



FAFLRT and ASCLA Executive Committees Joint Meeting  
28 December 2015, 1200 EST

**Welcome/Background: Chris Corrigan (3 Minutes)**

Discussion of a merger between ASCLA and FAFLRT was discussed at a prior ASCLA executive meeting. The "FAFLRT in Crisis" email was shared with ASCLA executive committee who were receptive to a merger and agreed FAFLRT and ASCLA should meet and discuss merger.

**Introductions (5 minutes)**

Steve Pomes: FAFLRT President  
Rhonda Gould: ASCLA President  
Amanda Wilson: FAFLRT Immediate Past-President  
Kathleen Moeller-Peiffer: ASCLA Immediate Past-President  
Virginia Sanchez: FAFLRT Past-President  
Michael Golrick: ASCLA Vice President/President-Elect  
Julie Bramman: FAFLRT Secretary  
Tracy Byverly ASCLA Secretary  
Vicky Crone: FAFLRT Councilor/Treasurer  
Chris Corrigan: ASCLA Councilor  
Ann Harrison: FAFLRT Federal Director  
Susan Hornung: ASCLA Executive Director

**Current Situation (Steve Pomes): 10 Minutes**

FAFLRT is experiencing a decline in membership and difficulty recruiting people for leadership positions.

FAFLRT Councilor/Treasurer (Vicky Crone)

The issue is greater than declining membership as only 100 people are necessary for a RT.

Members want programs, newsletters, communication but nobody is willing to produce content. FAFLRT members are generally unable to attend conferences due to lack of funding. FAFLRT doesn't have the infrastructure to produce webinars.

Reports this is not a merger because FAFLRT is a Round Table, not a Division. FAFLRT would disband and members join ASCLA. FAFLRT members don't feel they have a place or belong in ASCLA, FAFLRT would be more of an interest group within ASCLA.

FAFLRT could use ASCLA infrastructure to produce and distribute programs/webinars for members who cannot travel to attend programming at conferences.

### **Merging Logistics (Susan Hornung): 10 Minutes**

There is precedence for a merger; an independent library round table has merged with ASCLA in the past. Has spoken with senior management at ALA and they consider it a merger. Not sure FAFLRT has to disband, could just transfer membership.

Could have a tiered dues structure over the course of several years so FAFLRT members could gradually increase membership fees (\$15/regular member) to match ASCLA fees (\$55 regular member).

ASCLA Councilor (Chris Corrigan)

Benefits of FAFLRT joining ASCLA: ASCLA board discussed creating 2 additional board member positions to include federal librarian and armed forces librarian representation.

Personal opinion to create an at-large seat.

### **Open Forum: 25 Minutes**

- Is this something we would like to pursue?
- What would we want a merged FAFLRT/ASCLA to look like?
  - Board Members?
  - Number of programs at Annual?
- How would dues be affected?

FAFLRT Councilor/Treasurer (Vicky Crone)  
Current membership concerned with dues fees increases.

ASCLA Councilor (Chris Corrigan)  
Divisions have a support staff (webmaster, Executive Director) which Round Tables do not.

ASCLA Vice President/President-Elect (Michael Golrick)  
ASCLA would like ideas for content from FAFLRT membership—ideas, advice, suggestions on what kind of content would be helpful to armed forces/federal library staff?

(unknown speaker)

No guarantee FAFLRT members will join ASCLA if merger takes place.

No group is guaranteed continuing membership and ASCLA does not expect FAFLRT to provide guaranteed number of new members.

ASCLA Councilor (Chris Corrigan)

Could see two interest groups forming; one for armed forces librarians, one for federal librarians.

FAFLRT Past-President (Virginia Sanchez)

What can be offered to FAFLRT members from ASCLA?

ASCLA Councilor (Chris Corrigan)

Staffing.

Robust virtual learning portal.

Webinars throughout the year.

Smallest division within ALA and plenty of space for members to take leadership roles.

FAFLRT Federal Director (Ann Harrison)

National representation and professional standards, guidelines in subject areas.

ASCLA Executive Director (Susan Hornung)

Biggest advocacy voice. Serve libraries with special populations. Offers awards.

(unknown speakers)

Current FAFLRT awards could be offered if funding allowed? All agreed yes.

FAFLRT Federal Director (Ann Harrison)

Would current newsletter content be absorbed into ASCLA newsletter?

(unknown speakers)

Yes, and can be negotiated.

Need help with call for information.

A separate newsletter could be discussed. All formatting is set up.

Treasurer (Vicky)

Requested clarification on logistics as to what happens to membership and dues; members are not on same chronological renewal schedule.

(unknown speakers) Discussion on disbanding.

Bylaws do not have guidance on disbanding.

Disbanding language is a mandatory part of bylaws.

ALA council disbands FAFLRT, not FAFLRT.

ASCLA has support from ALA but Round Tables do not have as same level of support.

(unknown speakers) Discussion on co-sponsoring programs

FAFLRT using ASCLA equipment

FAFLRT can use ASCLA technology to conduct remote committee work and have virtual meetings, teleconferences, and record trainings using Adobe Connect.

Joint Venture

If we move towards merger, what joint ventures can occur between FAFLRT and ASCLA?

President (Stephen)

If we jointly produce webinars members may feel they are getting more value for their money Membership may actively participate as speakers, author visits, etc.

(unknown speakers)

Proceed with joint programs for 2017 whether or not we merge FAFLRT with ASCLA?

Discussion of what kind of programs to offer.

Virtual and in-person program delivery.

Difficulty for many members to attend in-person as many employers will not pay for travel, professional conference admission fees, etc.

ALA restricts distribution, broadcast of some content which would make virtual conference participation impossible.

Treasurer (Vicky)

Proposed joint programming for a year—at conferences and virtual.

Federal Director (Anne)

Program proposal has been received, she will send out to all. The proposal is for Orlando, topic is cataloging and publication.

(Susan)

May 1<sup>st</sup> is deadline to fill out online form for board approval—for programs for 2017.

President (Stephen)

Proposed an ALA teleconference.

(unknown speakers)

Teleconference to occur after midwinter.

FAFLRT can use ASCLA digital infrastructure. FAFLRT will propose programs and use ASCLA technology to deliver.

ASCLA charges to view webinars as they are charged to put them up. A small profit is made. Generally charge \$40 per person. Can have up to 99 participants in a single session.

Uses Adobe Connect. <http://www.ala.org/ascla/asclaevents/onlinelearning/onlinelearning>

(Virginia)  
Need list of old programs.

(unknown speakers)  
Need ideas for programs.  
FAFLRT will propose programs using ASCLA infrastructure: possible programs in Orlando in 2016, possible programs in Chicago 2017.

Federal Director (Anne)  
Will find program proposal form and submit.

(unknown speakers)  
Joint program should be discussed.  
Separate working group for program proposals.  
After midwinter meet again to discuss this topic at which time we will have more info from ALA.  
Joint mixer for membership at conferences. Joint networking at annual should be on Saturday night.

(Virginia)  
Possible program: how to translate skills and network to help people remain employed.

**Wrap/Next Steps: 5 minutes**

Doodle poll in February for next meeting.

Respectfully submitted by:

Julie Bramman  
Secretary