

**GLA PARAPROFESSIONAL DIVISION MEETING
MINUTES
APRIL 21, 2005**

The meeting was held at the library at CCSU in room L-200 at 12:00 p.m.

Attendance

Heidi Benford, Rhonda Boozer, Barbara Dantzler, Chris Gabriel, and Laura Herndon.

Previous Business

Chris Gabriel opened the meeting by discussing the two proposals needed for the upcoming COMO. She passed out articles she had researched in journals and on the internet with possible subject matter for the sessions.

Heidi Benford reported that she is waiting to begin the new membership drive on GLA executive approval. The availability of funds for the free memberships will be checked into as well.

Rhonda Boozer reported that the webpage is up to date, and the Paraprofessional Awards are progressing in timely fashion.

Business

Chris Gabriel suggested humorous themes for the proposals. She proposed that a “dinner theatre” theme that involved everyone in the room might make a good session but was unsure as to how that would be presented. Chris Gabriel also knows a reference worker at Emory that would be a good choice to present a “first person singular” monologue that could lead into an open discussion at a session.

Barbara Dantzler suggested that a “right way verse wrong way” approach to customer service would be a good theme for a session.

Rhonda Boozer suggested that a game show scenario would be a good way to get attendees involved in the session. The idea was expanded to include a set-up with tables and bells to substitute for buzzers, a board to keep track of scoring and a few good prizes. Perhaps three people could be selected from the audience to compete by answering humorous questions. The session would be titled “Reality Jeopardy – brought to you by the GLA Paraprofessionals” to include all interested attendees. This idea was accepted at the meeting as one of the proposed COMO sessions. Rhonda Boozer, Barbara Dantzler, Heidi Benford and Laura Herndon will continue to work on the game show session and develop questions.

Chris Gabriel will continue to work on developing the other COMO session. It will be based on the theme of “Age of Change for Library Paraprofessionals” and will include

panelists rather than one speaker. The panelists should represent not only different types of libraries such as public and academic, but the different internal library departments as well. It was suggested that Paraprofessional Award winners be tapped for panelists. Rhonda Boozer brought up Sharon Davis from DeKalb Public Library as a likely prospect for the panel, as she does a specialized service of sending large print books to the older library patrons.

It was suggested that the GLA Paraprofessional business meeting to elect officers be added to one of the COMO sessions. The meeting will consist of ten minutes at the end of the game show session, as that session is likely to be the best attended of the two sessions.

Chris Gabriel inquired as how to access the Paraprofessional Division Treasury funds. Rhonda Boozer replied that we must go through the GLA Treasury.

Adjournment

The meeting was concluded at 1:00 p.m.

Submitted by
Laura E. Herndon
April 21, 2005