

9 February 2016

Hello Everyone:

This email is to invite you to the third meeting of the working group of FAFLRT and ASCLA leadership to discuss a possible merger of our two organizations. At our meeting today we decided to also include incoming FAFLRT leadership to the conversation which is why some of you are receiving this email for the first time.

Here is a link to the Doodle Poll for the next meeting:  
<http://doodle.com/poll/2ufc6et4qmuumyvz>

To summarize what we've been doing so far:

Before we make the decision to merge the two groups we will offer joint programming opportunities beginning with ASLCA signing on to sponsor a FAFLRT program for this upcoming Annual Conference in Orlando. A separate programming committee met at the end of January and decided on two programs which will occur at ALA Annual 2017 in Chicago.

Both programs are going to speak to how librarians are able to manage programming and staff with declining resources. Here are their working titles which are subject to change:

**Program 1:** Programming on a Shoestring: How to Prioritize Services

**Program 2:** How to Manage your Library with Limited Staff

FAFLRT will be the primary sponsor of the Program 1 and ASCLA will act as co-sponsor. ASCLA will in turn act as primary sponsor for Program 2 with FAFLRT acting as co-sponsor.

The second meeting of the programming committee is going to be in March, but the date is not set. If any of you want to be included in that committee's work, please respond to this email stating so and I will include you in the Doodle Poll for that meeting.

In addition to these two programs at ALA Annual in 2017, FAFLRT and ASCLA will host a joint networking reception/awards ceremony in Orlando this year so members of both organizations will have the opportunity to get to know one another and learn about what each organization has to offer. At our meeting today, we decided to do this during ASCLA's slot for the party and both organizations will promote it to their members.

In addition, we decided to invite Mary Ghikas to at least the third meeting of this working group. As the Senior Associate Executive Director who oversees ALA's divisions, she will be able to offer guidance through the logistics of a possible merger.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the poll. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,  
Chris Corrigan  
ASCLA Councilor