

RBMS Seminars Committee
Draft Minutes
Virtual Meeting (via Skype)
Friday, October 14, 2011

1. **Call to order:** Committee co-chair Danielle Culpepper called the meeting to order at 1:20 p.m.
2. **Selection of recorder for minutes:** Jennifer Borderud volunteered to take minutes.
3. **Roll call**
 - a. Committee members present: Danielle Culpepper (Co-chair, Rare Book School), Laura Micham (Co-chair, Duke University), Aislin Sotelo (University of California, San Diego), Anne Bahde (San Diego State University), Dennis Moser (University of Wyoming), Jennifer Borderud (Baylor University), Mattie Taormina (Stanford University), Meg Meiman (University of Delaware), Rebecca Marschall (Clark Memorial Library, UCLA), Martha Lawler (Louisiana State University)
 - b. Committee members absent: Donia Conn (NEDCC), Jackie Parascandola (Columbia University)
 - c. Guests: Athena Jackson (Diversity Committee Chair, University of Miami), Moon Kim (MLIS student, UCLA), Sara Stigberg (Northwestern University), Shannon Supple (Preconference Planning Committee Co-chair, UC Berkeley)
4. **Final approval of committee minutes from the ALA Annual meeting in Washington, DC** -- see http://wikis.ala.org/acrl/index.php/Draft_Minutes_from_Annual_2011_in_New_Orleans,_LA: The minutes were approved
5. **Discussion of and voting on proposals for the 2011 pre-conference in San Diego**

The following proposals had already been approved.

a. **Practical Security** (Ellen Cordes, Organizer): Proposal was approved last June. Ellen requested input from the committee on how she might better focus the seminar. Mattie suggested focusing on points 2 (“Focus on workflows/ procedures that should be implemented for the security of collections from ordering to reader use and storage”) and 4 (“What you need to know about security equipment, working with vendors, architects, risk management staff, local police, General Counsel's officials, etc.”) in Ellen’s proposal. The liaison to this seminar may be able to provide further guidance.

b. **Special Collections 2.0 - New Technologies** (Mattie Taormina, Organizer): Proposal was previous approved. Mattie stated that she was looking for some direction. She would like to change the title (“2.0” may be old-fashioned). She also wanted input on how to frame the seminar – practitioner-focused, vendor-focused (may be viewed as an endorsement), or user-focused?

Athena noted that the Preconference Planning Committee has been bouncing around the idea of having a "Petting Zoo," which would allow special collections-focused vendors to let us "play" with their products (Mattie is heading up the petting zoo). There could be a possible tie in with this seminar. Perhaps vendors from the petting zoo could be invited to be part of the audience.

The committee liked the idea of having a user on the panel, a perspective we don't normally get to hear at RBMS.

Mattie will serve as the liaison to this seminar. Anne will help.

The following seminar ideas were open for discussion.

c: **What makes a successful collaborative collection development project?** (Jackie Dooley, Organizer): Both Anne and Laura noted that this topic fit the preconference theme (Futures) very well. Athena suggested a possible diversity angle (Putting Diversity into Action: Outreach to Donors from Local Cultural Groups).

d: **Introduction to Linked Data: Connecting our Collections** (Jason Kovari, Christine Megowan, Katherine Wisser, and Jen Schaffner, Organizers): It was noted that there will be a plenary session on linked data. Shannon stated that for the plenary on linked open data we'll be going over the big picture of LOD and institutional context. Jason Kovari will moderate and make sure that there is not overlap between seminar and plenary. The seminar will be more nuts and bolts and how-tos.

Mattie and Athena noted that CALM is doing a similar presentation for SAA: "Linking Data Across Museums, Libraries and Archives." They hoped that RBMS would take up this topic as well.

e: **"From Dungeons to Dragons: Collecting, Processing, and Accessing Nontraditional Materials"** (Will Hansen and Meghan Lyon, Duke University): Laura noted that the seminar would focus on realia – what it is, what it means, the new importance it holds for researchers.

Athena expressed concern over the use of the word "nontraditional" in the seminar title as it can be a charged word. Alternatives offered: "collecting on the fringe," "expanding our horizons," "collecting, processing, and accessing collections off the radar."

Dennis expressed interest in being the liaison to this seminar.

f: **What happens to Special Collections metadata once our items are digitized,** proposed by the Bib Standards Committee (Aislinn Sotelo, Organizer): Aislin is still fleshing out this topic. Focus on best practices? How to get metadata for physical object over to digital surrogate? What to do when archival materials are taken out of context, ex: moving from folder to item level description?

Athena noted that she was interested in helping develop this idea.

Anne suggested that someone from OAC could talk about their best practices and the evolution of those practices. They're doing plenty with automatic crosswalking, etc.

Dennis mentioned contacting members of the Archivist Round Table who recently discussed this topic.

Meg suggested a possible tie in with the linked data seminar. How are you going to push data out to users?

Athena asked if this topic had case study potential. Dennis and Shannon said that would be okay if the case studies focused on what was learned, pitfalls, how to proceed for others, etc.

g: **Collections assessment: What is it, and what can it do for you?** (Merrilee Proffitt, OCLC Research, Organizer): The committee noted that this proposal is well developed. It also dovetails nicely with Jackie's proposal on collaborative collection development.

h: **Selling Books to Rare Book Librarians/Buying Books from Antiquarian Dealers** (Terry Belanger, Organizer): It was noted that this topic was addressed in Baton Rouge as well as in several recent workshops (EC and Dan Slive did a workshop on working with booksellers and there will be an ABAA workshop for ABAA members only in 2012). To make the topic new and in line with this year's preconference theme, committee members suggested that the seminar focus on digitization and how it is changing the nature of rare book librarianship.

i: **Diversity Idea** (Athena Jackson, Organizer): Athena provided an expanded version of the proposal currently on the Wiki: Participants will be provided the opportunity to share their experiences with outreach to local cultural groups for potential collections. Central to the discussion will be the questions: How do we identify contacts in underrepresented communities to help us build collections, while still being culturally sensitive? How do we establish mutually beneficial partnerships/collaboration with local cultural groups? Moderators: Athena N. Jackson, University of Miami, and Veronica Reyes-Escudero, University of Arizona.

Additionally, Athena stated that the Diversity Committee is interested in adding a diversity appeal to the content of existing seminars when appropriate. The committee would like to be an integral part of existing programs rather than proposing seminars that would stand alone. The committee can assist in matching speakers to seminars when needed.

Seminars Committee members noted several seminar topics already proposed that might allow for this: Collaborative collection development, Special collections 2.0, Dungeons to Dragons, Collections assessment.

Athena also noted that the Diversity Committee has proposed a discussion session to attach (hopefully) to Jackie's proposal.

j. **Researching Artists' Books: The Next Fifty Years** (Jennifer Schaffner): Laura noted that there has historically been a great deal of interest in this topic among members of RBMS. Athena noted that there is lots of diversity representation in artists' books creators. Shannon added that there will be an artists' books fair on the first day (Tuesday) of the preconference, organized by Local Arrangements.

k. **Select final seminar from ideas proposed in June 2011?**

Danielle read through the list of additional possible seminar topics.

Mattie expressed interest in a seminar on digital humanities. Danielle said one of the plenary sessions will be on digital humanities.

Shannon provided the committee with the plenary topics and speakers: (1) Digital Humanities: Bethany Nowviskie & Matt Kirschenbaum, (2) Book: Johanna Drucker and Michael Suarez, (3) Linked Open Data: Jon Voss and (TBD).

Mattie suggested that a discussion of next generation cataloging and how it affects classrooms would tie in with the theme of futures. It also ties in with teaching.

Meg expressed an interest in the book history pedagogy given that Drucker and Suarez are scheduled to be plenary speakers.

This then led to a discussion about the idea of a seminar on A/V materials and their challenges. Anne stated that A/V would fit beautifully into the theme of futures, another elephant in the living room that people are finally starting to deal with. Laura mentioned that it also fits in with conversations about digital preservation that the manuscripts and other formats group have been having (Lois Black may be a good contact). Mattie asked if there could be a pedagogical slant. Is anyone teaching with A/V?

Shannon said we'll likely have a workshop on A/V materials in 2012.

Rebecca said it would be great to bring some moving picture archivists into the mix too -- just to have a different related professional group. They could talk about presentation and screening things (slightly different slant from teaching).

Will there be a Pecha Kucha session? Danielle said no one proposed a Pecha Kucha session this year.

Danielle proposed that the committee vote to approve the nine currently fleshed out seminar proposals: Security, Special Collections 2.0, Collaborative Collection

Development, Linked Data, Dungeons to Dragons, Special Collections Metadata, Collections Assessment, Selling Books to Rare Book Librarians, Artists' Books.

The committee voted to approve these seminars with one qualification. The committee would like the Selling Books to Rare Book Librarians seminar to focus on the digital world.

Committee members were asked to let Danielle and/or Laura know what their preferences were for the 10th seminar topic via email.

6. **Assignment of committee liaisons:** Committee members are asked to email Danielle and Laura the seminar for which they would like to be the liaison. Alternatively, members can put their initials next to the seminar they are interested in on the Wiki.

7. **[Anything else?]:** Dennis noted that using Skype was an efficient and effective way to conduct this meeting despite the few technical glitches.

8. **Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.