

NMRT Board Member Planning Report

1. Office Name: Member Services Director

2. Office Term: 2011-2013

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

Provide open lines of communication and act as a facilitator when the committees need further resources to complete their objectives. (Previous MSD's wording, but it still holds.)

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 queried my committee chairs to see what kind of support/contact they would like from me. They did not seem interested in office hours, like previous MSDs have done, but they did like the idea of periodic "check in" emails, with news *for* them and asking for news *from* them. I will also work with them to ensure that I am included on committee correspondence, so that I can be proactively involved. And I will continue to be available for them whenever they wish to contact me.

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?

Because the MSD's committees all provide services directly to the NMRT membership—and, in many cases, outside of NMRT—I would like to help and encourage them to gather feedback from the membership about these services, so that we can evaluate what works best and what, if anything, needs improvement. I have already begun communicating with the committee chairs about this and will continue to do so, as it is one of the NMRT President's major themes this year and something I believe is important.

The Resume Review Committee is looking into working with LLAMA and possibly other groups within ALA. I believe that this will set a good precedent for other committees to reach out beyond NMRT.

In order to address projects outside of my supervision, I will work with—and potentially hold online teleconferences with—the chairs of each committee, the other board members whose committees are affected (within NMRT or externally), and as many people as possible from the participating committees. Collaboration is something NMRT already does fairly well; I believe we can continue to build on on that and work together more closely over time, while also working with more external groups, and I look forward to cross-committee and cross-roundtable projects.

6. Date of report: September 16th, 2011

7. Submitted by: Coral Sheldon-Hess, coral@sheldon-hess.org