Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table
of the American Library Association
Membership Meeting Minutes
7 February 2007

Bill reported the reliability of ALA's information was dreadful. We are supposed to be getting a new type of report from the ALA Membership office, so we'll see if that improves the situation. John C. (head of membership) has asked for a little time to organize things, but has said he'd work on it. Even given unreliable data, Bill will be compiling a demographic report, examining location, age, gender identity, and type of library. He'll also check the ratio of completed profiles to member rolls to see if we have a significant percentage of responses.

Andy volunteered to work with Amanda on the mentorship program. Amanda asked for more 'mentees', so if you could post the announcement on any library school e-lists to which you belong, and other venues as appropriate, it could help. Once Keith gets it on the Site, and John puts them in the newsletter, we're expecting participation to increase.

Todd has made a MySpace <http://myspace.com/glbtrt> and del.icio.us <http://delicious.com/GLBTRT> account for us, and I have made a blog on ALA's official blog site <http://blogs.ala.org/glbtrt.php>, and a flickr account <http://www.flickr.com/photos/39608784@N00>. Lewis has made a LiveJournal <http://glbtrt-ala.livejournal.com/> account, too. It was discussed whether this is spreading ourselves too thin, and making a lot of places where people have to check for updates. I'll be asking Lewis what role he sees the LJ playing, and we'll be using the MySpace page primarily as a pointer right now. After six months, we'll check usage to see which sites we should keep, update, or discard. We agreed the ALA site blog should be our official one.

Rose has volunteered to design a marketing campaign to increase ethnic diversity in our ranks. Andy and Amanda had some contacts she may want to tap to help her with this goal. They'll be e-mailing those names and addresses later this week. This project was recognized as a need by everyone present. Any and all ideas to help Rose should be sent to her e-mail, but there may be a longer response time, as she only checks e-mail at work.

I have found three people in DC who wish to help plan the social. Andy will be providing me with a more detailed understanding of what exactly is involved, as well as some cost figures from other socials. The co-chairs have said that if I arrive at a baseline figure, they will make a separate line item in the budget for the socials. This will allow both the brunch planning and the socials their own allotment. I will be sending the explanation of the work involved to John Mitchell, Matt Ciszek, and Mark Williams.

We discussed future programming ideas, as the programs help to draw members. It was agreed that any programming ideas you have should be submitted to me by the end of February, and I will pass them along to the chair of programming and the co-chairs. All ideas should have at least one (if not a list) of potential presenters. Browsing through the profile will help match interests with people.