

RBMS PubComm meeting Midwinter 2015

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

2:45 pm | Eastern Standard Time (New York, GMT-05:00) | 1 hr 30 min

Present: Katharine Chandler, Allison O'Dell, Angela Dressen, Athena Jackson, Kate Hutchens, Beth Whittaker, Heather Dean, Elspeth Healey, Ethan Henderson, Everett Wilkie, Francis Lapka, Garth Reese, Jason W. Dean, Katie Henningsen, Melanie Griffin, Nancy Poehlmann, Rob Cagna, Lori Dekydtspotter

The meeting was led by Chair Katharine Chandler. The meeting began with introductions.

Reports from working groups and ex-officio liaisons**1. Web Team Report**

Elspeth Healey reported on the Web Team's progress, much of which has been recorded in the attached document, "RBMS Web Team Report for ALA Midwinter 2015"; this document was circulated to the RBMS PubComm. It has not been shared with the entire RBMS list yet, but will eventually get published on the RBMS.info website under Meetings and Agendas.

The big news for the Web Team was that the new **RBMS.info** website was launched on November 30th. A demo site was previewed during the RBMS Preconference in Las Vegas and the new site is now up and running. The "Committees" portion of the website launched at the end of 2014. The Web Team is still in the process of figuring out a few permissions and allocations for having web liaisons. A variety of projects are forthcoming to improve the site and keep it up-to-date to meet the members' wishes and needs. Currently, for example, Melissa Hubbard is working on getting the *Standard Citation Formats* launched on the site.

In other news, concerning personnel, Valerie Prilop, Assistant Web Editor, has resigned from the Web Team due in a job change. Everyone would like to thank her for her hard work and service to the Web Team. Alison Clemens will be the new Assistant Web Editor.

The Web Team has submitted a budget proposal to upgrade our current hosting service with DreamHost from a shared hosting plan to virtual private server (VPS) plan. This is in part to deal with increased traffic to the site and to avoid site slowdowns. It sounds as if there is interest in the proposal; more news will be forthcoming.

2. Documentarian

Kate Hutchens reported that all of the audio files (session by session audio files) from the last RBMS Preconference (2014 LV) are on the web and are live now.

There was a great team of recorders at the 2014 Preconference: Kate Hutchens, Chris Smith, Alex Johnston, and Melissa Hubbard—they tag teamed the audio recording. There were some ancillary efforts to collect Tweets and back channel in 2013, but we didn't try this for 2014. There was an idea is to get more images for the 2015 website, but there were some issues with how to collect them and what would be in scope, so the idea was dropped.

Elspeth mentioned that when they were initially working on the website and seeking images for the slider that Tory Ondrla at ACRL has images of the entire Preconference and they can be selected for use on the website—permissions issues have been the topic of discussion at Publications Committee meetings in the past. Whether or not we need the permissions of people who are featured in the photographs is a point of concern. Athena will follow up with Arvid to see if permissions are needed.

3. News Editor

Ethan made a formal thank you to Elspeth and the Web team for helping with the migration of the website content—past job descriptions, etc. He continues to look for job postings, new acquisitions, symposia, and conference information to post. There is a button on the new website that goes directly to Ethan and you can also follow on Twitter @rbmsinfo.

4. Listserv

Everett reported that there are 1351 members currently on the listserv. It continues to grow slowly, but we are shooting for 1800—not everyone in the organization belongs to the listserv.

Katharine mentioned the content of the RBMS list. The problem is that people post messages about affinity groups, such as SAA. Technically these do not belong on the list because they do not deal with RBMS business. A decision needs to be made whether we are going to allow these postings or not. Do we open to expand the scope of the list? Most of these postings appear in multiple places.

Athena asked if there was a written protocol for what should be posted on the list, and Everett directed us to the following link on the RBMS website under Resources (the protocol was written in 1995): http://rbms.info/publications/discussion_list/

An argument that came up a few years ago was that the list should reflect RBMS business only. Everett pointed out that when the protocol was drafted, people were vocal that they did not want to have another discussion list (just minutes, official announcements, etc., only). Athena mentioned that perhaps it is time to revisit the policy – we now have a Twitter feed, Facebook account—maybe the PubComm members need to decide what would be appropriate for postings. We also need to

encourage people to subscribe to EXLIBRIS and RBMS. Everett mentioned that the overlap of membership on EXLIBRIS and RBMS is probably about 100 percent.

It was decided that a subcommittee within the PubComm should be formed to come up with some rules/guidelines on what should be posted and develop a brief survey to send out to the list to gauge opinions on the subject. As Everett pointed out, the moderator needs guidance on what the list should do. Wilkie reiterated that he had no feelings on the matter one way or the other.

Everett was thanked by all for his hard work on the listserv and a link was shared: <http://rbms.info/files/committees/executive/resolutions/Wilkie2012.pdf>

Unfinished Business

1. *Your Old Books* printing

We need to print new flyers for “Your Old Books.” Katharine has talked with the budget committee and money has been arranged for it. They may have been reprinted when Christian was chair. Jason sent out the last copies that we had to Meghan Constantinou (Grolier Club) so they can be on hand for February’s New York Antiquarian Book Fair.

New Business

There was no new business to report.

Announcements

1. Bibliographic Standards Committee (BSC) Charge

There was a BSC charge for a CV publication co-chair. Ryan Hildebrand will sit on both the Pubcomm and the BSC.

2. Change to charge of News Editor term and Listserv Moderator term

There is a change to the terms of “New Editor” and “Listserv Moderator.” This has been handed down from ALA administration that anyone serving in these positions can serve two consecutive two year terms with a maximum of five consecutive years. So both Ethan and Everett are starting out in “new” terms as of now. But there will be a cap on how long people can serve in these positions.

The rationale for this term limit is coming from ALA/ACRL; they are cracking down on the term limits to allow for wider participation within the membership.

3. Other announcements

Katharine may not be able to attend Midwinter. If you can present at Information Exchange in her absence, please e-mail her.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned by Katharine Chandler.

Minutes respectively submitted by
Lori Dekydspotter