

RBMS Seminars Committee Meeting at ALA Annual Conference

New Orleans Sunday, 6/24/2018 1PM to 2PM Location MCC, room 215

Attendance: Leah Richardson (George Washington University), Ben Goldman (Penn State), Lori Birrell (U Arkansas), Moira Fitzgerald (Yale), Kate Hutchens (U Michigan)

Notes taken by Leah Richardson

1. Call to order and selection of recorder
2. Approval of minutes from Midwinter
3. Welcome: Introductions of committee members and guests
4. Review seminars from NOLA 2018
 - 9 seminars this year
 - Good attendance and feedback about content; will see what survey says, but early reports are positive
 - Participatory activities were successful, particularly activities that allowed folks to submit questions and comments anonymously
 - Leadership is always a good topic
5. Looking ahead to Seminars at RBMS 2019 in Baltimore
 - a. New format for proposal submission: See announcement here, <http://rbms.info/blog/news-events/call-for-proposals-rbms-2019/>
 - b. Rubric for selection (Leah will send out)
 - Criteria for selection will include:
 - Clarity and Organization of Proposal
 - Timeliness of topic and applicability to attendees
 - Strength of educational component and learning objectives
 - Originality
 - Seminars do not have to relate to the theme
 - Promote seminars and highlight that they don't have to relate to theme to address concerns that some folks might have
 - Usually 9-11 seminars at RBMS
 - Good to allow time for revision
 - Be mindful of a perception that the same people are often speaking at multiple sessions; this should be better to manage this year with the single-stream submission form.

From the CFP:

Seminars

The RBMS 2019 Seminars Committee invites proposals for 90-minute sessions with a strong educational component on all topics of professional concern, and need not be connected to the

conference theme. Seminars typically offer two to four presenters the opportunity to bring together ideas, case studies, critical perspectives, and reflections with the goal of educating attendees and fostering a wider discussion. A successful seminar inspires audience members to consider multiple, diverse perspectives on a particular topic and take actionable ideas back to their home institutions. We welcome experimentation and reimagination of the RBMS Seminar and encourage non-traditional formats and approaches. The Seminars Committee is available to work with proposers to help develop ideas for potential seminars.

Proposals should include a description of the purpose and content, learning objectives, planned number of speakers/presentations, and format.

c. Timeline for review

- August 3 is now the deadline but will likely be extended
- Notifications sent in October is listed in the CFP

d. Expectations for committee members

- Weekly conference calls for the month-between submission, revision, resubmission
- Invite proposers to call in for feedback
- Most work will be August-November 2018

6. Potential seminar proposal discussion for 2019 Seminars

a. Guests wishing to present ideas for 2019 seminars are welcome and encouraged to attend and present ideas in this supportive environment

- Kate Hutchens: silo-ing of issues in the profession; how to collaborate around issues rather than avoiding something because that's someone else's issue. Allowing for more voices and perspectives around issues in the field.

7. Marketing and promotion

- Will be really important since there seems to be confusion about the relevance of the theme
- Help people to interpret and see their work in the theme
- RBMS19 has the potential to create more space for big ideas and potential approaches that push our normal understanding of our work in light of climate change

8. Adjourn

Next steps for committee members: promote and encourage seminar proposals, look for emails to schedule regular conference calls and provide more detail about the timeline for work and the selection process.