

**RBMS Budget & Development Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**ALA Annual Conference, Las Vegas**  
**Saturday, June 28, 2014, 1-2:30 p.m.**

**Present:** Mary Lacy (chair), Erika Dowell, Jeffrey Marshall, R. Arvid Nelsen (ex-officio), Blynne Olivieri, J. Fernando Peña (ex-officio), Sarah Schmidt, Shannon Supple, Cherry Williams

**Visitors:** Richenda Brim, Katharine Chandler, Rachel D'Agostino, Athena Jackson, Mike Kelly, Tory Ondrla, Henry Raine, Daniel J. Slive, E.C. Schroeder

**Excused:** Ethan A. Henderson, Melissa Nykanen

The meeting started at promptly at 1 p.m. at Bally's Hotel in Las Vegas.

**1. Introductions, Approval of Minutes, etc.**

Fernando Peña volunteered to take minutes. After customary introductions, minutes of the Committee's last meeting at ALA Midwinter in Philadelphia on January 25, 2014 were approved with minor edits.

**2. Leab Award Fund Report**

Cherry Williams, Exhibitions Committee chair, reported that as of April 30, 2014, the Leab Award Fund had a balance of \$38,013, with interest earnings of \$975 and bank charges of \$184 from September 2013 to April 2014, leaving \$743 in the spending account. In addition, RBMS members donated \$175 to the fund during the same period.

Williams also reported that two Exhibitions Committee members, incoming chair David Faulds and Elizabeth Call, will serve as liaisons to this committee to work on future fundraising for the Leab Award Fund. Williams has also appointed two additional Exhibitions Committee members and an intern to the fundraising sub-committee.

Lacy reviewed discussions from the Committee's Midwinter meeting regarding fundraising for the Leab Award Fund, stating that the fund is presently in a good financial position. Because of the recent Delmas Foundation grant for scholarships for the 2014 preconference, Lacy and Tory Ondrla estimate that approximately \$4,500 from RBMS's profit share from the 2013 preconference will be added to the Leab Award Fund by the end of this fiscal year (August 2014). However, Lacy agrees that RBMS should continue exploring strategies for growing the fund to the reach the \$50,000 minimum mandated by ALA/ACRL by 2022.

**3. Preconference Budget Reports**

- **2014 Las Vegas Preconference:** Ondrla reported that she is still waiting for final invoices from the preconference hotel, but she added that fundraising for the 2014 preconference was very strong and that she expects a healthy profit. She should have a report for the Committee by August if not earlier.

- **2015 Oakland Preconference:** Arvid Nelsen reported that the budget that his committee submitted is being voted on by ACRL this weekend. The attendance estimate is based on the average of the last three years. Registration fees are increasing from current \$280 to \$290 and the fundraising goal from 2014's \$40,000 to \$51,000, including \$20,000 from the ABAA booksellers' showcase.

#### 4. RBMS Preconference Scholarship Report and Fundraising

- **2014 Results of Fundraising:** Ondrla and Peña reported that from July 1, 2013 to June 9, 2014, 59 individual RBMS members donated \$5,180 to the Scholarship Fund through ACRL Friends and through preconference registration.<sup>1</sup> Of this, about \$4,000 was used towards the approximately \$15,000 distributed to 21 scholarship recipients in 2014; the balance of the \$15,000 came from the Delmas Foundation grant (\$5,000), ACRL (\$1,000), and a portion of RBMS's profit share from the 2013 preconference (\$5,000).<sup>2</sup>
- **Supplemental Funding (Grant):** Upon the recommendation of Deirdre Stam, trustee at the Delmas Foundation, RBMS will reapply for a grant for preconference scholarships in 2015. Peña volunteered to help incoming section chair Nelsen with this.
- **Ongoing Fundraising Discussion:** Several Committee members suggested sending out a solicitation for donations to the Scholarship Fund right now, while Las Vegas preconference attendees are still on a high. Nelsen will draft an email solicitation and try to send it out in the next few weeks.

Blynnne Olivieri asked if we should try harder to create a community around scholarship winners. Richenda Brim, 2014 preconference co-chair, reported that her committee had reached out to previous scholarship winners to serve as moderators for preconference sessions. Rachel D'Agostino suggested that we solicit Scholarship Fund donations from institutions whose employees were scholarship recipients. E.C. Schroeder and Olivieri also suggested tracking scholarship winners and later asking them to donate to the fund and getting them used to giving. Olivieri has created a document on scholarship fundraising ideas, available under this Committee's folder in ALA Connect. Also, Daniel Slive and Schroeder have been sending solicitation emails to current and former Executive Committee members to give to the Scholarship Fund.

---

<sup>1</sup> As per an email from Tory Ondrla to Mary Lacy and Fernando Peña dated July 24, 2014, the ACRL Friends Fund designated for RBMS preconference scholarships had the following balances, deposits and withdrawals in fiscal 2013-2014: \$2,525 balance on July 1, 2013; \$5,180 in donations by RBMS members through June 2, 2014; \$3,915 in withdrawals for scholarships; and \$3,790 balance as of June 30, 2014.

<sup>2</sup> Also as per Ondrla's email of July 24, 2014, the following was the exact composition of scholarship funds distributed to 21 recipients in 2014: \$5,250 from 2013 profit share; \$5,000 from Delmas grant; \$3,915 from member donations through ACRL Friends (see note above); and \$1,000 from ACRL, for a total of \$15,165.

## **5. Proposals for Use of Section Funds**

Lacy reviewed recent requests for use of section funds, including the following old and new requests:

- Previously approved request of \$2,000 by the Publications Committee for the RBMS website redesign, with \$1,000 coming from section budget and \$1,000 from profit share from last year.
- New request of \$137 by Lois Black for printing postcards to publicize RBMS's program at the ALA Conference in Las Vegas, approved by Committee.
- New request of \$89 by Katie Henningsen for copy costs related to Membership & Professional Development Committee's New Member Orientation at the preconference, also approved by Committee.
- New request for \$199 by Katharine Chandler, incoming Publications Committee chair, for automation tool to facilitate the RBMS website's upcoming transfer to a content management system, also approved by Committee
- New request by Katharine Chandler on behalf of the Diversity Committee for printing informational postcards on the committee's work to distribute at diversity-related events, conferences, fairs, etc. A discussion followed about the postcard's content, whether approvals of this content by the RBMS Executive Committee are necessary, etc. Lacy and the Committee decided to approve the request in principle, from the section budget for the next fiscal year.

## **6. Leab Endowment Buildup**

Schroeder asked if RBMS had received permission to change the fund indenture, which has not yet occurred. Lacy and incoming chair Nelsen will talk to Mary Ellen Davis of ACRL soon to find out if the indenture can be changed to broaden the scope of fund's use beyond just exhibition awards and to discuss how ACRL will match RBMS fundraising for the Leab Award Fund.

## **7. ACRL Budget & Finance Committee Update**

There was no update, as the committee has not yet met at Annual this year.

## **8. Budget & Development Committee FAQ**

Lacy reports that nothing has been done yet to work on this FAQ.

## **9. Other Matters**

Nelsen reported on the "Kickstart the Future" campaign the ACRL has recently started to raise money for scholarships to attend the 2015 ACRL conference. ACRL is asking all sections to contribute however they can. Nelsen is unsure whether there is a goal for the section and what the deadline is. ACRL has suggested numerous alternatives for contributions, including the following: section executive committees pledging as a group; sections sponsoring named scholarships; section nominating committees inviting members standing for election to make donations toward the fund, etc. There was discussion on how to participate in the ACRL campaign without conflicting with RBMS's own fundraising campaigns as well as questions on the mechanism for donating so that RBMS gets credit.

Nelsen will be talking to Ondrla about details and will report back to the Committee regarding timing and possible conflicts with RBMS campaigns.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Fernando Peña