

NMRT Board Member Planning Report

1. Officer Name: Tinamarie Vella

2. Office Term (Date: Ex. 2005-2006): 2014-2016

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

As Networking Director, I oversee the following committees below, I give support and guidance to accomplish the charge for each committee:

- Online Programs Committee
- Local Arrangements Committee
- Midwinter Social Committee
- Orientation Committee

I also serve as the liaison to the ALA Training, Orientation and Development Committee (TOLD).

I experimented with creating an ad-hoc committee to oversee a new initiative of having Networking Socials in between conferences to keep momentum up and to engage new members throughout the year. I am going to use my last year to switch it up, and work with strengthening relationships with state and local associations during their annual conferences to have a lasting impact. The ad-hoc committee will need to be established formally, but duties and mission changing. I will propose something for Midwinter meetings.

Being involved in these committees, I will facilitate and help address the all four goals below, especially when it deals with creating programs and opportunities for networking:

1. To structure formal opportunities for involvement and/or training for professional association committee experiences on the national, state, and local levels.
2. To provide a wide variety of programs to assist, encourage, and educate people who are new to the profession.
3. 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
4. To develop and implement ongoing programs for library school students that encourage professional involvement and networking

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 will keep an open mind and dialogue when dealing with various committee chairs and members, to make sure that all opinions and concerns are addressed. I will be available for support and outreach when needed, and share my experience.

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 am pleased that the Midwinter Social received a boost in funding, and working more with sponsors may increase the potential of the event. My initiative to provide more opportunities outside of ALA's conferences -- we had several socials throughout the Fall and Spring -- we marketed, but it did not have the impact intended. Will experiment with collaboration with local and state associations to strengthen impact and gain support.

6. Date of report: 09/29/2015

7. Submitted by: Tinamarie Vella