

## GLA Mid-Winter Conference

Academic Library Division (ALD) Meeting, 11:00 a.m.-11:45 a.m., Room 101  
Clayton State University, Downs Center for Continuing Education  
January 28, 2011

### Welcome

Sarah Steiner, Georgia State University, Chair of the Academic Library Division for 2011, opened the meeting by welcoming the attendees and by introducing the current ALD officers, listed below.

- Katherine Ott, Clayton State University, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect
- Tessa Minchew, Georgia Perimeter College, Secretary
- Amy Eklund, Georgia Perimeter College, ACRL Chapters Council Representative
- Lorene Flanders, University of West Georgia, Past Chair

### ACRL Chapters Council Representative Report

Amy Eklund gave a report on activities from the recent ALA Mid-Winter Meeting in San Diego, CA. (The full text of Amy's report can be found in the Addendum below.)

During the Q&A period for Amy's report, Deborah Davis noted that promotion and tenure standards have increased sharply in Georgia recently, which may have the inadvertent effect of putting librarians at a disadvantage in the promotion and tenure process. Deborah would be interested in a discussion of promotion and tenure standards in Georgia and what role, if any, ACRL can take in providing assistance to librarians seeking promotion and tenure. LouAnn Blocker asked if the Chapter Topics newsletter was linked off of the ACRL site, which it is at (<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/about/chapters/topics/chaptertopics.cfm>). Amy noted that some other state library associations have an ALD meeting that is separate from their annual association conference, and suggested that we consider something like that in the future.

### Selected Papers Review Committee Chair Report

Eva Lautemann discussed the procedures for submission and awards for the academic paper program. All members of ALD are encouraged to submit a paper. Of the submissions received, 6 authors will be asked to present their papers at GaCOMO. The winners can apply to have their papers published in Georgia Library Quarterly and this year they will have the option to request peer review. Eva needs up to 3 people to help read and evaluate the submissions and will send out an email request for volunteers if needed.

### 2010 Election Planning (deviation from printed agenda)

Sarah asked for volunteers for the nominating committee for next year's ALD officers. Heidi Benford, Clayton State University, and Tanji Gibson, Atlanta Medical Center, volunteered to serve. (After the Midwinter meeting, Laura Burtle, Georgia State University, volunteered to chair the committee.) They will be soliciting nominations for Vice Chair/Chair Elect and Secretary.

## **GaCOMO 2011: October 6-7 in Athens**

At the beginning of the brainstorming session, there was some discussion about the number of academic library-oriented proposals that were not accepted for GaCOMO 2010. It was wondered if selecting only "academic" as the focus area on the proposal form would hurt the chances of acceptance. Sarah was under the impression that proposals officially sponsored by a division were always selected, but she will verify this. Gordon Baker pointed out that space limitations would naturally have influence on the number of proposals that could be accepted.

A speaker from the Government Information Interest Group commented that many proposals from GIIG were not accepted and asked if they should try to get their proposals sponsored by ALD in the future. (One would need to contact the Chair of ALD to discuss official division sponsorship.) Yadira Payne, 2010 Chair of GIIG, noted that there were actually a number of GIIG proposals selected last year. It was also noted by members in attendance that the selection committee received an unprecedented number of proposals last year and this, coupled with the cutting of the early morning sessions from the schedule, made acceptance much more competitive than it may have been in previous years.

One member suggested that there was not enough balance between the public and academic sessions at last year's GaCOMO and there was some discussion about whether or not this assessment was accurate. Past GLA President, Carol Stanley, pointed out that this is not an uncommon complaint each year and that the 2010 program had been designed to achieve the best balance possible.

### **Presentation topics:**

(Members offered the following topics as ideas for presentations at GaCOMO. The name of the person who suggested the topic is provided for most of the suggestions.)

Deborah Davis, Valdosta State University:

Promotion and tenure discussions, particularly if we can get an ACRL representative to participate. How people are using assessment in a time of shrinking budgets. Programming that focuses on special collections and archives.

Cathy Jeffrey, Clayton State University:

Cathy noted that past promotion and tenure discussions have been hard pressed to find enough time for the amount of Q&A generated. She suggested a double session on this topic.

Yadira Payne, Augusta State University:

Electronic records preservation with an emphasis on best practices for archives and technical services departments. Toby Graham, University of Georgia, was mentioned as a possible presenter.

Michael Elrod, Young Harris College:

Instruction in tools that can be used to teach students to conduct academic research and in conveying research methods in accessible language. Also, graphic novels as academic literature is a topic generating a lot of interest from students and faculty.

[Name unknown], Shorter College:  
Information literacy

Carol Stanley, Athens Technical College:  
Proposed a preconference on promotion and tenure instead of a single or double session.

Natalie Clewell, West Georgia Technical College:  
Natalie would like to hear about best practices from schools that have already implemented emerging technologies, like the circulation of e-readers, and how they got buy in from their administration. The Gadget Group at the University of Georgia and the Gear and Apps Group at Georgia State University were mentioned.

Pete Bursi, Georgia Perimeter College:  
North Georgia Associated Libraries is doing a disaster planning program. Perhaps we could get the same person to speak, or have other sessions on disaster planning.

Elizabeth Bagley, Agnes Scott College:  
Patron-driven e-book acquisitions.

LouAnn Blocker, Augusta State University:  
Repurposing library space without great expense.

Ginny Fehrer, University of Georgia:  
Green libraries. Gene Ruffin and Loren Pinkerman were suggested as possible presenters.

Julie Higbee, North Georgia College and State University:  
Classroom techniques and approaches within specific subject areas.

Katherine RobinSun, recent graduate of UNT/Emory program:  
Library instruction for distance education students.

### **ALD Luncheon Planning for GaCOMO**

The ALD Vice Chair is charged with finding a speaker for the GaCOMO ALD luncheon and Katherine Ott has secured the historian Annette Laing. Ms. Laing taught history at Georgia Southern University before devoting herself full-time to writing. We are considering a joint luncheon with the Public Library Division, as this was very successful last year, and Ms. Laing will build a topic off of the conference theme when it has been decided upon.

**The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.**

**Respectfully submitted by Tessa Minchew, ALD Secretary**

## Addendum

### **Report on ACRL Chapters Council Meeting at ALA Mid-Winter January 9, 2011, San Diego, CA**

by Amy Eklund, ACRL Chapters Council Representative ([Amy.Eklund@gpc.edu](mailto:Amy.Eklund@gpc.edu))

Mark Lenker, ACRL Chapters Council Chair, briefly explained the role of the Chapters Council, which is to improve communication and relations among local chapters and with ACRL at the national level.

ACRL Chapters Council drafted a resolution<sup>i</sup> to increase ACRL funding to local chapters in 2009-10. The resolution was to increase funding from \$1 to \$3 for each ACRL member in a geographical area for programming and other educational fund requests by local chapters, and also to hold non-allocated Chapter reimbursement funds in a pool that could be used for programming and grants. This motion was defeated by the ACRL Board at the Spring 2010 Executive Committee meeting, and the Board cited the following as reasons for their decision: a) a pool of unallocated funds is in violation of a revised ACRL Unused Funds Policy 6.29; b) ACRL supports chapters by funding ACRL Officer visits to Chapters (whereby Chapters can request that ACRL Officers present at meetings, and ACRL pays for travel); c) and additional \$10 per new ACRL member in a geographic region can be obtained by chapters which conduct membership recruitment activities and summarize them in the chapter annual report<sup>ii</sup>. However, the Chapters Council wants to draft another resolution for an increase in funding in light of the ACRL Leadership Council's discussion of using the Higher Education Price Index (HEPI) to calculate ACRL dues increases for next year (they discussed using a 3-5 year rolling HEPI index). ACRL Chapters Council wants to make sure funding increases commensurately for local chapters, and a working group met on Jan. 9 to draft the resolution.

Another Chapters Council working group, the online communications committee, reported on its activities. They met online and discussed some possible ways to improve and expand communications beyond the current methods of listserv<sup>iii</sup>, Chapter Topics newsletter<sup>iv</sup>, ACRL website<sup>v</sup>, and ALAConnect<sup>vi</sup>. The committee recommends that a more dynamic web forum, such as a blog and/or a wiki are needed and looked at some of the requirements, discussed the types of conversations the forums might generate, looked at some models of communication by other similar groups, and discussed logistics of administration and setup. The working group also met on Jan. 9 to discuss further action and will report at ALA Annual.

The draft of the ACRL strategic plan, "Plan for Excellence"<sup>vii</sup> was reviewed and some changes/recommendations will be sent to the ACRL Board. The plan includes three strategic areas of focus: the value of academic libraries; student learning; and research and scholarly environment. The plan is available on the ACRL website and comments are encouraged from all ACRL members.

One of the candidates for ACRL President, Steven Bell, came to the meeting. If elected, he will make growing the membership of ACRL a priority, and will focus on how to connect local chapters and membership to the national level. He mentioned the "ACRL Value of Libraries"<sup>viii</sup> study and proposed a follow-up "Value of Librarians" study. He also mentioned possibly revising the dues structure so that those newer to the profession pay less. [I also had an opportunity to attend the ACRL Presidential Candidates Forum where Steven Bell and the other candidate, Tom Abbott, answered specific questions, so if anyone wants details on that I can provide my notes].

Current ACRL Leadership visited the meeting to update the Chapters Council. ACRL President Lisa Hinchliffe reported on the following:

- 1) The "Value of Libraries" report<sup>ix</sup> will be an important tool and area of focus. There is also a podcast of a discussion between report author Megan Oakleaf and Hinchliffe<sup>x</sup>.
- 2) The ACRL Plan for Excellence will be reviewed and finalized in the coming months.
- 3) A bylaws change is being proposed (probably on the Spring ballot) which would allow the Board of Directors to adjust dues according to the HEPI index – other adjustments would still be voted on by the membership.
- 4) Revenue is not as healthy as in past years, so ACRL Board is looking at ways to "tighten the belt" in general.
- 5) If you're an ACRL member interested in volunteering in some capacity for ACRL, a form is available on the ACRL website<sup>xi</sup>.
- 6) ACRL national funds officer visits to ACRL Chapter meetings – travel is paid for by national. A form is available to request officer visits<sup>xii</sup>.
- 7) ACRL Conference<sup>xiii</sup> attendance was encouraged, either on-site in Philadelphia or through the virtual conference. For those unable to travel, virtual conference has over 130 sessions; registration opens Feb. 8 and group registration is available for a discount.

Two leadership positions are open for any interested ACRL members, especially anyone who has ever served as an officer of the GLA ALD (see me and I can put you in contact with the right person):

- 1) At-large candidate on the ACRL Board to represent Chapters Council (will start 2013)
- 2) Editor of Chapter Topics newsletter

In conclusion, I wanted to share some programming ideas that came to me while attending this meeting:

- 1) Presentation and discussion of the ACRL Value of Libraries report
- 2) Invite an ACRL Officer to speak
- 3) A combination of 1 and 2 (ACRL Officer speaks on the Value of Libraries report)
- 4) Chapter Topics newsletter contains a wealth of programming ideas from other chapters

Finally, I'd like to urge those of you who aren't members of ALA and/or ACRL to join and get involved. During tough economic times this is difficult, but our professional associations need us now more than ever to remain viable. Your membership in ACRL can potentially support programming for the GLA ALD, as I mentioned earlier, and new members in ACRL garner \$10 each in funding opportunities for our chapter. A challenge exists for us and for our division's leadership, as well, to apply for and use this funding to enhance our programming.

---

## References:

<sup>i</sup> ACRL Chapters Council Minutes, Jan. 10, 2010,  
<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/about/chapters/minutes/Minutes%20-%20Final%20-%20Ch.pdf>

<sup>ii</sup> ACRL Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, Mar. 18-19, 2010,  
[http://connect.ala.org/files/61784/2010\\_spring\\_executive\\_committee\\_chicago\\_64773.pdf](http://connect.ala.org/files/61784/2010_spring_executive_committee_chicago_64773.pdf)

<sup>iii</sup> Chapters Council Mailing List,  
<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/about/chapters/listserv.cfm>

<sup>iv</sup> Chapter Topics Newsletter,  
<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/about/chapters/topics/chaptertopics.cfm>

- 
- <sup>v</sup> ACRL website, <http://www.acrl.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/index.cfm>
- <sup>vi</sup> ACRL Division Page at ALA Connect, <http://connect.ala.org/acrl>  
ACRL Chapters Council committee page, <http://connect.ala.org/node/65479>
- <sup>vii</sup> ACRL Draft Plan for Excellence,  
[http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/about/whatisacrl/strategicplan/ACRL\\_draft\\_SP\\_Dec10.pdf](http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/about/whatisacrl/strategicplan/ACRL_draft_SP_Dec10.pdf)
- <sup>viii</sup> ACRL Value of Academic Libraries Report, <http://www.acrl.ala.org/value/>
- <sup>ix</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>x</sup> Podcast discussion of ACRL Value report (25 minutes),  
<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/publications/podcasts/valreport.mp3>
- <sup>xi</sup> ACRL volunteer information and application,  
<http://www.acrl.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/resources/forms/volunteer.cfm>
- <sup>xii</sup> ACRL Officers Speakers Bureau,  
<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/about/chapters/officersspeakers.cfm>
- <sup>xiii</sup> ACRL conference information, <http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/events/index.cfm>