

Conference Development Committee  
ALA Annual Conference Anaheim, CA  
Sunday, 24 June 2012, 8:00-10:00am  
Disneyland Hotel--Adventure  
Minutes (approved 24 January 2013)

Members present: Deborah J. Leslie (Folger Shakespeare Library, chair) Martha Conway (Univ. of Michigan), Danielle Culpepper (Rare Book School, UVa), Ellen Ellickson (Yale), Mike Kelly (Amherst College), Mary Lacy (Library of Congress, recorder), Ed Oetting (Arizona State University), Maggie Ragnow (Univ. of Minnesota), Henry Raine (New-York Historical Society), Shannon Supple (Clark Library/UCLA)

Also attending: James P. Ascher (Univ. of Colorado Boulder), Matthew Beacom (Yale Univ.), Pat Bozeman (Univ. of Houston Libraries), Randal Brandt (Bancroft Library, UC Berkeley), Erika Dowell (Indiana Univ.), Becky Fenning, (Clark Library/UCLA), Tory Ondrla (ACRL), Fernando Peña (Palmer School/LIU), Jessica Pigza (New York Public Library), Nina Schneider (Clark Library/UCLA), E.C. Schroeder (Yale Univ.)

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Approval of minutes: 2012 Midwinter meeting
3. Consent agenda ratified:
  - 3.1 Approval of proposal by UNLV to host 2014 Preconference
  - 3.2 Approval of Preconference Site Proposal

4.1 2012 San Diego (Schneider/Supple). Supple reported that everything went well, and the interesting program was well-received. As always, Tory Ondrla did good work; Supple thought that having co-chairs worked well. Preliminary reports show 376 advance registration (plus a few on-site) plus 92 booksellers. Non-special collections librarians were in attendance, and the cross-disciplinary interchange was good. Kelly thought that maybe more non-special collections coming to the preconference was good for advertising and outreach. The program committee benefited from its extensive use of subcommittees, such as Pigza's for discussion sessions. The large committee was very successful.

Reports from seminars: only minor negative feedback was received on getting hotel staff to help with A/V, and some criticism of unsuccessful animation in a PowerPoint presentation. Content was great and well-received. ABAA members were allowed to attend the seminar they sponsored. There were a total of ten seminars.

Discussion groups were similarly successful. People felt comfortable with speaking out. There was no lack of topics to discuss at the Unconference. This format involved listing ideas for

discussion onto flip charts, grouping them, then voting on the topics, which included the future of section and library school education; changing user expectations; and outreach and connectedness. One plenary was followed by a discussion group on that topic. A seminar further explored linked open data after the plenary on the same topic. The room setup for discussion groups was ideal (2 deep squares, roving mikes). This did require more rooms to be setup, since they couldn't be used for other presentation formats. Instead of wrap-up speaker, several people were asked to write up afterwards from different viewpoints: cataloging, curatorial, administrator, and booksellers; these will appear in the RBM conference issue. Many new things were tried, with success: Wednesday booksellers' showcase, the unconference, technology petting zoo, bookseller-generated content, St. John's Bible display, and conference reporters.

#### 4.2 2013 Minneapolis

Ascher: The theme is Performance (both performing arts collections and how we perform our jobs). Scheduling from Sunday evening June 23-to Wednesday June 26 (tours and workshops go at the end, on June 27). This variation in schedule resulted from a combination of hotel availability and travel logistics to Chicago (which is 1 hr by plane, 7 hr driving). Schneider and Supple are happy to offer their advice based on recent experience.

Ragnow: the reception Tuesday night will be at the Mill City Museum and include a tour of the Flour Tower; they are talking to a sponsor. Minnesota Historical Society runs the museum and is providing space for no/minimal cost. Workshops are offered at Minnesota Center for Book Arts. Final plenary will be in a restored vaudeville theater (Pantages)

Other local arrangements include restaurant night, tour at St. John's (where the original mss of the Bible is held), tours of theater groups, etc. The hotel is the Marriott downtown (\$174 rate, internet included). Registration cost is the same. It's a short walk to riverfront; and Minneapolis has a bicycle program. The hotel is close to Nicolette Mall. Hotel architecture is very open. The Mall of America is 20 miles away.

Seminars (Culpepper). The call for proposals has been issued; seminars have 9 or 10 slots, and 14 proposals were discussed at the committee meeting. Proposals will be posted on the committee wiki to vote over next few weeks. Topics may include teaching and assessment of instruction, various collaborations--between archivists and catalogers, various subgroups; repurposing metadata; how to document unfolding events (UVa); bibliography in action. In 2012, discussions were opposite seminars and opposite tours. Could have split groups for discussions?

2014 (RBMS, ALA in Las Vegas): Peña; still working on chair or chairs appointment, but will be made by

August (for site visit). Ideas for conference themes are being developed

2015: ALA is in San Francisco. The committee will be issuing requests for proposal very soon. It would be good to find a site in the Bay Area.

2016 (ALA is in Orlando)

2017 (ALA is in Chicago): RBMS was last in Chicago in 2000. We may want to encourage re-submission of previous Midwest proposals (Iowa, Kansas City).

Ondrla wondered if should we have asked about campus day in the preconference evaluations? There was no programming at a nearby campus in 2012, as is frequently the case

## 5. Conference programs:

5.1 Anaheim 2012: the program will be this afternoon.

5.2 Chicago 2013: Athena Jackson, Jennifer McDonald are co-chairs. The program application was accepted by ACRL. Ideas for three speakers: History on Fire: mitigating preservation of disasters, how to fill in the gaps spiritually when records are lost. Presenters will talk about the Chicago fire, with a practitioner or scholar working around gaps, and someone from risk management: how to insure against. Kelly: ALA will have all programs at convention center, fewer programs in some years. This should not a problem for us. ACRL is committing to audio recording the program in 2013.

## 6. Old business:

6.1 Preconference Manual: Erika Dowell has finished Preconference manual revisions, which are posted on ALA Connect. Next step: posted on Conference Development website. ALA Connect hasn't been working well for discussion. It's useful for sharing files and for voting. Brandt: Bib Standards suggested that committee page on rbms.info have a link to ALA Connect; Conference Development concurs.

6.2 Redacted evaluations: At the last meeting, it was decided to post redacted evaluations (written comments are excluded). Ondrla sent the last 5 years, and Leslie sampled, and added image from preconference as the splash page. Next step: create page on Conference Development website. A private group (including committee members) can view the comments: members will be added or subtracted as appointments change.

6.3 Policy and procedure for a/v recording of preconference events: a year ago, we realized there needed to a formal arrangement for recording of preconference material. Exec: Kelly to appoint a task force from Conference Development, Publications, Budget & Development.

Currently Publications & Communications is wrangling the recording equipment, also making sure that recording happens (Melissa Hubbard and others did this). The group will explain what they did, but policy will be determined by the task force's recommendation. Who does the recording, editing (Southern Ill. Univ. may do for free this time). Most institutions only do once for free. Procedures need to be part of conference development manual. It can be hard to keep track of recorders: there is a "documentarian" subgroup in Publications & Communications. All but discussion sessions at the last preconference were recorded. We have 2 recorders and borrowed one from UCSD. Kelly: one of reasons for changing Publications Committee name was to take this role on. Questions of funding: could section funds pay for services, add one more recorder? This could be part of program or local arrangements duties, but input from preconference committee is required. Roles needed to be spelled out. Paying for editing is not in budget (tech is). Raine: Could program chair appoint member for liaison to Publications and Budget re this? Kelly: sounds good. We have paid for editing from section budget once (\$300?), but free on all other occurrences. EC: would rather have it in conference budget. Another recorder should come from section funds. Don't need a task force: will add to the manual. Publications will take control of physical recording. (Note: past chair needs to update Publications Committee info on rbms.info Manual)

## 7. New business:

7.1 Workshops committee. Regional workshops were unsustainable, committee will request to re- envision as Workshops Committee to work on preconference workshops. They will be coordinating, and help to develop (but not putting on). If an institution wants to host a workshop, that can be done too. Ideas and proposals for 2013: not too soon to think about. Committee has kicked around ideas already. Remote workshops also part of their purview.

Annual Conference program: email from Mary Ellen Davis. All programs will be 90 minutes in 2014.