

NMRT Board Member Planning Report

1. Office Name: Outreach Director

2. Office Term (Date: Ex. 2005-2006): 2008-2010

3. How do you plan to help committees address the four NMRT goals? (If it does not apply, put N/A.)

I'll be facilitating communication between my committees, as much of their work overlaps at points. I'll also be the chairs' liaison to the Board – to get questions answered in a timely fashion. I want to provide an experience for the chairs, and in turn their committee members, that is positive, that provides opportunities for growth, and encourages future participation in NMRT and in other national organizations. I will do this by modeling professional behavior and providing constructive feedback.

4. How do you plan to create a positive committee experience? What type of support do you plan to provide to chairs and committee members, and how often do you plan to provide such support?

I think by reinforcing my availability and by providing prompt responses, the chairs and committee members will understand that their work is important to me and to the organization as a whole. I intend to maintain monthly communication in the off-months, and as we approach conference time, more frequent communication. By creating an open and responsive environment, the chairs should feel free to contribute through questioning and suggesting ideas for their own edification, and also for the improvement of their committee work and NMRT.

5. What future directions do you see your office or NMRT needing to take this year or the following year? What kind of strategies do you envision for addressing projects that affect committees outside of your supervision?

Facilitating opportunities for members who are unable to participate in-person at conferences, and making good, effective use of ALA Connect. This could really improve not only the work of individual committees, but by gathering more input and feedback from the membership (and not just those who work on committees or who attend conference meetings), we can really take advantage of all the great ideas that come from new members.

6. Date of report: 9/4/09

7. Submitted by: Erin Ellis