

Committee Progress Report

Type of report being submitted: Committee Progress Report

Date: February 22, 2011

Committee Name: Orientation Committee

Supervising Board Member: Julie Kane, Networking Director -- jkane@sbc.edu

Chair, Co-Chairs, Assistant Chairs:

Emily Prather-Rodgers, Chair, North Central College – EAPratherRodgers@noctrl.edu

Barbara Lewis, University of South Florida – bilewis@usf.edu

Committee members:

Cynthia Dudenhoffer, Central Methodist University

Jacob Sherman, Oklahoma State University

Kimberly Copenhaver, Eckerd College

Activity in Current Reporting Period

a) Projects completed (For example, any procedures, tip sheets, checklists, etc. created during this period):

- The committee redesigned the Midwinter Orientation program, asking speakers to participate in a panel-style discussion. The committee planned, advertised, and presented the program at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Diego with the goal of educating attendees to make the most of the meeting experience and, secondarily, to gain new members for both NMRT and ALA.

The new format was overwhelmingly successful. There were 53 attendees. (See the Appendix for a summary of program evaluation data.) All committee members were in attendance at the program. Panelists included:

- John Chrastka, Director for Membership Development, ALA
- Joseph “Joe” Frueh, Director of Sales, Agati; Board Member, Exhibits Round Table
- Deana Groves, NMRT President
- Jim Rettig, Chair, ALA Committee on Organization and former ALA President
- Jacob Sherman, NMRT Resume Review Service

Three speakers were unable to participate in the panel discussion but participated by making short speeches. These special guests included:

- Robert Stevens, ALA President
- Keith Michael Fiels, ALA Executive Director
- Jenifer Grady, ALA-APA Director

- The Committee revised the program descriptions to clarify the differences between the Friday and Saturday programs at ALA Annual.
- The Committee, with the help of Kim Sanders and the Executive Board, determined that EBSCO will no longer be able to provide bags or other giveaways for the Orientation programs. It was decided that an alternative giveaway and sponsor should not be pursued at this time.
- The Committee was offered an opportunity to transfer part of its budget to the Executive Board for reallocation to other committees. Given the loss of support from EBSCO, the Committee decided to maintain its current allocation at this time.

b) Projects in progress but not yet completed:

- The Committee is planning two additional orientation programs for the ALA Annual Conference in June in New Orleans, LA. The Committee intends to use panel discussion format that was introduced at Midwinter.

Action Items/Issues To Be Resolved (What is left to do, based on your Planning Report? Have there been any substantial changes in plans since then? What items, if any, have been deferred until next year?):

There have not been any substantial changes in the Committee’s plans since we submitted the planning report in September 2010.

The Committee needs to continue planning for the orientation programs for the Annual Conference. We will invite speakers to talk about navigating the conference and exhibits, ALA and NMRT, and the conference city. The committee will also distribute literature from the ALA divisions and round tables at the programs. Advertising for the sessions at Annual will include:

- Work with the Publicity Committee to promote programs (e.g. on conference web site, in *American Libraries*, on NMRT Facebook page)
- Announcement on the Orientation Committee’s web page
- Inclusion in NMRT events in *Footnotes*
- Post to Listservs
- Post to ALA Connect
- Post to conference wiki

Due to planned changes to the Student Reception at ALA Annual, planned for the Annual Conference, the Orientation Committee will attempt to accommodate representatives from other ALA divisions and round tables at the orientation sessions. This will be accomplished by including an invitation in the request for informational literature. A sign-in sheet will be provided at the entrance of both programs. At the conclusion of the program, the moderator will read the list to introduce those representatives who are present and encourage attendees to speak with them before leaving for their next sessions.

Financial Report Section:

Your budget appropriation (see budget)	a. 600.00
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Amount which you have spent so far this year	b. 20.00
Your estimated additional expenses this year	c. 40.00
Total of amount spent and additional "estimated" expenses for this year (b+c)	d.60.00
Difference between budgeted amount and total expenses from above (a-d)	e. 540.00

Report submitted by: Emily Prather-Rodgers, Chair

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Appendix:

NMRT Orientation Committee 2011 Midwinter Program Evaluation Results
Saturday, January 8, 2011

54 attendees, 22 evaluations received (22/54 = 41%)

4 = Strongly agree, 3 = Agree, 2 = Disagree, 1 = Strongly Disagree					
	4	3	2	1	Total
1. The speakers/panelists were useful, informative, and relevant.	18	2			20
2. The topics discussed were useful, informative, and relevant	20	2			22
3. The format of the program was appropriate	20	2			22
4. The literature on ALA Divisions and Round Tables was helpful	13	8			21
5. The overall length of the program was appropriate	15	7			22
6. I would recommend the program to someone else	18	4			22
7. The date, time, and location of the program were appropriate	16	6			22

8. How did you hear about the NMRT Orientation Program and/or NMRT? (Check all that apply)		
<u>2</u> American Libraries <u>2</u> Facebook <u>0</u> Footnotes <u>4</u> NMRT-L	<u>11</u> Conference Program <u>1</u> Conference wiki <u>7</u> ALAConnect	Other: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library School • ALA registration • Someone sent me an e-mail; I never got this info • ALSC @ Simmons College • mentor
9. Is this your first ALA Midwinter/Conference?	<u>18</u> yes <u>4</u> no	
10. Is this your first NMRT Orientation Program?	<u>19</u> yes <u>3</u> no	
11. Are you a member of NMRT?	<u>10</u> yes <u>12</u> no	
11. If not, are you interested in joining NMRT?	<u>10</u> yes <u>1</u> no <u>1</u> not sure yet	

What topics would you like to see added to the orientation session?

- Suggested program tracks
- A little more explanation—maybe an org. chart—of the various levels of committees/discussion groups, etc. would be helpful
- Diversity
- All the topics I had questions about were answered
- Discussion of round tables vs. committees
- How can new members looking for work network effectively?
- There were many students here today, is there some way to discuss topics pertinent to this group?
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If you know someone who has unable to attend today's session, please share with us why.

- Couldn't afford to come to conference

Additional Comments:

- This one seemed more helpful than the one at Annual in Anaheim. I liked the ice breaker
- A list of the division acronyms listed in the conference program
- Good! And helpful!
- This was very helpful and informative—and inspiring! Thank you!
- It would have been nice if coffee was available
- A little long (ranked overall length of the program as a 3)
- Awesome. Very helpful. Thank you!
- Great session and format!