

Spring LIBRAS Director's Meeting  
Kendall College  
April 22, 2009

Present: Jennifer Paliatka, (President), Elmhurst; Jack Fritts, Benedictine, (Vice President); Mark Vargas, (Past President), St. Xavier; Marie Hay, (Treasurer) Trinity International; Kenneth Orenic, (Secretary) Dominican; Larry Wild, Judson; Brother Robert Wilsbach, Lewis; James Cubit, Lake Forest College; Bella Karr Gerlich, Dominican; Sally Anderson, North Park University; Iva Freeman, Kendall College; Jan Chindlund, Columbia; John Law, Aurora; Terry Cottrell, St. Francis; Yana Serdyuk, Concordia.

The meeting was called to order at 9:55 am.

1. The minutes from the 11/06/08 meeting were approved.
2. Mark Vargas discussed continuing education funding. Nine thousand seventy five dollars had been allocated for professional development funding, of which \$9050.00 has been encumbered. Twenty five hundred dollars from the current budget has been encumbered to fund attendance to the 2009 ALA conference, which will take place July 9-15, 2009. Thirty-eight applications for funding were submitted, however, five applicants rescinded their applications. As a result all applications were approved. It was noted by the committee that requests for continuing education funding may be lower for the next academic year because ALA will not be held locally and ACRL will not be held in 2010 as it takes place bi-yearly. A discussion took place about the need to create more specific funding guidelines. Mary Carrington, Wheaton College, was awarded the LIBRAS Research Grant.
3. Marie Hay gave an overview of the budget. The Communications Technology budget line was overspent because the fee for the website is billed to LIBRAS once every three years. A discussion took place regarding the credit union's confusion over the name of the current LIBRAS treasurer, and the address to which the statements should be mailed. Jan Chindlund suggested that the Treasurer's term be extended from one to two years as a way to mitigate these problems. Extending the Treasurer's term will be an agenda item at the 2009 Annual Meeting.
4. Jack Fritts announced that the Annual Meeting will be held at Dominican University on May 14, 2009. A discussion took place about the scope of the program for the Annual Meeting with the general theme being how libraries can meet the challenges associated with tight budgets in uncertain economic times. Bella Karr Gerlich suggested that Dominican University Graduate School of

- Library and Information Science (GSLIS) students be invited to attend the event as a way to contribute to the professionalization of these students. Jan Chindlund and Bella Karr Gerlich suggested charging \$5.00 for staff members to help offset the cost of providing lunch. It was suggested that lunch be provided free of charge to GSLIS students.
5. Jennifer Paliatka reported on SIG activity. Technical Services/Serials met twice. Topics included Database Vendor relations and Collection Inventory. Emerging Technologies met twice to discuss the use of social technologies in libraries. Archives, Circulation/Interlibrary Loan, Reference, and New Members SIGs did not meet.
  6. A Mel George Award winner has been selected and will be announced at the Annual Meeting.
  7. Volunteers were solicited to serve on the Nominating Committee. Sally Anderson, North Park University; Jan Chindlund, Columbia; Terry Cottrell, St. Francis agreed to serve.
  8. The 2009-2010 election for Secretary, Treasurer and Vice-President will take place at the Annual Meeting. A discussion took place about who should run for elected office. It was suggested that library staff members who receive LIBRAS funding should be required to run for office. It was also suggested that those institutions that have never or not recently had staff members serve LIBRAS in some capacity be encouraged to do so.
  9. A suggestion was made that LIBRAS form a Membership Group Task Force that would create a membership roster to facilitate greater communication.
  10. A discussion took place regarding the possibility of establishing a librarian Instruction Partnership Program that would partner librarians from one institution with those of another. The goal of the program is to provide librarians with feedback to improve librarian instruction delivery. Ken Orenic agreed to begin working on a framework for the program and will report the results to the directors.
  11. A discussion took place regarding electronic resources being purchased through the LIBRAS consortium. Concerns were expressed over difficulties with managing agreements with database providers through the consortium. A suggestion was made to compile a list of databases used by LIBRAS libraries as a way to offer database purchasing suggestions to CARLI. Mark Vargas agreed to create a spreadsheet containing an extensive list of databases available in the market and to create sections for each LIBRAS institution to denote if an institution is currently subscribing to, has ceased subscribing to, or is considering subscribing to a particular database. This document will be made available to all LIBRAS libraries via a shared Google Document.

12. The meeting concluded with library representatives providing updates from their institutions.

13. The meeting adjourned at 12:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth Orenic, Secretary