



Staff Training Round Table

Meeting Title: STRT Business Meeting

Meeting Date/Time: May 13, 2021; 11am-12noon

Attendees: Adrienne Doman Calkins, Holly Freewynn, Rebecca Gabert, Darci Hanning, Amy Honisett, Blake Kincaid, Roberta Richards

Discussion Topics:

- **STRT Session At The OLA Conference**
 - The group had a short discussion about the STRT presentation at the OLA Conference.
 - OLA has not shared any of the attendee evaluations for the STRT conference session.
 - The group shared thank yous for the session presenters and for everyone who helped with the preparation.
 - The presenters missed the energy that they feel from the attendees at in-person presentations.
 - The STRT session had fewer technical difficulties than some other sessions.

- **Exhibit Booth And General Thoughts About OLA**
 - The group discussed the pros and cons of the online conference.
 - Only STRT members and friends of STRT members chatted in the exhibit booth.
 - Blake said the virtual poster session worked well.
 - Darci enjoyed the online option. She was able to connect with people without being in the crowds of the in-person conference.
 - Several people talked about the lower costs and higher attendance for the online conference. Perhaps there will be more online options for the OLA conference in the future.

- **Content Sessions For Spring/Summer/Fall**
 - The group discussed possible training/content sessions for this spring/summer/fall.
 - The STRT survey from last fall could provide some topic ideas.
 - Library staff might be too busy with summer reading programs and opening their buildings to attend an in-depth training session this spring/summer.
 - The State Library has not yet shared the results from the continuing education survey.
 - Darci suggested having one session for supervisors/managers on the importance of continuing education and another session on how staff can take control of their learning and development.
 - The State Library may be able to pay for speakers if STRT and the SLO co-sponsor a presentation.

- **Slow Librarianship & Staff Development**
 - The group discussed the high interest in Meredith Farkas' OLA session about slow librarianship.
 - STRT could encourage people to watch this OLA session and read/watch other resources about slow librarianship and then STRT could host a drop-in discussion about how slow librarianship applies to staff development.
 - This session would not be a repetition of the OLA session, but it would build on the OLA session and other resources on this topic.
 - Some attendees may want to discuss the broader concepts of slow librarianship, but the STRT group wants to focus on leadership/staff development, workplace culture, etc.
 - Other OLA units may want to host their own discussions about how slow librarianship is related to their work.
 - Roberta will connect with Meredith Farkas and invite her to attend this discussion session.
 - The group discussed whether to pay Meredith an honorarium (from the State Library); Paying an honorarium may not be necessary if Meredith is not leading the discussion or developing a new presentation
 - Possible dates/times include Wednesday, June 9th or Thursday, June 10th from 10am-11am
 - Holly will start a google doc to organize this drop-in session.
 - Blake explained that the WALT (Washington Library Trainers) group has had similar personal development discussion sessions based on a specific resource/concept.

- **New STRT members**
 - The group briefly discussed how to connect with new STRT members.

Action Items:

- Holly – start Google doc about Slow Librarianship & Staff Development discussion; contact Shirley Roberts about STRT membership list
- Rebecca – post meeting minutes to STRT site
- Roberta – talk to Meredith Farkas about the Slow Librarianship drop-in session
- Everyone – watch recording of Slow Librarianship session from OLA; gather additional resources on this topic; add discussion questions to Google doc

Upcoming Meetings/Events:

- Next Business Meeting – June 3rd, 11am
 - Next steps for content sessions
 - Officers for next year
- Discussion Session – Slow Librarianship & Staff Development
 - Wednesday, June 9th (or Thursday, June 10th)
 - 10am-11am