

NMRT Board Member Final Report

1. Office Name: Vice President/President Elect

2. Office Term: 2009-2010

3. Discuss/summarize your involvement with your committees this year:

I supervised one committee this year and we communicated through email. The committee was made up of two members; therefore we decided it was just as easy to use our email addresses opposed to using ALA Connect. I think this decision proved to be a good one and this method did not impede on the committee work.

I gave both members a concept of what will be important to me during my presidential year and they gave feedback and came up with ways to implement their suggestions.

4. Based on your year's experience in this office, what future directions do you see your office or NMRT needing to take this year or the following year?

It may become more and more difficult to fill all committee volunteer vacancies. I needed to ask several of those who filled out the volunteer form this year to serve on multiple committees. I do not think this is a new phenomenon, but fear if it continues at this rate then eventually it will be a problem. It may become necessary to take a look at the main responsibilities for each committee and eventually adjust the number of committee volunteers it will take to complete the duties.

Publicizing committee work may help draw in the appropriate number of volunteers needed to fulfill the committee work. Perhaps after sending the initial call for committee volunteers, NMRT-L and other electronic communication tools could be used to send small informational messages on various key committee activities to entice more members to volunteer to serve.

5. What tips or hints do you have that might help your successor carry out the duties of this office?

When soliciting for committee appointments, it is helpful if you can develop an organizational method for tracking which committee a volunteer wishes to serve on. I initially worked within the NMRT gmail account assigning name tags for each committee to the appropriate volunteer. By initially working within the gmail account, it was easy to refer back to the original volunteer form when looking to fill specific committee vacancies. Keep in mind you will most likely need to do some shifting around of committee assignments to fill all the vacancies. Once I had most volunteers matched with a committee(s), I moved the information into a spreadsheet, the format for submission to the NMRT staff liaison, Kim Sanders. Do not underestimate the time it will take to fill

all the slots. Circumstances may arise that prevent a volunteer from accepting an appointment and others will simply not respond back to you. The most difficult committee spots to find volunteers for are the ones that require conference attendance.

6. Please address the role of the board member as coordinator. For example, projects between membership promotion, diversity & recruitment and student outreach would need to be coordinated. How might activities such as this be handled by board members efficiently and smoothly? Your thoughts here will be most helpful for future boards.

During the new chair orientation, it should be pointed out that they are empowered to use the board email list to solicit assistance and/or ideas from board members and other committee chairs.

7. Date of report: June 9, 2010

8. Submitted by: Deana Groves