

## **RBMS Seminars Committee, Midwinter Meeting**

### **Meeting Notes 9 January 2013, 10am CST**

This meeting was conducted “virtually” via Adobe Connect provided by ACRL.

#### Attendees:

Aislinn Sotelo, member  
Jennifer Borderud, member  
Gerald Cloud, member  
Danielle Culpepper, co-chair  
Becky Fenning, member  
Lara Friedman-Shedlov, member and recorder  
Megan Griffin, ACRL host  
Helice Koffler, guest  
Laura Micham, co-chair  
Dennis Moser, member  
Melissa Nykanan, member  
Heather Smedberg, guest

#### **1. Delegate Recorder**

-Lara Friedman-Shedlov agreed to be recorder.

#### **2. Share changes/adjustments to 2013 session information submitted in December (for website and vade mecum purposes)**

-Current list of 2013 seminars and their descriptions was sent as an attachment to the meeting reminder.

-Heather Smedberg reported that for “Progressing Primary Source Literacy” (#6), Cory Nimer, who was to co-present along with Gordon Daines III, will no longer be participating on the panel.

-Dennis Moser reported that for the seminar “Collecting in the Moment” (#8), organizers are still waiting to hear if Jefferson Bailey can participate remotely.

-Becky Fenning requested help recruiting a moderator for “Reviewing our (Classroom) Performance” (#4). During the course of the meeting, Dennis contacted Lynne Thomas at Northern Illinois who indicated she is willing to moderate, as long as the seminar doesn’t conflict with her short paper time slot (if selected). Lara Friedman-Shedlov also thought she might be able to find someone at from the University of Minnesota if Lynne doesn’t work out.

-Laura Micham and Danielle Culpepper emphasized that they need all A-V equipment requests ASAP. Speakers are expected to supply their own laptops (or load all presentations on to one person’s laptop for each panel). The hotel will provide a projector and a screen only. Internet access is generally not available due to the expense, but it might be a remote possibility if there were enough sessions on the same day in the same

room with a compelling need. Some sessions in the past have experimented with using a pre-recorded video presentation and having a speaker available by a phone line for Q & A. This received mixed reviews but would be possible to try again.

-Let Laura and Danielle know of any other changes.

### **3. Share speaker requests regarding date/time of seminars in preconference schedule**

-Gerald Cloud reported that the speakers for "Bibliography in Action" (#1) would prefer to be scheduled as early in the conference as possible.

-Heather Smedberg requested that the two instruction-related seminars "Reviewing our (Classroom) Performance" and "Progressing Primary source Literacy" (#4 and #6) not be scheduled concurrently.

-Three other requests were previously received, and it appears that all can be accommodated, so far. Pass on additional requests from the speakers as soon as possible. After this month it becomes very difficult to honor those requests.

### **4. Explain role of ACRL staffer, Margot Conahan re: speaker contracts**

-All speakers will be asked to sign an agreement/contract. Margot will need contact information for all speakers. Send speakers' and moderators' institution and email address to Laura and Danielle ASAP -- this month if possible.

### **5. Explain process for assigning onsite coordinators for seminars**

-Laura and Danielle will make assignments. Usually the committee member who is the committee liaison for a seminar will be assigned as liaison the onsite coordinator, unless s/he is moderating the session. ACRL provides a simple form for the coordinator to complete. Tasks include recording basic session information, taking a head count, and indicating the broad content type based on categories provided.

### **6. CFP deadline for 2014 seminars: June 3, 2013**

-ACRL has been moving relevant deadlines earlier, so the call for proposals will go out by February or March with a deadline to receive proposals by June 3rd. We should have a full slate of proposals to look at during the 2013 ALA Annual meeting in Chicago.

-Committee members are asked to share this deadline as the opportunity arises in Seattle and with other committees, especially committees that might want wish to propose a seminar.

### **7. Brainstorm 2014 Seminar Ideas**

Laura Micham shared an idea proposed by Sarah Horowitz on crowdsourcing and special collections. Text from 1/9/13 email from Horowitz:

Here is a little more information on my idea about crowdsourcing and special collections. A number of libraries have been using crowdsourcing to transcribe digitized materials (the menu project at NYPL got a lot of publicity when it went live:<http://menus.nypl.org/>). A seminar might explore what kind of resources a library would need to undertake a project like this. (Do you check any of the work done by volunteers? I believe Iowa's Civil War transcription project has

someone from staff checking at least some of the volunteer's work. Do you have each document done once or twice?). How valuable is this, both in terms of the content you get and in other ways? What kind of time is needed from staff? How do you publicize your efforts?

Crowdsourcing isn't something limited to special collections, of course; it's become popular in parts of the scientific world as well (the Zooniverse projects are probably the biggest:<https://www.zooniverse.org/>, and some of these are based on special collections type materials -- I'm particularly fond of the Old Weather one.) I don't necessarily have ideas on speakers at the moment, but I imagine people from any of the projects I've mentioned could be interesting, and I'm sure there are a number of projects I don't know about that might also be interesting. I would be willing to serve as the organizer.

-Laura and Danielle will encourage her to continue to pursue it. Becky Fenning noted there was a great session on that topic at SAA and Sarah should be encouraged to speak to the folks who organized it for suggestions.

-Melissa Nykanen said that at the 2012 preconference she heard people expressing a desire for a seminar targeted to smaller special collections departments including one-person departments.

Other typical topics:

Instruction

Public service

New technologies

Cataloging/description.

Ideas or proposals may come from individuals, small groups, and RBMS committee such as the Bibliographic Standards Committee, or task forces charged with creating or updating new sets of guidelines. Currently there is a Task Force on Metrics and Assessment which may be interested in proposing a seminar. The task force charged with combining guidelines for ILL and exhibition loans (chaired by Christian DuPont) may be another possibility.

**The meeting adjourned at 10:50 Central Time.**