

ALA Midwinter Chapters Council Meeting
Grand Hyatt Seattle
January 27, 2019

In attendance:

Ed Rock—Chapters Council Chair (South Carolina)
Lisa Nickel—Chapters Council Vice Chair (Virginia)
Ali Larsen—Chapters Council Secretary

Chapter representatives:

Cara Berg—New Jersey
Jessica Brangiel—Delaware Valley
Kim Copenhaver—Florida
Carrie Dunham-LaGree—Iowa
Vicki Gruzynski—New England
Kelly Janousen—California
Debbie Krahmer—Eastern New York
Edward Kownslur—Texas
Eric Resnis—Ohio
Sandy Scheifer—Missouri
Sofia Slutskaya—Georgia

Also in attendance:

Mariel Colbert, Chapter Relations Office, ALA

The meeting convened at 8:34 with a welcome from Chapter Council Chair Ed Rock. Vice Chair Lisa Nickel and Secretary Ali Larsen were introduced by Mr. Rock. Ms. Larsen circulated a roster for attendees to sign. This was followed by attendees introducing themselves and the Chapter they represent.

Also in attendance was Mariel Colbert who mentioned that meetings regarding the [State Ecosystem Initiative](#) were still available at Midwinter. She encouraged people to get involved with this task force. People can email Mariel with question or to get involved.

Minutes were distributed. One minor correction was noted and Ms. Larsen commented that the change would be made. Motion to approve by Ms. Nickel, second by Carrie Dunham-LaGree (Iowa).

While waiting for the ALA Leadership members to visit with their updates, the meeting focused more about the Ecosystem task force and its importance to increase communication between branches within ALA. See above link for information.

Kelly Janousen (California) raised a question regarding the IRS status (501c3) of their chapter and regulations precluding them from being involved in advocacy efforts. Other chapters also

echoed the IRS status and concerns about rules/regulations. Ms. Colbert commented that she was not aware of any issues but said she would inquire and report back. There was a thought that definitions may be needed to instruct chapters on what can or cannot be done with respect to advocacy. Ms. Dunham-LaGree commented that in Iowa they have paid positions at the state level for advocacy efforts.

ALA Leadership Visit

Lauren Pressley, ACRL President, reminded people of ACRL in Cleveland, OH from April 10-13, 2019. The city of Cleveland is very excited to host. Ms. Pressley reported that ACRL Scholarships raised over \$66,000 which was distributed to recipients. Early bird registration ends February 8, 2019.

Ms. Pressley spoke about ACRL's commitment to equity, inclusion and diversity and its centrality to our work. This is a fundamental change but one she is passionate about. Ms. Pressley formed a committee with an ambitious agenda to focus on this organization change. A presentation will occur at ALA Annual in Washington DC to further discussion and direction. Ms. Pressley will have blog topics every other week through her presidency that focus on this topic.

ACRL Vice President, Karen Munro, reported that the call for volunteering for division committees ends on February 14th. She encouraged people to get involved by filling out the form online. There will be a new online form that encompasses the focus on the commitment to equity.

ACRL Executive Director Mary Ellen Davis thanked the chapter representatives for their work in connecting the national level to the state/chapter level. She reported that this year there will be a virtual conference registration for ACRL and it could be done at the institutional level. She encouraged the inclusion of others on college campuses to view sessions through this virtual option. She also explained [Project Outcome](#), an assessment tool that includes seven domains and surveys to benchmark against national and state level. Free workshops on this program are forthcoming. ACRL Insider will also have details.

Ms. Davis also reminded chapter representatives that two free webinars are available for each chapter per year. CHOICE also has a number of sponsored webinars as well. Ms. Davis thanked Ms. Colbert for her work with ACRL as she moves on to ALA.

Mr. Rock asked about the Speakers Bureau. Ms. Davis explained the idea of the Bureau. Ms. Slutskaya (Georgia) asked how to go about requesting a speaker and Ms. Davis encouraged those interested to reach out to Megan Griffin, our staff liaison.

Ms. Slutskaya inquired if the virtual registration to ACRL was institution specific. Ms. Davis replied that if you come to the conference in person you also receive virtual access for the year. She also spoke about the poster sessions being digital this year but that posters will not be virtually available after Ms.

Dunham-LaGree inquired. She followed up stating it might be a good idea to think about that option to reach more people.

The question regarding the 501c3 status came up to Ms. Davis. She commented that monies cannot go over a certain threshold and wondered if it was a state issue. She followed up stating non-profits can't take a position on a candidate but can provide information on an issue and suggest laws to vote for or against. Ms. Colbert reiterated that the issue would be looked at further.

The candidates for ACRL President-Elect, Ann Marie Casey and Jon Cawthorne, stopped by to give their statements.

ACRL Leadership visitors left.

Old Business:

The idea of a virtual working group meeting was discussed. Lisa Nickel (President-Elect) commented that it would probably be on the Zoom platform. This is being done to allow more people to participate. This was met with a positive response. Ms. Dunham-LaGree asked about timing. Dates and times were discussed. Ms. Nickel asked for patience as they worked out the details of timing and Zoom logistics. Meeting details to follow via the listserv.

New Business:

Call was put out for representatives from Chapter Council who will be attending ACRL to attend the "First Time Attendees" reception. Eric Resnis (Ohio) and Ms. Nickel volunteered to attend. Mr. Rock commented that ACRL should be very well attended which prompted some discussion continued about what was done at ACRL at a state level gathering. Question was raised about having a table at the orientation to help with state level recruitment. Mr. Rock and Ms. Nickel will look into this.

Christina Prucha, the Legislative Network Representative, cannot finish her term. A call will go out to the listserv to solicit nominees for the next term. In the meantime, Kim Copenhaver (Florida) volunteered to finish Ms. Prucha's term. Elections for the next term will be at the ALA Annual meeting. Some brief discussion on what the role of the Legislative Network Representative includes.

Ms. Nickel then talked about the Work Plan and how Chapters Council can be involved with the discussions taking place about the future of ALA, specifically its organizational effectiveness and structure. The Steering Committee on Organizational Effectiveness (SCOE) is holding [sessions](#) taking place at Midwinter if one wants to hear more or offer comments. Some discussion followed about levels of involvement among council members how interplay between the state/chapter level and national level. Cara Berg (New Jersey) asked if this committee was looking into the conference structure. Response was that they were different committees. Discussion briefly took place regarding potential changes to the Midwinter conference structure. Ali Larsen (Secretary) commented that she would share links to meetings to the listserv so attendees would have that available immediately.

Kelly Janousen (California) asked about involvement with libraries and accreditation bodies. Ms. Janousen was asked to speak at their accreditation board about how libraries can assist with inclusivity to successfully get through the accreditation process. Various members offered different levels of involvement or experiences.

Jessica Brangiel (Delaware Valley) reported that their chapter had applied for the Scholarly Communications Roadshow and received it. They will focus on OERs. Debbie Krahmer (Eastern New York) commented that they are hosting the Assessment in Action Roadshow. Mr. Resnis offered that he is part of the assessment roadshow and there are different financial models that are available depending of number of attendees after some funding issues were briefly discussed.

Ms. Dunham-LaGree offered that they had launched a joint committee with school librarians to look at college readiness. She is interested in who is doing what and how it is working. She will send a note to the listserv to follow up.

Leslin Charles is our Chapter Topics editor and Mr. Rock encouraged attendees to submit to her. He also commented that she would put out a call.

Mr. Rock also commented that Megan Griffin is new to us as our Senior Program Officer and contact information is on the web.

Ms. Nickel reminded members that lunch would be at noon at The Tap House Grill.

Mr. Rock thanked those who attended. The next meeting will be at ALA Annual with meeting details forthcoming.

The meeting adjourned at 9:57am.

Respectfully submitted,

Ali Larsen

Chapter Secretary