

OLA Executive Board Meeting

November 9, 2001

Hamersly Library, Western Oregon University, Monmouth

In attendance

*Voting Members*--Sara Brownmiller (Academic Division), Dan White (Children's Services Division), Anne Van Sickle (Past President),Carolynn Avery (PNLA Representative), Janet Webster (President), Rob Everett (Public Libraries Division),Barbara O'Neill (Secretary), Jim Schepcke (State Librarian), Diane Bolen (Support Staff Division), Suzanne Sager (Treasurer), Connie Bennett (Vice President)

*Non-Voting Member*-- Kelly Kuntz (OEMA)

*Guests*--Gary Jensen (Library Director, Hamersly Library), Nan Heim (OLA Lobbyist), Liz Anderson (OLA Lobbyist), Judy Andrews (Documents Interest Group of Oregon), Colleen Bell (Publications Committee), Faye Chadwell (Intellectual Freedom Committee)

Gary Jensen welcomed the Board to the Library, described the exhibit in the library, and offered to give a tour to any interested parties after the meeting.

Housekeeping

Introductions

Agenda Review

Approval of Treasurer Appointment -- *Janet Webster*

Webster nominated Suzanne Sager from Portland State University to the office of Treasurer. Sager has an accounting background and has been active in the Support Staff Division. Brownmiller moved that the Board approve this nomination. Dan White seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes -- *Barbara O'Neill*

Bolen noted the Support Staff Division was incorrectly stated in conjunction with her name in the attendance section. The minutes should be corrected to reflect the correct name. Van Sickle moved to accept the minutes as corrected. Everett seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Reports

State Librarians report -- *Jim Schepcke*

The State Library has been working on a General Fund program cost reduction plan of 10 % in response to a Governor's directive. The plan will be discussed at the Oregon State Library Board meeting on November 14, and if approved, will be forwarded to the Governor. Schepcke

has invited the OLA Executive Board to participate commenting on the recommendation to the Governor. The Governor will consider all recommendations from the various state departments and announce his proposal for General Fund reductions prior to a special session of the Legislature, which is likely to be called in the winter.

Schepke distributed a copy of his draft of a November 16, 2001 memo to Monica Brown outlining his proposal to cut the State Library's General Fund funds during 2001-03 by reducing the Ready to Read program by 2% increments, totaling 10% of the OSL General Fund budget, or \$319,131.

Schepke discussed alternatives the State Library staff considered, primarily a cut to the Talking Books and Braille Service's (TBABS) budget. The State Library staff's position is that TBABS could not serve its 8000 patrons without all its current funding and the TBABS patrons have no alternatives for library service. Cuts to the Ready To Read grant program would be least painful because local libraries will still provide services to children and the proposed cut to Ready To Read would be only a 23% cut in the program's entire budget.

Discussion followed about the two State Library General Fund programs. Webster wanted to know the future of the TBABS program and whether or not it would always be such a service-intensive program. Schepke remarked that the population served by TBABS is growing and the National Library Service is working to update its technology to a digital format. Everett wondered why service to blind and physically handicapped patrons was centralized in the state instead of local libraries' serving this population. Schepke responded that it is more efficient to distribute materials in a special format to this population from a central location using free federal postage than it would be for local libraries to take on the service. Webster remarked that while TBABS is a very expensive service, it does distribute materials not available through commercial vendors of books on tape. She suggested the OLA Outreach Round Table or the Public Library Division have a discussion about TBABS and its effectiveness. Van Sickle remarked that it is easier to raise money in the local community for service to support children's services. It is harder for local libraries to serve the elderly. Bennett expressed concern about how it would look to the legislature if we support this proposal to cut Ready to Read Funds when we have tried so hard to build the program up over the years. Webster will attend the State Library Board meeting on November 15 to express concerns of the Executive Board.

#### Treasurer's report – *Suzanne Sager*

Sager distributed copies of the recent balance sheet showing \$146,325. She also distributed the most recent budget with changes included since the last edition, such as the Intellectual Freedom Committee addition and the Jim Davis contract addition. Webster mentioned she and Sager are trying to get the budget updated on the web page.

#### President's report -- *Janet Webster*

The Senate Interim Task Force on Library Cooperation is comprised of Senators Cliff Trow, Ginny Burdick, and Verne Duncan. There will also be 4 voting members representing libraries and 4 non-voting members representing libraries. Webster distributed a handout outlining the committee charges and action plan. The Task Force expects to have three meetings - March, May, November.

#### ALA Representative -- Janet Webster

Webster distributed a written report from ALA Representative Wyma Rogers on ALA's response to the Patriot Act. ALA's Office of Intellectual Freedom had interpreted what this law means to libraries and has made available its interpretations at <http://www.ala.org/alaorg/oif/alertusapatriotact.html>. Rogers suggests OLA consider three possible points of action: 1) Create a link from our web site to post statements from ALA (and perhaps other organizations) on the subject of what the Patriot Act means for libraries and librarians. 2) Seek information from the Oregon ACLU Office as to whether they would provide counsel to Oregon libraries and librarians who do not have attorneys and who are served with a search warrant as part of an investigation conducted under the new anti terrorism laws 3) Schedule a session at the OLA Conference to provide information received at the ALA midwinter workshop.

Webster mentioned that Rogers, Rebecca Teasdale, and Chadwell were working on an article on this topic for the *OLA Hotline*. She also reported that libraries that don't have legal counsel may contact ALA for Counsel, and she has directed Rogers to look for local services for this purpose.

Everett said that the Public Library Division has asked him to request the Intellectual Freedom Committee to organize some workshops about how staff should respond to law enforcement officials asking for library records.

Schepke added that the Government Printing Office (GPO) has notified documents librarians to destroy materials that could fall into the wrong hands. Andrews responded that GPO has done this for a long time, and it has always been a federal agency's prerogative to recall items distributed in error. The Documents Interest Group of Oregon (DIGOR) is well aware of these activities and takes appropriate action as needed. Members noted that OMBwatch at <http://www.ombwatch.org> tracks the withdrawal of federal government information.

#### PNLA Representative -- Carolyn Avery

The PNLA Conference in August was successful, taking in a \$5000 profit. The next conference will be in Missoula, MT the second week of August, 2002. Avery reported that the PNLA Board is sending 2 representatives to the ALA leadership training program. PNLA is stable, and membership is up. Since the near-demise of the organization, people have started paying more attention to it and are fighting for its success.

#### Division Reports

Academic Division -- *Sarah Brownmiller*

The Division's fall conference with Washington ACRL was held at Pack Forest October 25 and 26, 2001. The group is planning now for its 2002 conference which will be held next October. They hope to plan a meeting that will draw in more community college representatives.

A question was raised about the future of the Online Northwest conference, and that sparked discussion about that conference's being in competition with the OLA conference and the necessity for OLA to plan a conference that would appeal to members interested in technology. It was noted that having technology at a conference increases the cost of producing the conference. Members thought the OLA conference needed to respond to participants' needs and be inclusive, but also be focused.

Children's Services Division -- *Dan White*

CSD held a successful fall workshop in Prineville with 25 people in attendance from many parts of the state. Angela Reynolds presented a workshop about outreach to daycare, and William Walther, puppeteer from Bend, also presented a workshop. The final numbers for the 2001 Summer Reading program are in: 93,030 individuals participated with 116 libraries reporting. Proposed art for the 2002 summer reading program is ready. The theme is "Don't Bug Me I'm Reading."

Support Staff Division -- *Diane Bolen*

No report.

Public Libraries Division -- *Rob Everett*

The Public Libraries Division Executive Board met October 18, 2001. They expressed concerns about the Division's not being credited with receipts from the Public Library dinner at the 2001 OLA conference. This has been a recurring experience, and the PLD Executive Board would like to see a different way of tracking revenues from pre-conferences and dinners so that they get transferred to the proper account the first time. Everett agreed to work with the Treasurer to identify better tracking procedures.

Problems in planning for the 2002 conference were also identified: PLD was not consulted about planning when schedules were being made; PLD didn't receive confirmation about programs they proposed; instead the confirmations were sent to the speakers; PLD wasn't given a choice of menu for its dinner; and none of the PLD pre-conferences were accepted, an unfortunate situation since the Division traditionally derives much of its revenue from their pre-conferences.

The PLD Executive Board also talked about the Vision 2010 Call to Action, and "orphan items" that have not been assigned or claimed by any groups for implementation. The Board agreed to work on the issues of a statewide library card and a shared catalog. They see CIPA and the Patriot Act as significant items on the horizon, and they requested the Intellectual Freedom

Committee to do collaborative programs with them on these topics.

Committee reports

Conference 2002 -- Webster

Distributed copies of the draft of the conference booklet for member comments and suggestions.

Conference 2003 -- Webster

The committee is starting to work on planning strategy.

Publications Committee -- Colleen Bell

- *Request re Spring 2002 issue of OLA Quarterly* -- The Committee is looking for editors for future issues of the *OLA Quarterly*. Future issues will be on neuroscience and human development throughout life and the relationship to library services; documentation of art; research you can use: on, by, and for libraries; the history of OLA. The Winter issue will be on genealogy and will include lots of photos. The Spring 2002 issue will be on the enduring value of libraries--a re-examination of priorities to balance life and work. Most contributors will not be librarians. The Committee proposes the use of color with this publication and requests \$655 to pay for one page with 4 colors. This would be in addition to the \$2152 for printing. Bennett moved to support this proposal with the money to be taken from savings. Everett seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The Committee has been thinking about ways to more effectively use the *OLA Hotline* to help libraries in Oregon market their jobs. They thought perhaps the Association could supply a web form for libraries to use to submit job ads to the *Hotline*. This form would also submit the ad electronically to other places.
- *Maintenance and Development of the OLA Web Site* -- Bell submitted a 4-page proposal to the Board on the management of the OLA Web Site along with a summary of proposed responsibilities for the site and the current policy for the site. The committee discussed two items: 1) What is the web site? A publication? An Archive? A reflection of the Association? Who should have primary oversight of the web site and the Web Editor? 2) How should the association manage the ongoing development and maintenance of the web site, especially when the development is beyond the scope of the Web Editor's capabilities and /or responsibilities? The paper outlines the history and evolution of the site, discusses and makes recommendations about 5 main functions involved in the ongoing development and maintenance of the site: design (suggested this be the responsibility of the OLA Board), HTML coding (responsibility of Web Editor), programming (develop a short list of association members willing to do work; new programming projects should be contracted out), content development (responsibility of association itself, not the Web Editor), and maintenance and quality assurance (shared responsibility between Editor and Board). The Board complimented the committee on

their thorough work and agreed with their recommendations. They asked the committee to integrate the recommendations into a policy statement, see how they "marry" with the current policy statement, and bring the document back to the Board for approval.

- *Subcommittee on Vision 2010 Web Presence* -- Webster wondered if members were interested in making Vision 2010 a strategic planning document by putting it on the Web and linking supporting documentation to it, keeping it up-to-date, and posting ongoing developments. Webster suggested polling v2010 members to see if they're interested in working on this and also to poll other members of the Association for interest.

### Membership Committee -- *Janet Webster*

- The Committee has developed a new membership brochure, which Webster distributed to the Board. It is 2-color (blue and yellow), on glossy, white paper, designed to be used as a mailer. Send comments to Leah Griffith.
- The Committee has also developed a new e-mail discussion group called "Oregon Distance MLS Students Mail List" and requests the Board's approval in making this available to MLS students in Oregon. It would be a pseudo-mailing list that is included in our subscription through our Internet Service Provider. People would be allowed to subscribe to the list but could not unsubscribe themselves. Board members were concerned about the possible labor-intensiveness of maintaining the list. Everett moved to authorize the list as an experiment for one year with the proviso that a member of the Membership Committee tracks its use and benefits to users. Bennett seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

### Legislation Committee Report -- *Nan Heim*

Heim distributed a handout that outlines the main responsibilities of the OLA Legislative and Development Committee, important dates for 2002, and a proposed work plan for 2001-2002. The main responsibilities of the Committee are to develop a legislative package for the next legislative session, to develop a plan to pass the legislative package, and to review issues, including relevant ballot measures and proposals, and make recommendations to the OLA Board for support or opposition and possible action. Heim emphasized that every contact is important during this time of redistricting, term limits, and uncertainty of membership in the legislature.

### OEMA -- *Kelly Kuntz*

Kuntz remarked that OEMA tackles many of the same issues as OLA. OEMA held a successful conference in Seaside in October, for which Peter Milbury was the keynote speaker. They also used the Conference to unveil the Keith Curry Lance study, " Good Schools have School Librarians." An executive summary and a brochure about the study are posted on the OEMA web site. Lance proved that the more kids read, the better readers they

are. Kuntz remarked that contrary to popular belief, school librarians are still alive and well in Oregon. Demand is outstripping supply. George Fox University is offering a school media certification with lots of distance education course work. Eighteen people began this program in the fall. Portland State University had 15 enrollees this year. OEMA is trying to get the word out that in a standards-based school system, having a certified library media specialist and an adequate collection that kids have access to makes a difference in the kids' reading scores. It's important to let the legislature know this as well. At their conference, OEMA presented its Lifetime Achievement award to the State Librarian, Jim Scheppke, for all the ways Jim has supported them and his dedication to providing quality library services for all ages. She felt it was a well deserved award.

Round Table reports

Outreach Roundtable Report

Report submitted by Robin Beerbower to the Board via e-mail. No questions from the Board.

Documents Interest Group of Oregon -- Judy Andrews

The 20 federal depositories in the state are set to revise the state plan for distribution and collection development of public information. The last plan was done in 1993.

New Business

Suggestion to nominate Senator Cliff Trow for Lifetime Membership

Will be referred to Honors and Awards Committee.

Ongoing oversight of Vision 2010

Question about who is in charge of seeing that items in the Vision 2010 are addressed? Janet will ask the Vision 2010 Committee to look at this.

LSTA Evaluation

The final LSTA evaluation report by Himmel and Wilson is not available yet but when it is, it will be posted on the Oregon State Library web site at <http://www.osl.state.or.us> Webster asked what OLA should do as an association to review it and give feedback. Perhaps Board members could discuss it via e-mail. Webster has seen a draft of the report and commented that in general, the LSTA program has been administered well, the consultants found that different pieces of the 5-year plan got funded differently at different times, but all got funded. The State Library plans to have a retreat in February to develop the next 5-year plan based on this evaluation. The Board will request an official OLA representative be included in the retreat. The Board could have online discussions about the plan before the retreat if it should be scheduled before the Board's next meeting.

Next meetings

Feb. 15 -- Mollala Public Library, 11:00 AM.

April -- Conference meeting

May -- Roseburg at Douglas County Library

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara O'Neill