new promotional item for the Leab Exhibition Awards. Faulds will follow up with ACRL regarding the design, etc. for these bookmarks, which would be included in the RBMS conference registration bags in lieu of a printed list. The complete list of Leab submissions would still be available on the RBMS website.

Call recommended that "Electronic Exhibitions" be renamed "Digital Exhibitions." Committee approved.

Faulds will ask about the possibility of having nametag ribbons made for all Leab entrants to wear during the RBMS conference for additional visibility.

Faulds is on the 2015 Local Arrangements Committee and is investigating having a banner printed for the Leab Exhibition Awards table. He is also scouting a good location for the Leab table as well as a second laptop to facilitate the review of digital exhibitions.

Faulds indicated that the system used for price category divisions seemed to work well this year. He reported that the online submission form also worked well for the 2015 entries. Only a couple of technical glitches occurred with the online submission process, and those entrants were still able to save the form as a PDF and submit it as an email attachment.

## **8. New business**

### **a. Review of the current committee roster**

Deborah Whiteman and Elizabeth Call will rotate off the committee as of June 30, 2015.

Gabriel Swift, Jocelyn Karlan, and Melissa Kopp will have completed the first of their two-year terms. All agreed to continue as members of the committee for second terms.

Though the number of members for the Exhibition Awards Committee is not fixed, Faulds suggested that we call for two new volunteers in the next cycle of candidates to maintain the current level of membership. Committee agreed.

### **b. Other**

Faulds reported that 2015 print submissions increased while the digital submissions decreased by one. For 2015, 39 print catalogs and 21 digital exhibitions were submitted, whereas 31 print catalogs and 22 digital exhibitions were submitted in 2014.

Johnston raised the possibility of splitting the submissions into multiple shipments to ease the time constraints of judging. Faulds and other committee members reiterated the challenges of coordinating and monitoring the deadlines for three boxes.

Karlan announced that the 2016 Midwinter Meeting in Boston was scheduled for January 8-12, 2016, which will shorten the judging schedule and affect arrangements for box shipments.

Karlan also mentioned the submissions received via the ARLIS list and asked about other possible venues for promoting the Leab Exhibition Awards. Call offered the following suggestions: American Association for State and Local History (AASLH), National Council on Public History (NCPH), American Historical Association (AHA). The Society of American Archivists was also mentioned.

Faulds announced that the Leab Awards would be incorporated into the 2015 Oakland promotions and social media campaigns. Whiteman suggested that the Leab Exhibition Awards would benefit from further outreach efforts. Faulds also suggested that the 2016 location of Miami might be a good opportunity to broaden the audience for RBMS and the Leab Exhibition Awards.

**Meeting adjourned.**