

LIBRARY AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION (LITA)
Executive/Budget Review Committee Meeting, Spring 2008
ALA Headquarters, 40 E. Huron
Chicago Illinois
March 14 – 15, 2008

MINUTES

Present: Mark Beatty, President, Andrew Pace, President-Elect, Bonnie Postlethwaite, Past-President, Dave Bretthauer, Director-at-Large, Colby Riggs, Councilor, Mary Taylor, Executive Director.

Andrew Pace moved and Dave Bretthauer seconded the motion to approve the Midwinter Meeting Minutes. Motion passed.

Reviewed reports from liaisons, committees and interest groups. Discussed the need to collect reports from all and to streamline the distribution of the reports. Bonnie Postlethwaite will take the charge of fully automating the process to the Web Coordinating Committee. Ideally, when reports are submitted they will be posted directly to the Web and emailed to staff. One link (public page) will lead to all reports; this link will be sent to the Board prior to each meeting.

Beatty provided an update on the 2008 LITA National Forum scheduled for October 16-19, 2008 in Cincinnati. All sessions have been confirmed including 12 poster sessions. The pre-conferences are “Marketing the Value of the Library’s IT Department” and “Innovations in Next Generation Library Management Systems.” The keynote speakers are Michael Porter from Web Junction and David Lankes from the Information Institute of Syracuse University. The Planning Committee intends to offer the five-minute madness program this year and is working to combine several proposals into eight panels.

Beatty updated the Committee on the LITA Camp plans. The Planning Task Force has determined May 2009 as the target date. ALA’s Conference Services has been contracted to work with the Task Force and LITA staff to develop this event.

Taylor presented a request for LITA to sponsor the ALA Gaming Conference in name only; the Committee approved.

Pace discussed plans for the Town Meeting follow up. Andrew and Lauren Pressley, LITA Emerging Leader, will develop ideas once the Town Meeting flip charts have been analyzed.

Beatty lead discussion on volunteers and staff roles. He has been thinking about it for over a year and has discussed this with Bonnie, Andrew and Colby. He recommends:

- updating the Bylaws;
- adopting analytical approach in all decisions;
- maintaining deep seated service orientation;
- creating structure for sharing and collaborating;

- being good neighbors both within and outside of ALA;
- systematizing the gathering of customer leads, ideas and contacts in a central depository; and
- two books: *Seven Measures of Success: What Remarkable Associations Do That Others Don't* (This book formed the basis for the fall ALA joint executive committees meeting in 2008.) and *Forces for Good: The Six Practices of High-Impact Nonprofits*

Beatty led discussion on LITA Electronic Communications. A disclaimer will be drafted and posted to each discussion list, the wiki, blog and Web site.

Board orientation plans include: spending an hour or so at Annual conference with the new Board members; providing a timeline, guidance on what is generally expected, and a calendar. Bonnie volunteered to draft the calendar.

Postlethwaite reviewed the FY09 Budget. Changes since Midwinter include: funds for providing a manuscript process system for ITAL and establishment of a sandbox for the Web Coordinating Committee up to \$1,500. Approved the establishment of a Friends of LITA to provide an account for the odd donation that might be received. Reviewed and approved increase to the ITAL subscription rates as follows: \$65 per year in the US, \$70 in Canada and Mexico, and \$75 in other foreign countries to be effective with the June 2008 issue. Reviewed and reconfirmed plans to move \$50,000 from the LITA reserve into the Long Term Savings Account; this recommendation will be brought to the full Board at Annual Conference. Reviewed the ALA Budget Review Guidelines and recommend no change in the 10% variance (5% is too limiting); the Division Budget Planning Alerts on p.9 provide interesting indicators.

Taylor led discussion on ALA RFP for a membership research study that specifically calls for cross tabulation of demographic characteristics by division memberships. Addressed query regarding non-members attending the Forum; on average, 18% of the registration is from non-members. Provided details on AV expenses at Midwinter Meetings, Annual Conferences and National Forums.

In light of PLA Board re-structuring ideas, considered possibilities for LITA in terms of number of meetings, how delivered and who attends.

Beatty reported on the President's Program plans for Annual Conference. Joe Janes and the OCLC It's All Good Bloggers will discuss "Isn't it great to be in the library...wherever that is?"

Postlethwaite reported on the Assessment and Research initiatives. The workshop results are being consolidated by the consultant. The Committee is considering taking the Seven Measures survey and posting it to the LITA leadership.

Meeting adjourned.