

NMRT Board Member Planning Report

1. Office Name: Outreach Director

2. Office Term (Date: Ex. 2005-2006): 2010-2012

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

The Outreach Director supervises five committees: Liaison Coordination and Support; Student Chapter of the Year Award; Membership, Promotion, Diversity and Recruitment; Student Reception, and Student and Student Association Chapter Outreach

All four NMRT Goals are directly supported by the work of the committees supervised by the Outreach Director:

- * to structure formal opportunities for involvement and/or training for professional association committee experiences on the national, state, and local levels;
- * to provide a wide variety of programs to assist, encourage, and educate people who are new to the profession;
- * to offer a variety of leadership training and opportunities to help those approaching the end of their NMRT eligibility to make the transition to future positions in the Association and the profession; and
- * to develop and implement ongoing programs for library school students that encourage professional involvement and networking.

All five of the committees are actively working in support of these goals. Some highlights of the work that is already in progress:

- *liaison assignments coordinated that create accessible opportunities for new professionals to get involved with NMRT and other groups within ALA
- *Planning in progress for promotion of this year's Student Chapter of the Year award to recognize excellence in library school student chapter activities and engagement of new librarians
- *Contact initiated to welcome new members to NMRT and create a warm environment for new professionals to find opportunities to get involved
- *Planning initiated for Student Reception social activities at ALA Annual to create a venue for networking that encourages new professional interactions
- * LIS Program Contacts and communication with student chapters initiated to support library school students for continued professional development and networking via NMRT

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 have created a master calendar with relevant committee/NMRT-related deadlines and dates that will serve as a guide for regular and sustained communication. E-mailing chairs and responding to questions in a timely manner is one key method to promote a positive and open channel of communication. I also plan to check in with an informal email to each committee chair every month just to see if there is any need for help, support, or research into any information items.

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?

I think it is important to utilize the committee structure in NMRT to educate, promote, encourage, and spotlight new leaders. NMRT leadership opportunities can develop skill sets that will help new librarians prosper in their profession and can provide insight into the workings of ALA for new members. NMRT committee members are often unsure of where to apply themselves, but if asked or encouraged are willing to step up to challenges and opportunities. I consider it my personal responsibility to cultivate new leaders by ensuring they have a positive experience on their committee and that they find additional challenge in NMRT as they develop their leadership skills. These values can be applied both in the committees I supervise and in other committees in NMRT. Being friendly, supportive and fostering a positive experience is a very important direction for this office and NMRT leadership in general.

6. Date of report: September 15, 2011

7. Submitted by: Cory Lampert