

Chapters Council ALA Annual Conference Meeting - DRAFT minutes

June 23, 2019 8:30-10:00 AM EDT

Attendees:

Ed Rock (Chair), Lisa Nickel (Vice Chair), Jessica Brangiel (Delaware Valley, interim note taker), Lucy Wittkower (Virginia), Sandy Schiefer (Missouri), Anne Rauh (Easter New York), Sofia Slutskaya (Georgia), Kim Copenhaver (Legislative Representative, Florida), Gayatri Singh (California), Stacey McKenna (Ohio), Gina Levitan (NYC), Sara Arnold-Garza (Maryland), Steven Bowers (Michigan), Rachel Minkin (Michigan), Monique Oldfield (Michigan), Lee Wagner (Wisconsin), Edward Kownslur (Texas), Cara Berg (New Jersey)

Welcome:

Introductions were made by Chair, Ed Rock. Lisa Nickel will be the incoming chair on July 1 and Ed will move into the past chair role at that time. Ed provided a quick review of the February 2019 working session held virtually using the Zoom platform. Feedback on this format was positive and there were approximately 20 attendees. There is a chat transcript of the meeting available if anyone is interested. While Zoom allows for meetings to be recorded the February 2019 meeting was not recorded as it was a pilot of the virtual meeting format. Minutes from the February 28, 2019, working group meeting were reviewed and approved.

ACRL Leadership Update:

Mary Ellen Davis, Lauren Pressley & Karen Munroe

Lauren (ACRL President) provided a brief review on the SCOE (Steering Committee on Organizational Effectiveness) update provided at the ACRL Leadership Council meeting that took place on Friday, June 21, 2019. The SCOE group is working on a new model for ALA with some significant proposed changes, for example reducing Council from over 100 people to a group of 17. SCOE is looking at different structures for divisions as well. This could have an impact for the future of ACRL. Lauren encouraged Chapter Council members to get involved. The SCOE group is looking for feedback on the current proposal now. Webinars updating members on the progress of SCOE will also be held after conference in July. There is a SCOE Connect community which is open to those who join this group. Ed will send out to the Chapters Council list information regarding the dates of future webinars on SCOE.

Karen Munro (VP, Incoming President) provided an update on the EDI (equity, diversity & inclusion) work being done by ACRL. How can this information be communicated better to chapters? What support do chapters need from ACRL in regards to implementing EDI? Karen has also been working on making appointments with an eye to EDI. The new volunteer forms included space for more questions to capture demographic information to aid in benchmarking appointments in regards to EDI. However, since appointments are staggered ACRL will not learn as much this year but the information will prove valuable in time. Karen will be including an update on ACRL Insider regarding work around EDI. More information about EDI initiatives can be found on the [ACRL website](#) and [libguide](#).

Ed mentioned that the presentation by Anne Phibbs, Founder and President, Strategic Diversity Initiatives, at Friday's Leadership Council meeting was useful. Ed will share out the slides provided at that meeting to the Chapters Council list.

Chapters Council members then provided brief updates on EDI initiatives taking place within their chapters:

Lisa mentioned that the Virginia chapter has done programming around EDI and social justice with positive turnout.

The Georgia chapter found the ACRL webinar on microaggressions to be very helpful with many people attending. It was a simple and low cost programming option.

The NY chapter's annual symposium is taking EDI into account in its speaker planning process.

Mary Ellen Davis (Executive Director) provided an update on ACRL research on why members join the division. Four main themes emerged 1) personal choice to get involved and be engaged, 2) institutional support and an organizational culture that supports getting involved, 3) found the association provided good information and resources relevant to the member's work, 4) the social factor, feeling connected and engaged. [Project Outcome](#) is available to chapters and free training is available. Over 1000 individuals and 140+ academic libraries have signed up so far. It is an easy to use tool. ACRL [provides travel scholarships](#) to support librarians to present their research at non library conferences. Topics around ACRL strategic goals are particularly successful in obtaining grants. Reminder that Choice offers free webinars and podcasts check out the [choice360 website](#) for more information under the "librarianship" menu.

The new ACRL staff liaison for Chapters Council is Lauren Carlton. What questions do chapters have for ACRL?

From Eastern NY - any suggestions for getting folks to run for the chapter board positions? One barrier has been the need for officers to also be ACRL national members making chapter board positions cost prohibitive. Can ACRL provide any information on the Western NY chapter? Eastern NY isn't sure it's active and would like to inquire about program collaboration.

NJ chapter has had issues getting their chapter roster. It would be helpful if ACRL made it easier to pick your chapter when you register for ACRL membership. Response from Davis unfortunately since registration is handled completely through ALA, ACRL doesn't have control of that process.

Update from the State Ecosystem Task force of the committee on library advocacy

Rachel Minkin & Steve Bowers

This committee is made up of members from all different ALA divisions (PLA, ACRL, school media specialists) and they are charged with building a stronger coalition among libraries at the state chapter level. A survey will go out soon to the chapter list on the state ecosystem initiative and the goal of connecting libraries across each state. The committee is looking for examples of strong state ecosystems, Texas is one model. From the survey data the committee is interested in building a toolkit to provide to other states. Committee has set a goal to complete its work by Spring 2020.

Election of new officers:

Jessica Brangiel running for Secretary, Ali Larsen running for Vice Chair. Meet the candidate information went out on the Chapter list prior to Annual. A motion was submitted to approve the slate of candidates from Eastern NY and Wisconsin seconded. Motion passed to approve the slate and the candidates were approved for the new positions.

Quick reminder for those interested in running in future Chapter Council elections candidates must be current board members of their local chapters.

Presentation of academic libraries perceptions of participation in state associations:

Lisa Nickel (William & Mary, Virginia Chapter) & Lucy Wittkower (Old Dominion University, Virginia Chapter)

Nickel and Wittkower undertook a nationwide survey to research how people were engaging in their local chapters, seeking to find out the benefits and/or barriers to participation. They will be sharing their slides to the Chapters Council list.

Highlights: 461 participants from 41 states. The largest group of respondents was from librarians with 6-15 years experience and the second largest group was from those with 16-30 years of experience. Responses came from a variety of institutions from 2 year to 4 year doctoral granting institutions. Faculty status was held at a ratio of 60:40 yes to no and the same ratio of 60:40 yes to no was found in response to the question if participation in service to the profession was mandatory at the respondent's institution.

Regarding engagement most respondents preferred large face to face conferences over virtual conference options. This was a surprise to the researchers. The top three barriers to participation included not having time to participate, prohibitive membership dues and the cost of travel. Other barriers that the survey revealed included understaffed libraries and disorganization of state chapters.

Big takeaways from the survey were that individuals want to participate and are seeking leadership opportunities and networking connections but they need both time and money to be successful.

A question was asked about obtaining state level survey data. Get in touch with Lisa and Lucy if you are interested.

ALA Connect:

Ed updated the group that Connect is now completely public. If anyone is having problems joining the Chapter Connect group get in touch with Lauren Carlton.

Announcements:

Please submit your chapter reports to Megan Griffin or Lauren Carlton by July 19, 2019.

SCOE will be holding additional feedback sessions at Annual after the Chapters Council meeting as well as virtually in July. More information will be shared on the Chapters list.

Leslin Charles has accepted another one year appoint to the Editor position of the Chapters Topics LibGuide

Edward from Texas has agreed to be the Chapters list administrator for a one year term.

