

FMRT “Annual” Executive Board Meeting
Monday, June 29, 9:00am-11am PT (12pm-2pm ET)
<https://berkeley.zoom.us/j/98328684688> (NOTE SPECIAL ZOOM LINK)

Present: Andrea Battleground, Brian Boling, Jenifer Carter, Valeria Davila, Tiffany Hudson, Andrea Leigh, Michele Mckenzie, Steven Milewski, Athina Livanos-Propst, Leigh Rockey, Elliott Stevens, Gisele Tanasse, Monique Threatt, Lorraine Wochna, Melanie Zaskey

Agenda (times in Pacific Time)

9-9:10am Welcome & Introductions

9:10am Presentation of deg farrelly Scholarship

Michele: It’s nice to have something to celebrate right now. It was my pleasure to serve as scholarship chair. A little background: when deg passed we wanted to acknowledge his commitment to the profession and create a scholarship, called the deg farrelly Memorial/Alexander Street Press/AMIA/FMRT Media Librarian Scholarship. I would like to thank past chair Brian Boling, Dennis Doros, Danielle Ponton, Andrea Leigh, and Andy Horbal.

Our first recipient is Valeria Estefanía Dávila Gronros— Valeria’s passion for film preservation began in her native Argentina while working to preserve her country’s film heritage through digital film restoration. After earning an undergraduate degree in cinematography, Valeria became the first in her family to pursue a graduate degree overseas. She currently resides in Corvallis, Oregon and is “committed to fostering a diverse film culture through access to international films.” In accordance with another scholarship Valeria recently received, she’ll be doing an internship focused on preserving and archiving legacy media from a local PBS station to be included in the American Archive of Public Broadcasting.

Proquest (Alexander Street Press) released a statement conveying their happiness in sponsoring the scholarship and commemorating deg: “Please express to Valeria, how happy we are to sponsor the scholarship, and how important deg was to this community of librarians and to this field of study. We couldn’t be more honored by this opportunity to commemorate deg, and to help ensure that there’s a next generation of librarians with his passion and commitment.”

On behalf of AMIA, Andrea Leigh is also here to present the scholarship. She is excited about Valeria as our first choice.

Valeria says thank you to everyone!

The members of FMRT are all here for Valeria if she needs us.

Gisele thanked Michele and all those involved—it was a lot of work.

9:15-9:30am Chair’s Report (Gisele)

What a year! We hit the ground running with SCOE and Forward Together. There are lots of unknowns at ALA, and changes are on the horizon with Midwinter. Forward Together is a group formed of round tables, and we are looking at the question of what we would need pay to ALA to fund smaller round tables—if we don’t meet the 1% member threshold, what would it take to cover expenses? We have cash reserves and vendors who want FMRT to continue.

9:30-10am Committee Updates (Various, 5-10 minutes each)

- **Vice-Chair (Steven)**

We had a really good webinar last week—thank you everybody. If you have links to add to the resource sheet, please send them to Steve. He will post the list in ALA Connect for those interested.

- **ALA Councilor Report (Brian B.)**

Council's biggest business was the Forward Together discussion. ALA is asking Council to take more ownership of the process now, and we will look at changes and suggestions. What we voted on was a timeline concerning which changes ALA should adopt. We also passed a resolution condemning police violence and a resolution asking libraries to consider patron privacy during COVID crisis. ALA is forming a committee to look at security in libraries in order to reduce need for police intervention.

The Council voted to dissolve ALCTS, LITA, and LLAMA and to form a core division among them that creates synergies between tech, cataloging, and library admin interests. It also dissolved the Association of Specialized Government and Cooperative Libraries, which had accessibility interests that ALA should continue to be mindful of.

Brian saw a balance sheet for round tables, and we are midrange; GODORT has a lot of money; Gisele—That GODORT is at risk is troubling; nobody is really taking up their cause.

- **Immediate Past Chair/Nominating Committee (Lowell)**

Gisele: we do have slots to fill. Tiffany will do a call for Notables members. If you are rotating off a position, think about what you want to do with FMRT next.

- **Treasurer (Melanie)**

See January 2020 minutes.

- **Secretary (Leigh R.)**

Leigh is handing the secretary spot over to Lorraine. Leigh thanks everyone for supporting her during her tenure.

- **Communications Committee (Jen)**

We have a volunteer for the communications committee who will start soon. The planned FMRT student show-and-tell didn't happen because of the craziness of the past few months, but we can support that happening in the future. Gisele—There are valuable insights into academic rigors from students; summer is good time to bring student members together.

- **Webmaster (Andrea B.)**

Word is that ALA is completely revamping web sites. This is Andrea's last meeting as webmaster. She is happy to answer questions that the next webmaster has. Gisele thanks Andrea, who has to deal with lots of frustrating ALA stuff.

- **Program Committee (Laine & Lorraine)**

Panelists are interested in doing a webinar or program for next year's Annual. There is a consensus to do webinar soonish, due to the timeliness of the topic, community voices and local

video archives. Thank you Laine and Lorraine for all the hard work—you were thoughtful and willing to hang in there.

- **Notables Committee (Tiffany H.)**

Tiffany notes that we have some issues to decide. The current requirement to attend Midwinter in person is problematic due to ALA moving away from Midwinter and, of course, COVID. We need to vote that attendance in person is not required. Gisele asks by-laws committee person Michele if that is something the board can vote on or if we need a membership vote. Michele says the bylaws do not stipulate that a membership vote needed; it's something we would deal with in the handbook. Gisele moves that we allow for the chair of the committee to set whether Notables happens in person or virtually, Tiffany seconds, and the board votes unanimously to accept.

Tiffany says that we also need to look at removing the requirement that titles have to be on DVD by the time the list is compiled—with everything online now, it feels like this would be important. There are some films on the nominations list for two years because a DVD never came out. Steve—does this include titles that people can't watch, like on Netflix? Tiffany responds that it's a gray area, but DVDs seem like a restrictive guideline now. Gisele says that Notables should consider films available to be licensed by libraries that serve adults (not necessarily for school libraries and public libraries, but certainly academic libraries). Steve agrees—but if Netflix is not making something available, then we shouldn't reward them. Michele agrees but suggests looking again at the main things we consider when choosing the list; we need to ensure balance by revisiting some of the criteria. Tiffany is inclined to not consider Netflix/Hulu/HBO, etc., unless the title is available to libraries.

- **Membership Committee (Athina)**

Membership numbers have held steady since last year—the 3% increase we were experiencing for a while has now flattened. There is a slight switch from students to regular paying members, which is good because we need lots of paid members. Recruitment needs this year are important.

- **GALA Committee (Ben)**

No update.

- **Bylaws Committee (Michele)**

Michele is happy to report that we finally got the changes of VRT to FMRT into the bylaws. She is cycling off this committee.

- **IFLA (Mo / Debbie)**

Please see Appendix A.

- **Update from Vendor Relations Working Group (Brian B. /Jen/Gisele)**

Since this group has fulfilled its mission, can it be dissolved?

Michele says that Scott talked about people being paid for consulting with vendors; is there something in ethics documents from other groups that says the group shouldn't be used for personal profit? Gisele says it's a good point; we should disclose it if we're paid by a vendor as a consultant. Vendors have expressed willingness to fund memberships (without knowing who the members are) in order to keep FMRT alive. If people are interested in this question of ethics and

money and vendors and corporate sponsors, should we start a group to discuss it more? A new ad hoc committee? Should we invite any FMRT member to serve or should just board members be in the group?

Brian says he wouldn't mind serving again, and Jenifer would like to serve.

Same group willing to be reconstituted—Gisele will come up with questions we want to answer concerning personal compensation for consultations and disclosure of such.

- **Multimedia Discussion Group (Scott S.)**

Scott wants to continue as convener.

- **Digital Media Discussion Group (Elliott S.)**

Elliott is interested in mediamaking and accessibility. For example, there are no digital storytelling programs that are any more accessible than iMovie. Do we want also to talk about media teaching and how to work with students to produce media?

Gisele says there's a great amount of interest in ALA generally in media production; this is definitely webinar material and FMRT is interested. How do we want to schedule these things? What role are you interested in, Elliott, and what support do you need?

Elliott envisions a one-shot program or a plan for 2, 3 or more events over the course of a year. Mediamaking is really tied into accessibility. Also, new online education necessities implicate issues in media. Copyright and mediamaking is a good topic, especially fair use. We could do workshops that could link to each other.

Gisele says three events might be a good number to shoot for. Elliott could put together a short plan expressing his ideas, as well as a timeline and the target audience (a good opportunity to reach out to those not currently involved in FMRT). Should it be behind the ALA wall? ALA Connect should have new features soon; is there webinar feature available to us behind Connect? Melanie says that you can put videos you recorded on Connect.

Elliot thinks opening the events to anybody would be exciting. It would set up a community of practice around accessibility and video making assignments, copyright in terms of media assignments, and mediamaking in general—like what tools and processes do we use, what pedagogies? Ideally it would be open to as many people as possible. Steve notes that we have to check with ALA to see if open is possible.

Gisele says we've used ALA's Zoom—ALA wouldn't prohibit us from opening the sessions to anyone. We get our best attendance with a program with experts and then opening discussion to attendees. FMRT needs more paid memberships and this might be an argument to keep it to ALA members. From a logistics perspective, what backup does Elliott need from board to get things going?

Elliott wants to help FMRT get members. He will check in with Samantha as to collaboration—and he wants to welcome all collaborators. We need a team to have good online discussion. Then he will propose some plans he and others make. (Another format is craft workshops—work comes first then others critique that work.) Steve says the communications committee should look into what is possible with ALA Connect.

10:00-10:30am Virtual Event Debrief and Future Webinar Topics Brainstorming

See Digital Media Discussion Group above.

10:30-10:45am New Business

Tiffany says that we have several films relevant to the Black Lives Matter movement on or nominated for our Notables list—should we put out a list of films we recommend? She needs help with firming the list. Steve asks if Notables people can help. Tiffany says the list can include non-Notables titles, too. Gisele suggests that Tiffany send the board a shared Google doc so we can help her with the list.

10:45-11:00am “Moving Up” Transitions

- New Secretary (Lorraine)
Thanks to Leigh and welcome Lorraine!
- New Chair-Elect (Ben)
Congrats to Ben!
- New Chair (Steven)
Gisele says thanks to Steve for being her chair-elect—he will make a great chair.

Michele will cycle off the scholarship committee, and Gisele will pick up the scholarship committee. Gisele asks if the past chair has to be on the bylaws committee. Michele says it can be any executive board member. Leigh will serve!

Michele is taking a break from FMRT for a bit. Thank you, Michele!
Thanks also to Andrea who is cycling off.
Steve moves to adjourn and it is seconded.