

## **SUNYLA Executive Board/Council Meeting**

Friday Sept. 12, 2008

Memorial Library, SUNY Cortland

10:00am-3:00pm

**Attending:** Logan Rath (Brockport), April Davies (Cobleskill), Debbie Mohr (Monroe CC), Emily Hart (Upstate), Margaret Devereaux (Cayuga), Ellen McCabe (Cortland), Susan Perry (Brockport), Ann Gunning (NYLINK), John Schumacher (OLIS), Kathleen Quinlivan (UBuffalo), Karen Shockey (Oswego), Darryl Coleman (Fredonia), Kim Davies Hoffman (Geneseo), Stephen Macaluso (New Paltz), Wendi Ackerman (Upstate), Erin Wilburn (Corning), Cindy Maier (Corning), Barbara Grimes (Utica), Charlotte Cooper (Finger Lakes), Jill Yaples (Binghamton), Joe Petrick (Alfred), Louise Charbonneau (Mohawk Valley), Nancy Howe (NY3R's), Bill Drew (TC3), Karen Pitcher (Broome), Marianne Hebert (Potsdam), Andy Perry (New Paltz), Rudy Leon (Potsdam), Jason Kramer (NYSHEI); **Recording Secretary:** April Davies.

1. Approval of Minutes from March 14 & June 11, 2008
2. Announcements, correspondence, appointments
3. Officers' reports
  - 3.1 President – Dan Harms
  - 3.1a Special report: MEOW Findings & Recommendations – Kim Davies Hoffman & Stephen Macaluso
  - 3.2 First Vice President – Logan Rath
  - 3.3 Second Vice President – Angela Weiler
  - 3.4 Secretary – April Davies
  - 3.5 Treasurer – Jenica Rogers-Urbaneck
4. Committee Reports
  - 4.1 Information Technology Committee – Bill Drew
  - 4.2 Library Instruction – Rudy Leon
  - 4.3 Library Software Users Group – Andy Perry
  - 4.4 Membership Development – Emily Hart
  - 4.5 Personnel Policies – Dan Harms
  - 4.6 Professional Development – Darryl Coleman
  - 4.7 Publications & Communications – Ellen McCabe
  - 4.8 Web Development – Wendi Ackerman
5. Liaison Reports
  - 5.1 FACT – Mark Smith
  - 5.2 SAC – Dave Ritchie
  - 5.3 NYLA – Wendy West
  - 5.4 Nylink – Anne Gunning
  - 5.5 NY3Rs – Nancy Howe
  - 5.6 OLIS – John Schumacher
  - 5.7 UUP – John Schumacher
6. Old Business
7. New Business
  - 7.1 NYSHEI – Jason Kramer
  - 7.2 Eligibility criteria for Chancellor's Awards – Joe Petrick

**Please note: Due to late arrival and/or absence of several key members, the announced agenda (above) was rearranged at several points. Numbering has been preserved from the agenda.**

## **2. Announcements, correspondence, appointments**

**Cortland:** Near end of search for night supervisor. Have received another ALA “Let’s talk about it” grant. Holding book 5 discussions during fall as part of this.

**Oswego:** Filled Serials Librarian position with someone from Siena College. Emily Hart has left for a position at Upstate Medical, are in process of search for that position.

**Corning:** Erin Wilburn is new to Corning, in a new librarian line as well.

**Broome:** Looking for new part-time librarian. Have a new interim president, the retired president of Finger Lakes.

**Binghamton:** Edward Corrado (formerly of College of New Jersey) is new Head of Library Technology. Beth Brown is now the Scholarly Communications and Library Grants Officer. Jill Dixon is now Head of Science. Their Information Commons was featured in a chapter of ALA’s *Transforming Library Service Through Information Commons*.

**Buffalo:** Unveiled new library website in August. Are working on bringing all the unit libraries into the same look and feel. Are in middle of university-wide hiring moratorium.

**SUNYIT:** Have new president as of July 1. Have launched AskUs24/7 online reference.

**Finger Lakes:** Enrollment is up 11%. Reference numbers are up accordingly and library is bursting with people. President’s goal is to increase enrollment by 100% in 10 years and is working to build more facilities to accommodate those numbers, including a student center. New program in viticulture just beginning.

**New Paltz:** Will hold 1-day Copyright Conference to talk about digital rights and intellectual property, more details to come. Had open house/reception for library’s new Media Space area. Acquisitions budget up 2-1/2%.

**TC3:** New director, Gregg Kiehl, started in July. Dave Lewis is coming out of retirement to do adjunct reference. Hiring another adjunct as well. Have hired a new temporary serials clerk while try to hire permanently. Have joined IDS. Implementing purchase-on-demand for things not part of SUNY collection. Hosted a NYLINK Brown Bag Lunch in August. Adding Technical Learning Support Center to the Baker Learning Commons.

**Cobleskill:** Acquisitions budget cut by 28%. Search underway for new Dean of Library.

**Fredonia:** Acquisitions budget frozen, also travel budget. Short staffed because head of reference recovering from surgery. Hired a temporary reference person to help out. Katie Sacco now Assistant to the Director (in addition to normal job). Director in midst of 2<sup>nd</sup> year of grant funded project. Student population up.

**Potsdam:** New ILL person in July. Rudy Leon is leaving for Univ. of Illinois. Have new evening reference person to replace Drew Urbanek who has taken position at Canton. Director, Rebecca Thompson, will retire at end of spring semester. Expect search to begin soon. Construction finished enough that were able to get back in library building 1 week before classes started. Construction continues, will have temporary relocations as necessary. Have implemented Library Guides (subject guides for web pages). Getting AskUS24/7 during fall. Having PLIF problems and a budget crunch.

**Brockport:** Ground floor is being renovated for relocation of ITSS to the building. New director, Mary Jo Orzech, used to be head of ITSS. College launched new website so Library’s has been redone to align with that. Also got LibGuides. Head of ILL will retire in December. Not sure yet about filling that position.

**Geneseo:** New Head of IDS, Tim Bowersox. Kate Pitcher has moved over to be Coordinator of Collection Development.

**Upstate:** Archivist has left but can’t fill position until 2010. One of their web people left and they’re hoping to turn that back into a librarian position. Not sure when will be able to hire for that.

### **1. Approval of Minutes from March 13 & June 11, 2008**

Minutes from March 13, 2008 were approved. Minutes from June 11, 2008 were approved with some corrections to the attendance list and others that were sent to the list.

## **3. Officers’ reports**

### **3.1 President – Dan Harms**

Dan was ill and could not attend. MEOW report which was to follow Dan was delayed until later in the meeting. Group discussed items from Dan's report. (B.Drew) Regarding request that officers, chairs, etc. review manual of duties & responsibilities, something should be done to provide guidance to committees because of changes over the years. Maybe not just describing what we're doing now but what the committees want to be doing. Logan Rath reported that Dan informed him that he'd like the review completed by the end of the calendar year. We want to know what your committee is doing, what it thinks it should be doing, and anything in the bylaws that does not align with what you are doing. The point is to tighten up the bylaws so that they align with current practice. (M.Devereaux) Is the Manual on the website? (W.Ackerman) Yes. (J.Yaples) Does this review include the delegates? (L.Rath) He will take the lead on the delegate responsibilities. (E.McCabe) Could Dan send an email to all the chairs as to what he expects?

Action items were discussed/voted on later in meeting.

### SUNYLA President's Report September 8, 2008

Once again, the summer has flown past. It will be great to see so many of you again at the upcoming meeting. I've taken over the role of physical education and kinesiology bibliographer at SUNY Cortland, so my start to the semester has been more harried than usual – but it always comes as a surprise, doesn't it?

It's appropriate to begin with what's foremost on most of our minds: the SUNY budget situation. Saying that we were surprised by the budgetary situation is an understatement. Both the plans of former Governor Spitzer and the recommendations of the New York State Commission on Higher Education were set aside in favor of budget cuts at the beginning – and possibly at the middle – of this fiscal year. Although our collections budgets at Cortland have not been affected yet, new restrictions on travel and departmental expenditures are making it harder to carry out our mission. I'm sure that a great many plans and initiatives that we were considering at our campuses last year have no doubt gone on indefinite hiatus.

Where does SUNYLA fit into this? Many of our own organization's projects – including our attempts to create a digital library and obtain equity – seem farther away now, though important work needs to be done on both. Nonetheless, SUNYLA still plays a vital role in the careers of librarians across the system. I encourage our delegates to advertise our professional development grants and conference scholarships, and I'd like to see our members taking advantage of our committees and listservs for professional development and service opportunities. We have so much to offer our members – and we can always do more – and we need to remember that.

With that in mind, and to follow up on Joe's excellent work last year, I will request at this next meeting that each officer and standing committee chairperson examine "A Manual of Duties and Responsibilities" for their particular area and pass on written recommendations as to whether these reflect the organization's bylaws and how it works today. I'd like this done with an eye toward what we can do to make ourselves more relevant and serve our membership.

At our last meeting, Joe had asked me to preside over a task force to create a conference to examine a "Library of the Future." Given the scrutiny that travel expenditures are undergoing on many campuses at this time, I am reluctant to call for a conference at this time. I'd like to change the focus of the task force to examining ways to solicit ideas from our membership and share those with the other stakeholders in this discussion. If you know of anyone who would be valuable in these discussions – especially serials librarians – please let me know; I'd like to expand this task force beyond the usual collection of faces. This isn't to say that I think a conference isn't possible, but I'd like us to begin the conversation on a broader level.

I want to thank our outgoing officers – Joe Petrick, Marianne Hebert, and Darryl Coleman – for their distinguished service to this organization, and our incoming officers – Logan Rath, April Davies, and Angela Weiler – for stepping up to the challenge. Also, I want to thank everyone who worked so hard to make the 2008 conference at Potsdam a success. I also would like to thank our delegates for their continued hard work and service. I'd also like to thank anyone who I missed in those last few sentences.

I'd like to turn over the remainder of the time allotted to the president's report to Kimberly Davies Hoffman to present the report of the Membership Enthusiasm and Outreach Workgroup. She and her group were requested to assess the reasons why people participate in SUNYLA, and her findings have considerable impact for the future of this organization.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Harms

### **3.2 First Vice President – Logan Rath**

Logan reported that he is taking the delegates “under his wing.” If delegates have any questions about duties, etc. they should contact him. Logan will be working on the Manual and responsibilities for delegates. (E.McCabe) Who is in charge of the listservs so that we can contact them? (L.Rath) Bill Drew. (B.Drew) Clarified that that does not include the SUNYLA-L list hosted at Binghamton. (E.McCabe) Has not been able to post to the Council list for some time. (B.Drew) Probably because of campus changes to format of email address. (A.Davies) ITEC, where Council list is hosted, has been having trouble with its list-server being blocked and/or blocking people.

Report of the First Vice-President:

This year, I have been charged to work with the delegates. As such, I would like to send a few reminders along to delegates.

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the 2008-2009 academic year. As a delegate, you are responsible for spreading the word about SUNYLA and recruiting members at your campus to join our professional organization. If you have any questions about your duties and responsibilities at any time, please do not hesitate to contact me. I will be contacting each of you throughout the upcoming year to discuss any concerns or issues you may have. Over the summer, I have sent a email asking for you to confirm your delegate status. To date, I have not heard from everyone. If you are a delegate, please let me know by emailing ([lrath@brockport.edu](mailto:lrath@brockport.edu)) or calling me (585-395-2568).

Here are a few updates and reminders to keep you informed:

All delegates should be subscribed to the SUNYLA executive council and SUNYLA-L listservs. If you are not, let me know and we will get you subscribed.

Due to a change in the bylaws, all delegates must have paid their dues. If you have not yet paid dues, please see our web site at <http://sunyla.org/forms/join.htm>. Upon submitting this form, you will need to type in the following information:

- o Username: sunyla
- o Password: sunyla

At that point, you will receive further instructions on where to send your check. Once your check is cashed, you will receive an email confirmation of your paid status. We have decided to do away with membership cards and numbers.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in Cortland on Friday.

Best,

Logan Rath

### **3.3 Second Vice President – Angela Weiler**

no report

### 3.4 Secretary – April Davies

no report

### 3.5 Treasurer – Jenica Rogers-Urbaneck

Jenica was absent due to illness. (R.Leon) Noticed that the Conference cost us money. (B.Drew) Yes, that was intentional. (A.Davies) This was the 1<sup>st</sup> time that the Conference cost SUNYLA money in several years.

There are two summary reports; one is for the previous fiscal year, and one is for the current fiscal year. Please note that the current year report shows a negative balance because it is only a cashflow report, and therefore does not include the carryover dollars from the previous fiscal year, as they were part of the cashflow from 2007-2008, not 2008-2009. (ie, we're not broke.)

Category Description	7/1/2007-9/30/2007	10/1/2007-12/31/2007	1/1/2008-3/31/2008	4/1/2008-6/30/2008	OVERALL TOTAL
<b>INCOME</b>					
Conference Income					
LiSUG annual conference	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$670.00	\$0.00	\$670.00
SUNYLA Annual Conference	\$0.00	\$225.00	\$225.00	\$3,350.00	\$3,800.00
TOTAL Conference Income	\$0.00	\$225.00	\$895.00	\$3,350.00	\$4,470.00
Conference Registration					
LiSUG Annual Conference	\$0.00	\$1,290.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,290.00
SUNYLA Annual Conference	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$575.00	\$575.00
TOTAL Conference Registration	\$0.00	\$1,290.00	\$0.00	\$575.00	\$1,865.00
Gift Received	\$0.00	\$5.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5.00
Initial Deposit	\$32,638.22	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$32,638.22
Interest Inc	\$0.00	\$54.15	\$126.04	\$47.25	\$227.44
Membership Dues					
Associate New	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$10.00	\$40.00
Associate Renewing	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
SUNY New	\$120.00	\$40.00	\$140.00	\$10.00	\$310.00
SUNY Renewing	\$4,810.00	\$700.00	\$635.00	\$575.00	\$6,720.00
TOTAL Membership Dues	\$4,975.00	\$750.00	\$775.00	\$595.00	\$7,095.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$37,613.22</b>	<b>\$2,324.15</b>	<b>\$1,796.04</b>	<b>\$4,567.25</b>	<b>\$46,300.66</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
Catering	\$262.50	\$210.75	\$0.00	\$241.65	\$714.90
Conference Expenses					
LiSUG	\$600.00	\$1,822.71	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,422.71
SUNYLA annual	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$3,549.18	\$3,849.18
TOTAL Conference Expenses	\$600.00	\$1,822.71	\$300.00	\$3,549.18	\$6,271.89
Membership Development Committee	\$82.05	\$0.00	\$149.25	\$0.00	\$231.30
Officers' Expenses	\$62.10	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,562.10
Other	\$17.66	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$67.66
Travel	\$0.00	\$149.40	\$409.00	\$353.00	\$911.40

TOTAL Officers' Expenses	\$79.76	\$1,699.40	\$409.00	\$353.00	\$2,541.16
Professional Development Committee	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$423.75	\$923.75
Publications Committee	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,600.00	\$0.00	\$1,600.00
Website Expenses	\$75.31	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75.31
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$1,099.62</b>	<b>\$3,732.86</b>	<b>\$2,958.25</b>	<b>\$4,567.58</b>	<b>\$12,358.31</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>\$36,513.60</b>	<b>-\$1,408.71</b>	<b>-\$1,162.21</b>	<b>-\$0.33</b>	<b>\$33,942.35</b>

Category Description	7/1/2008-9/30/2008	10/1/2008-12/31/2008	1/1/2009-3/31/2009	4/1/2009-6/30/2009	OVERALL TOTAL
<b>INCOME</b>					
Conference Registration					
SUNYLA Annual Conference	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
TOTAL Conference Registration	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Membership Dues					
Associate Renewing	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
SUNY New	\$90.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$90.00
SUNY Renewing	\$1,900.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,900.00
TOTAL Membership Dues	\$2,015.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,015.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$2,515.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,515.00
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
Conference Expenses					
SUNYLA annual	\$3,865.65	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,865.65
TOTAL Conference Expenses	\$3,865.65	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,865.65
Membership Development Committee	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$4,365.65	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,365.65
OVERALL TOTAL	-\$1,850.65	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$1,850.65

#### 4. Committee Reports

##### 4.1 Information Technology Committee – Bill Drew

[verbal report only] IT Committee is “moribund” and looking for guidance/inspiration. Might be time to roll Committee into LiSUG. SUNYLA-L list could easily be moved to ITEC with other SUNYLA lists and would be more manageable. Bill reminded everyone that he needs to be notified ([dreww@tc3.edu](mailto:dreww@tc3.edu)) with regard to additions/changes to Council list subscriptions. (J.Schumacher) Reiterated need for people to be aware of what their email address ‘goes out as’ since there can be differences that will prevent one from using the lists. (B.Drew) Will test Council list for ‘bounces’ tomorrow. (J.Petrick) Does Logan want to entertain discussion of ITC charge now or under New Business? (L.Rath) Under New Business.

Action items were discussed/voted on later in meeting.

##### 4.2 Library Instruction – Rudy Leon

Committee has voted for Kim Hoffman to be its new chair. This needs to be approved by the Council. Committee is working on offering a 1-day workshop in January, to be co-sponsored by Rochester Regional Library Council. Will need funding from SUNYLA. Will this require approval of entire Council? (A.Davies/L.Rath) Not if under \$500. Then need ok of Treasurer plus one other officer. Brief discussion of possible costs. Rudy noted that if this is successful they may be able to do more of these in other parts of state. Committee wants to change name and would like endorsement of Council in advance of putting this on spring ballot. (B.Drew) Noted that President needs to approve chairs, not the whole Council.

Action items were discussed/voted on later in meeting.

## SUNYLA Library Instruction Committee Report September 9, 2008 Rudy Leon (Potsdam), Chair

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1. New Chair
2. Open Meeting
  - a. New Name
  - b. Meetings
  - c. New Structure
  - d. New Subcommittees
  - e. Ideas for future implementation
3. New Instruction Librarian Workshop

### New Chair

LIC Chair Rudy Leon is leaving SUNY, and thus LIC, for a new position as Learning Commons Librarian at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign. LIC is holding an election through Wednesday night to select their choice for Exec to appoint as Chair. Results will be communicated to SUNYLA President Dan Harms before Exec meets.

### Open Meeting

The second announcement relates to the results of the Open Meeting held by LIC at SUNYLA 2008 in Potsdam. This meeting was held to determine the future path of the committee, and the committee emphatically decided to continue, with several changes to how its mission will be supported. Brainstorming was successful and new priorities were set. (Complete notes from the meeting are on LIC wiki, <http://suny-lic.pbwiki.com/SUNYLA+2008+Open+Meeting>)

### New name

Part of the reinvigoration will be asking SUNYLA to pass a bylaws change in the Spring on the name of the group. We would like to change our name from Library Instruction Committee to **Working Group for Information Literacy (WGIL)**, which we feel better captures how the group will work, and what work the group will be taking on.

### Meetings

The LIC/WGIL has determined that face to face meetings are valuable, and we would like to meet as a group at any of the events where SUNY Librarians gather (CIT, LiSUG, SUNYLA)

### New Structure

Subcommittees have been formed, with an explicit statement that no subcommittee Chair would work on a project alone unless they chose to; the logic behind this is that if the committee feels the work is important, members will volunteer to support the work; the absence of enough people to do the task will be equated with an absence of will. Our ultimate goal is that membership in the working group will require membership in one of the subcommittees, and that the discussion list remain as a tool for all

SUNY librarians interested in discussion and support regarding information literacy & library instruction issues.

As of now, recruitment to the subcommittees has been done solely from the LIC membership on the discussion list, with some success. The next step will be publicly announcing the new structure on the SUNYLA list and recruiting more members to the working group.

The Subcommittees [caveat: some of these committees may considerably overlap with other initiatives in SUNYLA (students, emerging tech); chairs will want to determine whether LIC needs are best met by liaising with other groups or creating these subcommittees]

- **Communication** (Rudy Leon)
  - manage listserv and wiki and web-based communication
- **Newsletter** (Irina Holden)
  - put together a newsletter, to go out 2 or 3 times per year
  - committee will determine length and format of newsletter, quite possibly to be digital only
  - one major purpose of newsletter will be "reporting back" from conferences, especially non-SUNY conferences
- **Professional Development** (aka 'What we can do for us?') (Kim Davies Hoffman)
  - look into feasibility of regional IL meetings, one day workshops, etc
  - Possibly liaise with conference organizers about InfoLit tracking?
  - investigate other ways the user group can support professional development for information literacy librarians within SUNYLA
  - develop mini-conferences or gatherings to discuss pertinent issues
  - perhaps employ ARLIG's format - panels devoted to a specific issue where panelists represent different campus categories - this would allow us to hear different perspectives, struggles, and triumphs and panel sessions would lessen the burden on 1 person alone
  - coordinate more group presentations - easy to get volunteers when each is only responsible for 10-15 min of presentation (Comm/PD together?)
  - create a mentoring or development committee w/in LIC
- **Emerging Technology** (Heather Whalen Smith)
  - liaise with LiSUG about emerging technology in library instruction
  - help develop an instruction track at LiSUG
- **Outreach to library school students** (Logan Rath)
  - Information literacy is a major deficit in library education. This committee will work to make connections with students in the library schools and let them know what we can do for them
  - Will work with member development to ensure we aren't duplicating their efforts
  - Possibilities include:
    - develop a mentoring program with lib school students
    - coordinate visits to librarians' classrooms
    - create a list of librarians willing to mentor & match up w/willing students
    - devise a program where students shadow librarians @ SUNYLA

Other key points from the Open Meeting

- Face to face meetings are valuable, and we would like to meet as a group at any of the events where SUNY Librarians gather (CIT, LiSUG, SUNYLA)

Ideas for future implementation

- Awards Committee

- LIC/WGIL is interested in supporting travel to national conferences, with an included obligation to report back.
- Investigate the feasibility of doing so, and establish criteria for selecting and awarding monies, amount, and reporting back mechanism
- The group will have to determine how this is different than SUNYLA's [Professional Development Grants Program](#), or how it can fit into that committee if they are too similar in scope to differentiate.
- Teaching techniques
  - Explore and communicate about innovative teaching techniques, active learning toolkits, emerging technologies, doing more with less...
- Develop Information Literacy/Library Instruction research agenda, specific to SUNY librarians
- Develop teaching partnerships SUNY to SUNY (rather than within our own libraries, as New Paltz and UMich do)

#### New Instruction Librarian Workshop

LIC/WGIL Professional Development committee has been pursuing the possibility of localized one day workshops. Rochester Regional Library Council has expressed interest in co-sponsoring a workshop for new librarians facing instruction responsibilities, and LIC/WGIL Professional Development would like to move ahead, with an expected date in January. We request at least tentative commitment for financial support from Exec at this time. Kim Davies Hoffman and Rudy Leon will address details at Exec meeting.

#### **4.3 Library Software Users Group – Andy Perry**

[Number of registrations looking good. Reusing nametags, signs, etc. to keep costs down.](#)

To: SUNYLA Council  
 From: Andy Perry, Chair, LiSUG  
 Subject: LiSUG Committee Report  
 Date: September 9, 2008

The LiSUG fall 2008 conference is on track for Friday, October 10 at SUNYIT in Utica/Rome. We have a full program (16 sessions) again this year and hope that tight travel budgets won't discourage attendance. Cyril Oberlander, Associate Director at SUNY Geneseo, will be giving the keynote address (regarding request-based services and rethinking resource sharing) and he'll be very interesting and I predict even revolutionary. Maureen Zajkowski from OLIS will give a brief OLIS update and lead a general discussion session focusing on aleph support issues at the end of the day. Dave Ritchie has been active in organizing a ride-sharing system. It isn't clear how successful this will be but in the interest of being green and saving high fuel costs, we're giving it a try.

The surprise this year is that the call for proposals generated no session proposals having to do with aleph. Dave Ritchie and I decided to do one on PLIF since this has again been a source of problems for many libraries. It isn't clear if the lack of interest is due to the more restrictive ILS management environment or that aleph itself is considered old technology.

A revised budget request was sent to the SUNYLA Treasurer. We have kept the registration fee at \$15 to encourage attendance.

The LiSUG 2008 Conference website is at:

[http://sunyla.org/index.php/Library\\_Software\\_Users\\_Group\\_LiSUG/2008\\_LiSUG\\_Conference.html](http://sunyla.org/index.php/Library_Software_Users_Group_LiSUG/2008_LiSUG_Conference.html)

#### **4.4 Membership Development – Emily Hart**

Membership is up for September. Need to work on getting delegates current on their memberships. No more cards, numbers. Want to work with LiSUG and other events to give member discounts. (E.McCabe) Is there a place to go see who is/is not current on our campus? (E.Hart) Actually have something on that coming under New Business.

Action items were discussed/voted on later in meeting.

#### **Report of the SUNYLA Membership Development Committee**

**Friday, September 12, 2008**

As of September 12, 2008, there are 181 members in SUNYLA, including 18 new members, 0 associate, and 25 delegates.

At this time last year we had 116 members, 10 new, 3 associate, and 17 delegates. Hopefully this increase is due to some of the changes we've implemented regarding membership policies, including tying membership renewals to the annual conference and the implementation of our new online membership renewal form.

According to a recent announcement from our SUNYLA treasurer, there are several membership forms that have been submitted but have not been processed because we have not received a check. Please remember to send in your check after completing the online form.

There are approximately 35 people remaining that have been processed, but have not yet been sent a membership confirmation E-mail from me. They will be going out soon. If you have questions please contact your delegate.

Some recent changes to membership policies include:

- A new membership database. Our records are now stored on a spreadsheet in Google Docs. This allows for easy access to the data and collaboration between officers.

- A new membership directory (for delegates only, will be used to see who is a current member)

- There are no more membership cards or membership numbers being issued.

Delegates now have a contact person, Logan Rath, 1st Vice President of SUNYLA. If you have any questions about membership or your duties, please contact Logan:

lrath@brockport.edu

(585-395-2568)

Last year there were two important Amendments to the bylaws regarding membership:

- Delegates must be members.

- The membership year now follows the annual conference, so for anyone renewing during the 2008-2009 year, your membership will be valid through the final day of the 2009 Annual SUNYLA Conference.

Another recent change is the creation of a new members blog by the new members subcommittee. Please pass this information on to any new or relatively new librarians. <http://sunylanewmembers.blogspot.com/>

The membership committee plans to meet sometime during the fall semester to continue exploring benefits for members and working to improve membership policies and procedures.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact me at:

Emily K Hart

Reference & Web Services Librarian

Health Sciences Library

SUNY Upstate Medical University

766 Irving Avenue  
Syracuse, N.Y. 13210  
(315) 464-7109

Respectfully submitted by:

Emily Hart, Membership Development Committee Chair

#### **4.5 Personnel Policies – Dan Harms**

[verbal report] Ron Foster has stepped down as chair. Dan Harms is overseeing for now. Logan asked if anyone was interested taking over to “please, please, oh pretty, pretty please” contact him or Dan.

#### **4.6 Professional Development – Darryl Coleman**

Budget request from Grants Subcommittee to be voted on under New Business.

Professional Development Report

Daniel Kissane: No change: Contingent on forthcoming conference criteria. Chair remains Wendy Ackerman.

Sylvia Chu: No change: Contingent on forthcoming conference criteria: Chair remains Carol Anne Germain

Friend of SUNYLA award: No change: Contingent on forthcoming conference criteria: Chair remains Greg Bobish

SUNYLA Professional Development Grants Subcommittee: Requests a budget of \$2400 for 2008-2009 fiscal year. Chair is Joanna Spadaro. Susan M. Perry of SUNY Brockport is a new committee member. Marianne Muha remains a voting member of the committee after formally stepping down as chair.

Submitted by:

Darryl Coleman  
Chair SUNYLA Professional Development  
September 11, 2008

#### **4.7 Publications & Communications – Ellen McCabe**

Discussion regarding number of newsletters per campus. Deferred to New Business.

### **SUNYLA Publications Committee**

Ellen McCabe, Chair

September 12, 2008

Members of the Publications Committee: Lori Annesi (Monroe), Jim Coan (Oneonta), Linda Gorman (Nassau), Gerry Leibowitz (Nassau), Jennifer Little (Brockport), Ellen McCabe (Cortland) (chair), Shannon Pritting (Oswego), Jennifer Smathers (Brockport).

From the financial end of things, we now have about \$600 in the publications account. \$1000 was deposited in April, and we have since paid out two bills to Brockport printing, one for \$430 and the other for \$200. The bills seem to vary from \$200-\$300 to \$400. As was mentioned in the last report we printed 350 SUNYLA May 2008 newsletters for a total of \$431.31. Current balance is \$604.16.

We ran another round of about 1500 pre-prints in late June. We should be all set for several more runs of the newsletter.

We are considering addressing the envelopes that the SUNYLA newsletter gets sent out in to the "SUNYLA library delegate" rather than the delegate by name. It seems that the names of the delegates change frequently and this would be easier than trying to keep the names straight. It would have to be the responsibility of the delegate to let those receiving the mail (or LAND delivery) that s/he was the delegate. We would like your thoughts on this idea.

I think that Jennifer Smathers and Shannon Pritting did an excellent job of getting out the May newsletter. Many thanks to them.

The Committee would appreciate any news or reports. The next issue due date is September 15, 2008. Please send items to Shannon Pritting [pritting@oswego.edu](mailto:pritting@oswego.edu) or Jennifer Smathers [jsmather@brockport.edu](mailto:jsmather@brockport.edu)

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen McCabe (Chair)

Ellen McCabe, SUNY College at Cortland, [mccabe@cortland.edu](mailto:mccabe@cortland.edu) (607) 753-4051

#### **4.8 Web Development – Wendi Ackerman**

[Work on move to new web server continues. Permissions to appropriate people will be coming. \(R.Leon\) Request for instructions in editing. \(L.Rath\) Sounds like a good topic for next Council meeting. Wendi could do a brief overview to delegates.](#)

### **5. Liaison Reports**

#### **5.1 FACT – Mark Smith**

##### **SUNYLA Liaison to FACT Advisory Council**

Report

September 2008

Mark A. Smith

SUNY Ceramics at Alfred University

##### **FACT Summer Retreat**

The primary activity in the FACT Summer Retreat is to review the outcomes and success of the SUNY Conference on Instructional Technology (CIT). In addition it is our time establish a theme and tracks for the upcoming CIT. Below are the results of those discussions. As you will note SUNY Librarians may very well have something to say relating to any of the selected track themes. Of particular interest to our group may be the track on New Publishing Paradigms. I was asked to write the track description for this discussion on new publication models and related opportunities and challenges. I will submit this track description along with others to be published in the SUNYLA Newsletter.

As always, the FACT Council appreciates the participation and enthusiasm of the SUNY library community and their contributions as presenters at this conference. CIT is gaining national recognition and our voice on these important

discussions on teaching and learning with technology. The council considers our organization as valuable partners, stakeholders and resources in advancing innovative use of technology.

It is not too early to mark your calendars and ponder presentation proposals.

SUNY Conference on Instructional Technologies  
May 19-22, 2009 – SUNY Oswego

### **Theme: Engaging Minds: Innovative Teaching and Learning**

#### **Tracks:**

1. Active/Student Centered Learning— Engaging Students in the Classroom
2. Translating Teaching, Learning and Assessment Research into Practice
3. New Media Publishing Paradigms
4. Teaching and Learning in Innovative Spaces (Real & Virtual)
5. Discipline Specific Technologies
6. Personal Knowledge Management & User Created Content

### **5.3 NYLA – Wendy West**

no report

### **5.4 Nylink – Anne Gunning**

#### **Nylink Liaison Report**

**SUNYLA EXECUTIVE BOARD / COUNCIL MEETING**  
**September 12, 2008 / Submitted by Ann Gunning**

**Your Feedback Needed:** Nylink is conducting a survey addressing libraries' needs and challenges, and to gain feedback on Nylink services. The survey was launched this week and was sent electronically to all designated contacts at Nylink participating institutions. However, all staff at our participating libraries are welcome to complete the survey, and thus we encourage those who received the survey invitation to share it with colleagues.

**LAND Delivery Service:** We're pleased to announce that Brooklyn Public Library is our newest LAND participant. In the area of LAND support: Nylink has updated the LAND service pages (<http://nylink.org/delivery/>) including the addition of a web form to request bags and the improvement of forms for reporting missed stops and damaged items; and we continue to communicate with Velocity regularly -- and whenever urgently needed -- to address performance issues. Your LAND contact at Nylink is Cindy Hajeck, Business Manager, at 800-342-3353 and [hajeckc@nylink.org](mailto:hajeckc@nylink.org).

**IFLA Vouchers for ILL:** Nylink now offers IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions) vouchers that simplify paying for international interlibrary loans. IFLA requires a minimum purchase of EUR 100, but Nylink is allowing libraries to purchase only the number of IFLA vouchers they need, available in two denominations: full voucher (US \$15.00) and half voucher (US \$7.50). Purchasing these vouchers through Nylink also eliminates the need to purchase euros, and to convert dollars to euros. Find out more, and order vouchers at [http://nylink.org/sharing/IFLA\\_vouchers.cfm](http://nylink.org/sharing/IFLA_vouchers.cfm). Note: SUNY institutions listed by IFLA as current voucher participants are Albany, Binghamton, Buffalo (UB), and Fredonia.

**Speaking of resource sharing...** The second annual statewide **Resource Sharing Summit** is being held October 23rd and 24th at the Saratoga Springs Holiday Inn. Open to library staff and directors/administrators from all types of libraries, the summit will explore resource sharing models and programs currently in place throughout the state, and beyond. More information at <http://nylink.org/sharing/nyrss/>.

#### **Professional Development Opportunities:**

**The Nylink training calendar for the fall is posted.** Check out our offerings at <http://www.nylink.org/education/>.

**Network Education Exchange:** Nylink members are eligible for member rates for distance education classes offered by library networks across the U.S. There is a terrific range of topics that expands on the offerings available within New York State. Take a look at <http://www.nylink.org/education/disted.cfm>.

**Call for Essays:** What is your vision of the library (or librarian) of the future? How are you (or your library) evolving? Nylink wants to publish your 500-word essay. A selection of essays will be published in the winter issue of *Nylink Connection*, and all entries will be available online. Please send your essays in MS Word or similar format to [services@nylink.org](mailto:services@nylink.org). Include your name, title, library, institution, e-mail address and phone number.

**RDA (Resource Description and Access) and the Future of Library Cataloging and Metadata Standards:** The full draft of RDA is scheduled for release in October 2008 for constituency review with comments accepted through January 2009. Nylink is planning a series of RDA-centric events, starting with a presentation by Nylink's Lynne Graziadei at Library Assistants' Day on October 16th, to educate our community about RDA standards and processes, and to ensure broad New York participation during the public comment process. More information about RDA at <http://www.rdaonline.org/>.

**Library Assistants' Day** will be held October 16 at the Holiday Inn, Carrier Circle, Syracuse. The preliminary program schedule: "True Colors: Learning Your Personality"; "Cataloging: RDA"; "Help! They've Moved My Space: Learning Commons Experiences"; "How to Keep Up With Library Trends"; "Resume Building." Registration information will be available soon. This event is being co-sponsored by Nylink and the following 3Rs organizations: CDLC, RRLC and SCRLC.

**Implementing and Managing Organizational Innovation and Change:**

Friday, October 3, 2008, 9 AM – 4 PM at Nylink, Albany, NY. Led by Deb Schmidle, Director for Collections, Reference, Instruction and Outreach at the John M. Olin Library, Cornell University. Learn more at <http://www.nylink.org/events/implementchange08.cfm>.

**Internet Librarian Conference Discount:** Monterey, CA, October 20-22, 2008. Register through Nylink by September 19 and pay \$275 for the full 3-day conference, a savings of 40%. Complete conference details at <http://www.infotoday.com/il2008/>. To obtain the Nylink discount, print out and complete the special Nylink registration form, available at [http://nylink.org/events/forms/infotoday/NYLINK\\_IL2008FORM2.pdf](http://nylink.org/events/forms/infotoday/NYLINK_IL2008FORM2.pdf).

**Newest Consortial Purchasing Partners:**

Nylink can now offer discounts to members for e-resources from the following providers:

**Cambridge University Press**, featuring the new *Cambridge Histories Online*. Learn more at <http://www.nylink.org/reference/cambridgeup.cfm>.

**Greenwood Publishing**, featuring the new *Pop Culture Universe*. Learn more at <http://nylink.org/reference/greenwood.cfm>.

**Palgrave Macmillan/ProQuest**, for *The New Palgrave Dictionary of Economics Online*. Through September 30th, Nylink members who subscribe will get a first-year flat rate price of \$999 per institution. The electronic edition, first published in May 2008, contains the full text of the print edition: over 1,750 articles written by over 1,500 economists, including 25 Nobel Laureates. New and expanded areas include behavioral economics, technological changes and growth, labor economics, and game theory. Contact Ann Gunning at Nylink ([gunninga@nylink.org](mailto:gunninga@nylink.org)) for more information.

## 5.6 OLIS – John Schumacher

Brief discussion of Shared Services report and SAC's decisions with regard to it. Deferred further discussion until Dave Ritchie's arrival. (A.Perry) How many campuses would have to participate with 360Search in order to make this deal viable? (J.Schumacher) About 40. Noted that 15 are already customers. (B.Drew) What is the timeline/deadline for 360Search? (J.Schumacher) Quick.

SUNY Office of Library and Information Services  
Report to SUNYLA Executive Board/Council  
John Schumacher (john.schumacher@suny.edu)  
September 12, 2008

### **SUNYConnect LMS**

- Thanks to The ALEPH Group at OLIS and ITEC for their efforts upgrading the SUNYConnect LMS (from version 16 to version 18). All campuses on the shared servers are now running v.18.
- Links to v.18 documentation and online training sessions can be found in the OLIS Documents area (<http://www.sunyconnect.suny.edu/olisdocs/public/Aleph/>).
- The hardware running the Sandbox system was upgraded August 25, 2008.

### **Electronic Resources**

- The current agreement for the EBSCO SUNYConnect resources expires at the end of June 2009. Should we renew? A survey has been created to gain input from the community on this question. Information sent to library directors with request for a consensus view from the library. Please verify whether or not your campus response has been included.
- The Electronic Resources Team is finalizing a list of possible additional SUNYConnect resources (when additional funding becomes available).

### **SUNY Digital Repository**

- The OLIS will be seeking SUNY-wide representatives for a group to work on scope, content, and policies related to the repository <http://dspace.sunyconnect.suny.edu> If you are interested, get in touch.

### **Shared Search & Discovery Services Committee**

- The Committee has made its recommendations and its report to the SUNYConnect Advisory Council (<http://tinyurl.com/5vhxkf> )
- S.A.C. has indicated that use of the 360Search software will have to be via campus monies. A pricing model is being finalized. If all SUNYConnect libraries participate then the per-campus cost will be considerably less than the retail cost.
- Seminars/webinars on 360Search will be offered in the near future.

### **SUNY/Elsevier Contract Working Group**

- The ScienceDirect agreement expires at the end of 2009. A SUNY-wide committee has been formed related to negotiations with Elsevier on a possible renewal. The group is comprised of Frank D'Andraia (Albany, Chair), Austin Booth (UB), Ron Brown (SUNY-wide contracts), Patrick Callahan (Purchase), Carey Hatch (OLIS/SLN/CPD), John Schumacher (OLIS) and Rick Winant (Downstate). The SUNY/Elsevier Contract Working Group met for the first time in August.

### **OLIS**

- Carey Hatch - Assistant Provost for Library and Information Services, Director for SUNY Learning Network and Interim Director – Center for Professional Development.
- Gail Pawlowski, Lead Programmer Analyst began working for OLIS in June. Welcome Gail.

### **SUNYLA 2008**

- Thanks to the organizers and presenters for a great SUNYLA 2008.

## **SUNYConnect Information / Resources**

- For additional information about SUNYConnect  
<http://www.SUNYConnect.suny.edu/>  
<http://sefer.SUNYConnect.suny.edu/olis/sunyergy/default.htm>
- OLIS' Footprints Service Request System <http://service.sunyconnect.suny.edu/footprints/help.html>
- SUNYConnect union catalog  
<http://union.sunyconnect.suny.edu:8080/F>
- OLIS Documents Area  
<http://www.sunyconnect.suny.edu/olisdocs/>
- The OLIS web log  
<http://www.sunyconnect.suny.edu/blog/>

## **5.7 UUP – John Schumacher**

Noted that AFT has endorsed Obama in presidential election. Budget cuts are likely to be ongoing. UUP has not yet taken firm stand on budget issue as SUNY has not. Need to wait on them so don't contradict each other. SUNY and statewide-UUP will be meeting next week regarding Appendix 48 of new contract (Librarian-equity). (B.Drew) Inquired about merger of NY-NEA and NYSUT. NYSUT has been very slow at completing process. Asked John to pass this up the chain. (J.Schumacher) Noted that UUP is related to NYSUT but will pass along. (R.Leon) Does NYSUT represent faculty at private colleges in NYS and has UUP taken a stand on \$65million in state monies going to non-state schools? (J.Schumacher) Yes and yes; the big issue is support for the Cornell statutes. Will discuss this issue further under New Business.

UUP Liaison Report  
John Schumacher (Central@uupmail.org)  
SUNYLA Executive Board/Council  
September 12, 2008

United University Professions (UUP) is the union representing more than 34,000 academic and professional faculty on 29 State University of New York campuses, plus System Administration, Empire State College, and the New York State Theatre Institute. UUP is affiliated with the New York State United Teachers and the American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO.

### **2007 – 2011 Contract**

- UUP and NYS 2007-2011 Agreement is online <http://www.uupinfo.org/agreement.pdf> Everyone will be seeing paper copies soon.
- 2007 salary increase/retroactive payment is in place; many have seen 2008 salary increase. Additional details can be found at <http://www.uupinfo.org/payinfo.html>
- Scholarship dollars for dependents at SUNY state operated have been increased to \$750/semester.

### **SUNY Budget**

- "UUP to state: Budget cuts threaten SUNY's 'core mission'"  
<http://www.uupinfo.org/communications/release08/080805.html>
- Total proposed SUNY cut - \$148 million; "UUP Decries Paterson"  
<http://www.uupinfo.org/communications/news/080819.html>

### **DCAA Enrollment Period/Improved Benefit**

- The Dependent Care Advantage Account enrollment period is 9/22/08 to 11/14/08. And, as a result of new contract the amount of the employer contribution to your account has been increased.

### **Gender Equity Study**

- Review of UUP's gender equity study is underway. Thanks to Ron Foster (SUNY IT) for providing additional data sources regarding librarian salaries around the country.

### **AFT / NYSUT Endorsements**

- <http://www.aft.org/presscenter/releases/2008/071308.htm>
- [http://www.nysut.org/cps/rde/xchg/nysut/hs.xsl/mediareleases\\_10738.htm](http://www.nysut.org/cps/rde/xchg/nysut/hs.xsl/mediareleases_10738.htm)
- Voter registration deadline is October 10, 2008.

### **UUP to Celebrate 35 Years**

- The Fall 2008 UUP Delegate Assembly (September 19,20) will include a celebration of UUP's 35th anniversary.

### **Mailing Address:**

United University Professions  
P.O. Box 15143  
Albany, NY 12212-5143

### **Location:**

800 Troy-Schenectady Road  
Latham, NY 12110

### **Telephone:**

800-342-4206  
518-640-6600  
518-640-6698 (fax)  
866-812-9446 (fax)

### **Email:**

[input@uupinfo.org](mailto:input@uupinfo.org)

### **Web:**

<http://www.uupinfo.org>

## **5.5 NY3Rs – Nancy Howe**

need written report

## **3.1a Special report: MEOW Findings & Recommendations – Kim Davies Hoffman & Stephen Macaluso**

There was much discussion following the MEOW presentation. Notes follow the written report.

# **Membership Enthusiasm and Outreach Working Group (MEOW)**

**Report of Activities and Recommendations  
intended for review by:**

**SUNYLA Executive Council**

**Submitted September 12, 2008  
SUNY Cortland**

**Version 1.1**

**Written by: Kim Davies-Hoffman, MEOW Chair  
Stefano J. Macaluso  
Pam O'Sullivan**

**On behalf of all MEOW members:**

<b>Fran Apollo</b>	<b>Tracy Paradis</b>
<b>Bill Drew</b>	<b>Joe Petrick</b>
<b>Ken Fujiuchi</b>	<b>Kate Pitcher</b>
<b>Dan Harms</b>	<b>Mark Smith</b>
<b>Emily Hart</b>	<b>Lori Widzinski</b>
<b>Rudy Leon</b>	<b>Marc Wildman</b>
<b>Nicki Lerczak</b>	<b>Nancy Williamson</b>
<b>Kadri Niider</b>	

## **The History of MEOW (Membership Enthusiasm and Outreach Working Group)**

In the spring of 2007, members of the SUNYLA Executive Council listserv began seeing an increase of e-mails regarding the upcoming elections. Two main concerns were raised.

The first problem: SUNYLA was experiencing a lack of potential candidates for the various positions within Executive Council. The election was due to run with merely one nominee per post and without a nominee for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/President-Elect or 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President/Conference Chair. There was the chance that the 2008 annual conference would be cancelled altogether. Discussion was raised on the listserv as to the lack of participation and willingness from the members of SUNYLA to serve on Executive Board.

The second problem: Marianne Hebert was SUNYLA Secretary at the time, and she was faced with organizing the mailing of ballots. To her surprise, as well as to the surprise of others, SUNY library staff began to realize that they had never paid their membership dues for the year, making them ineligible to vote in the upcoming election. It was not only members within greater SUNYLA who had forgotten to pay their dues, but current board members and officers as well.

Whether it was sheer forgetfulness and/or apathy on the part of our SUNYLA members, a lack of reminders and/or outreach from the Membership Development Committee (MDC), an absence of responsibility from the roles of campus delegates, or an overwhelming amount of work from each of the librarians'/library staff's home base, problems of inactivity that had not been addressed in many years began to take their toll on the overall health of SUNYLA as a participatory organization. SUNYLA President at the time, Marc Wildman, addressed Executive Council with these concerns. Kim Davies Hoffman, a past chair of the MDC, and Emily Hart, the new chair of MDC, responded to Mr. Wildman's e-mails as they had both witnessed the problems in their tenure (whether long or short) with MDC and were passionate in their hope to resolve some of the concerns.

As Wildman, Davies Hoffman and Hart confronted the issues via e-mail and phone conversations, the idea to form an ad hoc committee was born. Considering existing workload, committee obligations, and changing positions within the Library, it was agreed that Kim Davies Hoffman would serve as chair of a new committee focused on addressing the increasingly low levels of SUNYLA membership participation. Wildman and Hart committed to serving on the team as key consultants. A call for more volunteers to serve on the committee was answered, while other targeted participants in key areas (by region and by campus category) helped balance varying perspectives within the new committee.

The group, to be known as MEOW (Membership Enthusiasm and Outreach Working Group), met in person in September 2007 to begin tackling the perceived issues and devise corresponding strategies to gather data and develop recommendations.

One year later, the following data-gathering activities have taken place:

- An informal poll of the Executive Council listserv to identify issues of membership inactivity/apathy
- A brainstorming discussion at the September 2007 MEOW meeting to further pinpoint areas of concern
- An online survey sent to all SUNY librarians and many SUNY library staff - created, distributed, and analyzed by MEOW members
- A SUNYLA conference presentation that reported on MEOW's findings and opened up the discussion to audience members
- A final conference call meeting with MEOW members to synthesize the key areas of concerns and develop recommendations based on SUNYLA membership feedback

## **Survey Context: SUNYLA is Not the Only Organization Coming to Terms with Membership and Leadership Issues**

It is important to note that numerous library organizations are wrestling with issues which involve membership attrition, grooming leadership talent and retaining a pool of productive volunteers. A number of membership surveys abound from other organizations, and their results often coincide with those of the 2007 MEOW data collection: they reveal similar issues and suggest ways in which SUNYLA might address them. While other organizations' surveys did not have a direct bearing on MEOW's work, two in particular are similar enough to show validity between the surveys, and to suggest strategies for SUNYLA.

In 2003 the American Society for Information Science and Technology (ASIS & T) surveyed its members. Some of the data it collected about its members might be collected by SUNYLA in the future, and may be employed to predict trends and make decisions. These data include, but are not limited to: gender, age, membership status (number of years, membership type), type of job, years in current position, highest/other degree obtained, field of study for one's degrees, salary, and predicted retirement date (Hahn and Vaughan, 9).

The survey also collected data regarding the *primary society* to which the individual belonged as well as other groups to which they turned "to learn about developments/issues in the field." (9) If that primary organization was not ASIS &T, they were asked why they benefited from that other organization (networking and "learning new skills" were the primary reasons given).

The ASIS&T survey found that its member base was getting older; it needed to concentrate efforts on recruiting students and younger people to replace the retiring membership. In the ASIS &T survey, older, better-funded members were found to be more likely to attend conferences and consider ASIS &T their primary society. These data suggest that SUNYLA might have to compete for its younger members' attention more than for that of its older members.

The reasons why ASIS&T members attended conferences, or chose not to, accord with the MEOW findings below. Cost was the biggest deterrent among ASIS &T members (i.e., registration, hotel, and travel expense); members desired "more informal networking opportunities" and opportunities to meet major leaders in the field at their conferences. Overwhelmingly, attendees said they attended conferences to hear papers and engage in networking and collegial dialogue (9).

Select ideas from the ASIS &T survey's open-ended questions deserve mention here as well:

- The need for more continuing education opportunities that were [either] online or on "fresh topics" (10).
- SIGs should report regularly to the membership, and perform their own recruitment and outreach.
- Repurpose the website as a community space. Provide more activities-driven information on the website i.e., meetings reports, minutes, committee reports, news, newsletter. Encourage the more community-centered aspects of the web e.g., calls for volunteers, advertise interesting online courses, etc.
- Collect and make available (to whatever degree feasible) a database of membership data. Provide membership reports to leadership (e.g., this might be SUNYLA delegates).
- Offer ways to attend conferences and meetings virtually.

Recommendations cited in the article included:

- 1) **Mentorship** or some other mechanism by which older members assist newer members with resume building, CE, and “state of the field” advice.
- 2) Continued **community-building**. Address cliquish behavior; host events specifically for new members; introduce people from other fields into the society.
- 3) **Advocacy**: ASIS&T should be a player in demonstrating the value of libraries and library science e.g., to corporations (or, in SUNYLA’s case, to administrators, legislators, users).
- 4) **Definition**: better define who (ASIS&T’s) the audience is for membership, events and external and internal stakeholders. Discuss what the primary audience is and speak to it.
- 5) Stress **uniqueness**: a strong voice in the survey suggested that one of the organization’s best features is that it was different from other societies in size, scope and function. It should position itself to be an organization that is unique from ALA, ACRL and other organizations that compete for its members’ attention (11).

**Source:** Trudi Bellardo Hahn and Liwen Vaughan. Messages from the 2003 ASIS&T Membership Survey. Bulletin of the American Society for Information Science and Technology, April/May 2004: 8-11.

A survey by the California Library Association (CLA) in 2006- 2007 assessed what changes its members thought should be made to CLA’s governance structure. This resulted in six recommendations, four of which are especially relevant here, given the similarity of the responses to those of the MEOW survey:

1. **Establish an advisory board/board of directors.** Create an advisory group comprised of past and present officers, delegates, and others who provide leadership direction and operational oversight to the budget and staff. In the CLA recommendations, this board would include six members-at-large, non-officers who would serve in advisory capacities for staggered three-year terms; these candidates should have demonstrated leadership assets; there would be a 3-year break required before a board member could serve again; it also includes a leadership role for the past president.
2. **Establish a Leadership Development Committee i.e., a nominating committee.** This group is charged with a) developing and identifying potential leaders within the organization and b) identifying and promoting leadership development institutes and CE opportunities for current and potential members. This group would maintain a database of potential leaders and provide mentorship opportunities. In CLA’s recommendation, the past president would chair this committee, and there would be a role for interns, students or other interested individuals to serve. Members would have staggered terms in order to promote new growth within the group.
3. **Form nimble Interest Groups.** Modify existing committees and roundtables into more flexible Interest Groups. To keep these groups vibrant, it was necessary to: find good leaders, and create useful charges and mission statements; empower SIGs with funding but hold them accountable to report to the membership regularly; make the SIGs as easy to join as possible.
4. **Establish new opportunities for member input.** Create opportunities for members to lead discussions on their own issues rather than limiting discussions to governance; use technology more flexibly. By extension, evolve all one-way communication into two-way, member-to-member communication; ask for feedback and input regarding conferences and other events; solicit input into governance; make the annual face-to-face meeting more meaningful than it currently is.

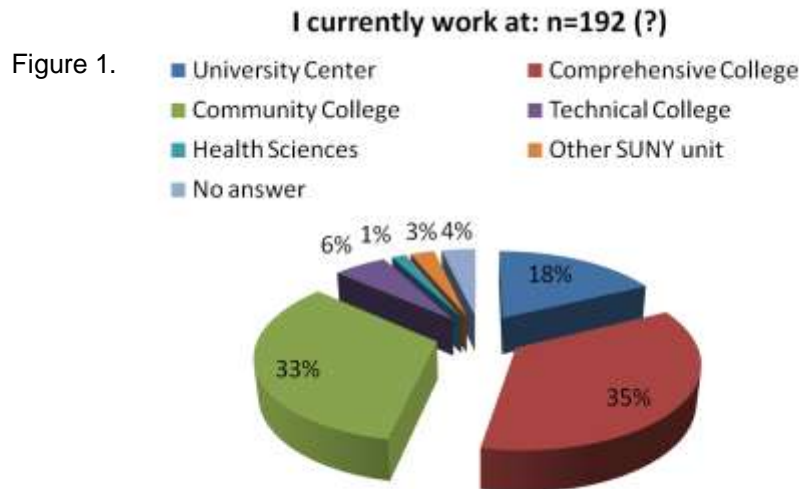
One comment from the CLA survey weblog offers a well-understood counterpoint: "...everyone says they want more opportunities for participation, but then few actually jump in when they have a chance." In this vein, it should be clear that whatever changes SUNYLA implements, they will be successful *because they entice individuals to participate at greater levels*. In order to successfully address its major issues (i.e., declining membership, volunteerism, and leadership), SUNYLA improvement initiatives must be geared to building its membership and talent base.

## **Membership Survey**

The recommendations below are drawn primarily from a membership survey developed and implemented by MEOW in the fall and winter of 2007. Survey questions were derived from MEOW members' insights and suggestions, and were formulated into 25 total questions (17 were multiple choice, 8 were open-ended.) The survey was developed and implemented as a population survey: MEOW members compiled an email list of faculty, administrators and staff from SUNY library websites, and sent direct, invitation-style emails to encourage participation. This was done in order to capture responses from both members and non-members. The survey was available online, for a three week period in December 2007.

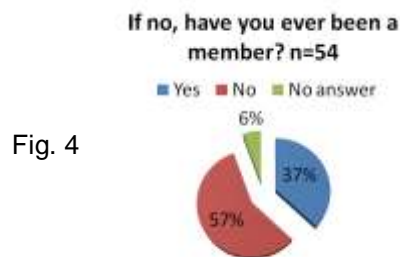
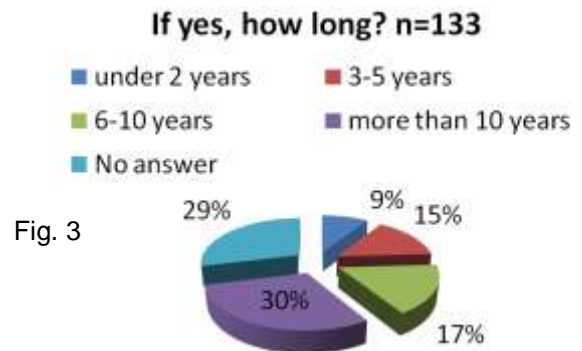
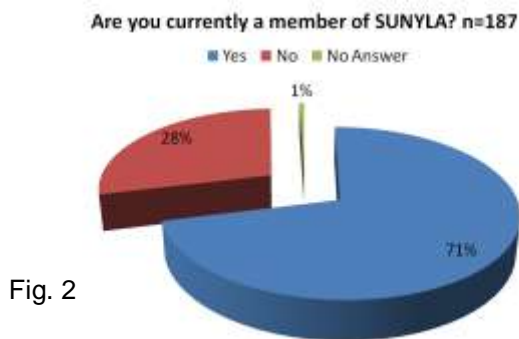
The questions asked data about members' employment and membership status; their insights into SUNYLA meetings and other events; the levels at which they participate in SUNYLA endeavors; their observations regarding communication and governance; and their suggestions for improvement of the organization. One hundred ninety two (192) surveys were completed. As often happens in data collection, there was some attrition in the final responses of a number of surveys; this attenuated the response rate on later questions.

The largest number of respondents were from comprehensive and community colleges, respectively, with other institutions represented as well. While membership data to are not immediately available, this distribution suggests a comparable reflection of SUNYLA membership. See Fig. 1



Fifty-one percent of respondents have worked for SUNY institutions for more than 10 years; twenty percent have worked for SUNY for 6-10 years; seventeen percent for 3-5 years; twelve percent of respondents report working for SUNY institutions for under 2 years.

Current SUNYLA members composed 71% of the respondents. Forty seven percent reported being SUNYLA members for more than 6 years. Of those who have never been members (n=54), 37% report having been members at one time, while 57% report never having been members. See figs. 2, 3, and 4.



When asked why non-members and former members stopped renewing their membership, several themes emerged in the responses:

1. **INDIFFERENCE:** no compelling reason to join, perceived lack of value in membership, “not getting around to it.”
2. **OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:** professional interests met sufficiently by other library organizations.
3. **EXCLUSION:** lack of an invitation or information; “not a librarian.”
4. **OTHER Issues:** pending retirement, travel issues, lack of institutional support

When asked at what levels they participate, responses reveal that many members have held several positions or participated in numerous formal activities within SUNYLA (or currently do so). Consider the following (N=133):

- **33 (25%) are involved (or have been involved) with 3 activities**
- **22 (17%) are involved (or have been involved) in 4 activities**
- **11 (8%) are involved (or have been involved) in 5 activities**
- **14 (11%) are involved (or have been involved) in 6 activities**
- **3 (2%) are involved (or have been involved) in 7 activities**
- **1 (< 1%) is involved (or has been involved) in 8 activities**

About 50% of the respondents have participated in some kind of SIG or committee; seventy percent have made a presentation at SUNYLA; these data attest to the popularity of the SUNYLA conference as an opportunity to network and to present one’s work (more on this later.)

While participation is quite high among respondents generally, participation drops off at higher leadership levels. For example, almost half of the respondents have not been a delegate; about half have served on a committee of some kind, while half have never done so. 78% have not chaired a committee of some kind; and 82% report never having served as an officer. While one expects the number of higher level leaders to be comparatively small, the data suggest that SUNYLA might seek prospective officers and committee chair talents from the ranks of delegates and committee members, though not exclusively from that pool. It is also significant that only 16% of respondents received SUNYLA funding of some kind, despite an apparent awareness of the opportunity. This suggests that more active promotion of this opportunity might not only lead to more participation, but more competition for it, and therefore, create an avenue conversation and development.

Overwhelmingly, the annual conference emerged as an important opportunity for information sharing and collegiality. The top reasons for attending were (1) that there were interesting/relevant presentations, (2) that they were outlets for continuing education and for networking, (3) its focus on SUNY issues, and (4) reasonable conference cost. However, responses suggest that a number of issues create competition for members’ attention. These include, but are not limited to: other organizations and events; workplace issues; and personal finances. While nearly 40% (70) of respondents intended to go to the 2008 conference as of December 2007, large numbers said they did not plan to attend or were uncertain, citing travel and funding issues most often. Many desired to see the conference program before making a decision. See figures 5 through 8.

### Membership in Other Professional Organizations

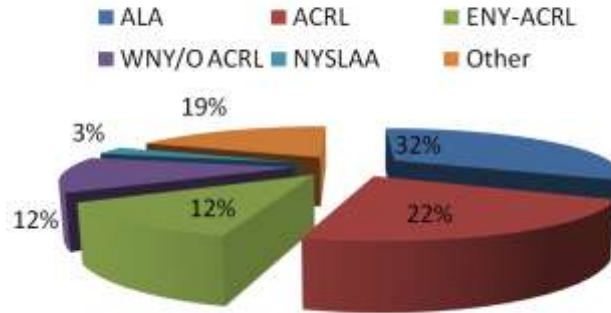


Fig. 5



Fig. 6. What conferences do you plan to attend in the next two years?

### Do you plan to attend in 2008?

■ Yes ■ No ■ Unsure ■ No answer

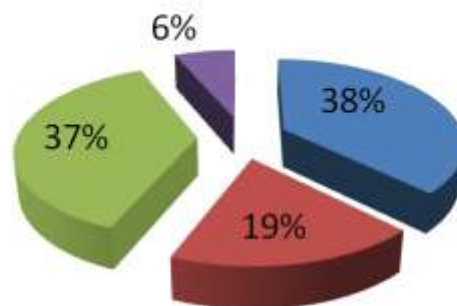
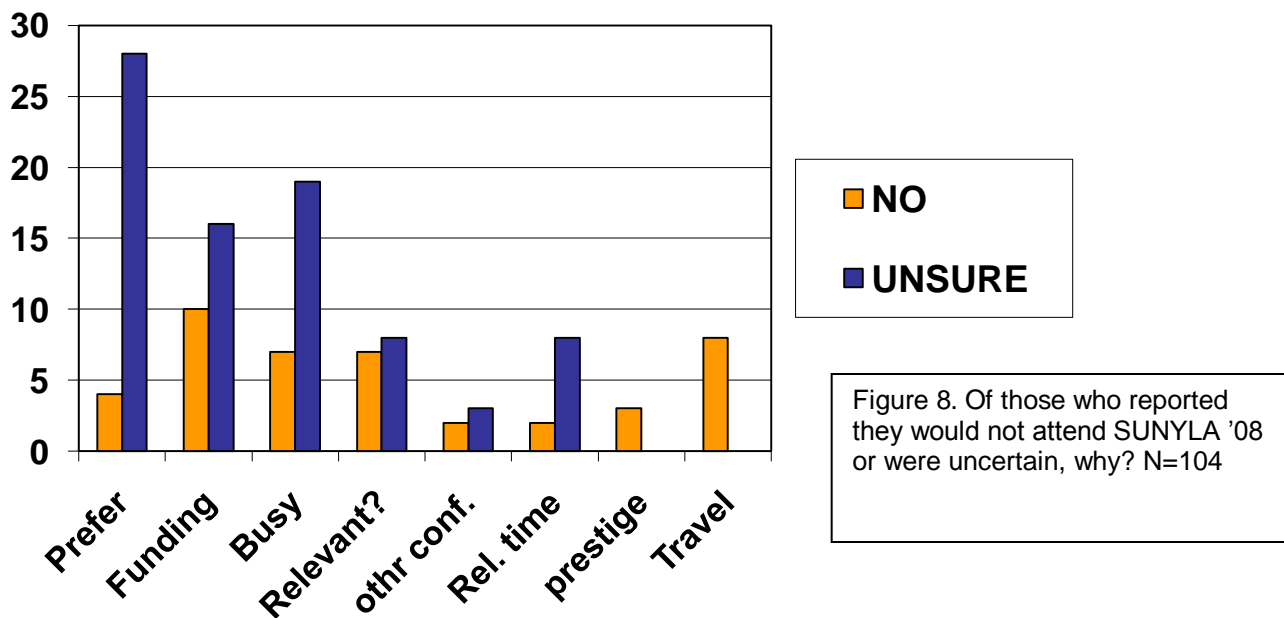


Figure 7. Do you plan to attend SUNYLA 2008?



The “Maybe” responses in fig. 8 indicate that attendees desire to know what kind of conference presentations and activities are on offer before they decide to go. This is made still more relevant in light of the number of “funding” and “I’m busy at work” responses.

Across the survey, respondents indicate an overwhelming appreciation of SUNYLA’s value as a vehicle for advocacy, as a networking forum and as a showcase. Suggestions for improvement are very diverse, with few patterns emerging. However, themes that suggest member participation fall into 5 categories:

- Money, Travel and Geography
- Quality of Annual Conferences
- Issues of SUNYLA's Relevance viz. opportunities to join and lead in various initiatives
- Attracting and orienting New Members, and general communication with members
- Locating and training prospective leaders

### MEOW's Recommendations

The recommendations listed below have been taken from the survey, wiki suggestions, and comments from the presentation given at the 2008 SUNYLA conference. MEOW members would like to emphasize that these are only recommendations: we urge SUNYLA's Executive Council to consider, reflect, and prioritize the ideas it deems most achievable in the short and long term.

In addition to the suggestions offered below, MEOW recommends that more meaningful membership data be collected, and that periodic assessments of SUNYLA initiatives and practices are undertaken in order to improve processes and plan effectively. MEOW recommends that there be some entity within SUNYLA charged with running assessments and crunching data when necessary, and that the current standing committees collect and reflect upon data relevant to their charges. It may be necessary to provide funding for some training in data collection, evaluation, reporting and planning. Present and future SUNYLA committees or workgroups should collect information that can be used to predict membership enrollment and inform strategic initiatives.

The following list of recommendations is divided into five areas:

- Money, Travel and Geography
- Quality of Annual Conferences
- Issues of SUNYLA's Relevance, opportunities to join and lead in various initiatives, general communication with members
- Welcoming New Members
- Locating and training prospective leaders

### **Money/Travel/Geography**

Many respondents posed the suggestion of SUNYLA working more closely with other library groups as a solution to constraints of time and distance. Regional ACRL and NYLA conferences appear to be the most popular among SUNYLA members; perhaps we should look into working more closely with them. At very least, there should be a more visible SUNYLA presence at such events. For example, this could be accomplished by having a SUNYLA information booth in the vendor area. The Membership Development Committee is currently working with NYLA to pilot some joint initiatives; however, their recruitment endeavors will require visibility and name recognition. In addition, many respondents talked about how other organizations compete with SUNYLA for attention and conference participation (and the resulting registration dollars.) If enacted, some of the following recommendations can offer solid reasons to choose SUNYLA over other organizations' events:

- Provide **financial support for research** and presentations (i.e., travel). Showcase presentations that resulted from such funding in order to encourage future participation.
- **Sponsor travel and conference attendance**, and make these opportunities more visible to members and potential members.
- Sponsor **regional professional development workshops**. SUNYLA should make an effort not only to produce topically-relevant regional events, but to use these forums to promote membership and leadership opportunities, and to learn about issues that affect members in geographically remote locations e.g., why they choose to participate in SUNYLA, and at what level.
- Make SUNYLA more visible, in more places: i.e., mailings and e-mails, brochures, reports by members sent to other library organizations. Develop a SUNYLA presence at other library organization events e.g., at regional ACRL meetings. Use these endeavors to promote membership and leadership opportunities within SUNYLA.
- Make an effort to target the downstate area, which historically has low membership and low levels of participation **yet** great potential.
- Consider balancing the locations of LiSUG and SUNYLA conferences in geographically distinct areas of the state.

### **Quality of Annual Conference**

SUNYLA annual conferences are often reinvented “from scratch”: planning committees and local arrangements groups often operate without the benefit of the best practices and wisdom gained from organizing past SUNYLA events. While boxes of documents are available to conference organizers, the documents contained therein are often poorly organized or obsolete, and they do not reflect the many electronic documents produced during the planning stages. SUNYLA should collect and make available [relevant] collective knowledge that is easily accessible and available from year to year—best practices, planning diaries, etc. Other recommendations include:

- Put together a standing conference planning committee with alternating/staggered terms; separate out overall conference responsibilities from local arrangements, which would change yearly based on the location of the annual conference. Include past officers and past conference chairs on current conference planning committees.
- Institute “defined tracks” and use some sort of identifiers, such as color-coded name tags, so that presenters and presentations of interest to different tracks are easily identified.
- Include presentations from more diverse (non-librarian) perspectives.

### **Issues of SUNYLA's Relevance, opportunities to join and lead in various initiatives, general communication with members**

In order to increase membership, it is vital that potential members view SUNYLA as relevant and worthwhile. Some suggestions that may help to make the organization's potential clearer to both current and prospective members include:

- Document SUNYLA's structure through an organization chart that captures not only the internal structure of SUNYLA but its relationship to other essential groups such as OLIS, SCLD and CPD. A visual aid such as this allows anyone who looks at the organization to see unique, SUNY-specific relationships and information channels that they can utilize and value as a SUNYLA member.
- Explore ways to make meetings more effective:
  - Improve the flow of Executive Council meetings e.g., by employing a facilitator. SUNYLA executives could receive training in meeting facilitation; additionally, SUNYLA might require facilitation experience as a pre-requisite for becoming a SUNYLA officer.
  - Reconsider the value of face-to-face council meetings and the processes surrounding them, such as timely distribution of reports before meetings, whether reports should be read at meetings, and even how reports and minutes are distributed to the membership at large.
  - Solicit ideas and best practices from current council members on how to improve the effectiveness and productivity of meetings.
- Create a Vision and Mission statement for SUNYLA, and use it to promote the organization’s uniqueness and desirability.
- Develop additional committees with clear charges and timelines for acting; make the process transparent and the reporting of committee activities a part of their charge. An increase in committees and participation within will provide more service opportunities for members and potential members.
- Hold open elections for committee chairs, and finding ways to communicate that a position is open. Make the entire process for joining committees and becoming a committee chair more transparent.
- Invite union representatives to attend Council meetings (i.e., NYSUT which represents all SUNY units).
- Develop a marketing & promotion plan for the changes SUNYLA implements. Inform members that the SUNYLA membership is listening to their feedback. Strategize and announce when changes will be made and how and when they will be measured.
- Consider retaining a professional promotion & marketing firm for advice.
- Restructure committees to be more nimble and more accountable. Create term limits for committee chairs; create sunset provisions for committees i.e., committees must be renewed after a defined period of time.

## Welcoming New Members

- Offer a **complimentary first year membership**. Consider conference discounts for first-time attendees.
- Make new members aware of **SUNYLA grants** and other funding opportunities.
- **Compile and distribute “Welcome” documents** to new members. Discover and implement the best way to learn about new hires in SUNY libraries (e.g., from delegates or via another mechanism) and distribute New Member information (e.g., through delegates, through direct mail.)
- **Provide training to delegates**. Training programs may provide incentives for delegate participation and make these positions more desirable. It also results in documentation on which delegates can rely for information about SUNYLA. As a clearer understanding of SUNYLA should result from training, delegates should become: better informed; better able to promote the organization’s opportunities to colleagues; and more likely to seek out higher leadership roles.
- **Institute cluster meetings**, more regional activities, and other work-related/social opportunities where members can network and collaborate on a more regional level.
  - The Working Group for Information Literacy (WGIL), formerly the Library Instruction Committee (LIC), is in the process of restructuring its organization, including the inclusion of a professional development sub-committee that plans to develop more regional meetings/activities tied to library instruction issues.
- **Actively collect decision-focused data** about members, including, but not limited to: gender and ethnicity, employment status (e.g., retired, part-time, student) years on the job, predicted retirement date, age range, whether conferences are funded by the member’s institution or paid out-of-pocket, degrees obtained, special skills, committee interests, and even hobbies. These data will help SUNYLA better understand and define itself, develop strategic plans, locate individuals with specific interests and talents, and locate future leaders.

## Locating and training prospective leaders

Some of the suggestions in this section tie into the section above on "Issues of SUNYLA's Relevance." Part of this is a broader problem of initially getting people into leadership roles. Recommendations include:

- Committee timelines and term limits should be defined so that no one is "stuck" indefinitely. Perhaps adopt a Chair/Vice Chair formula so that there is always an officer in training.
- People should be cultivated to serve and SUNYLA should be on the lookout for specialized skill sets. It might be a good idea to keep a list of potential committee workers with specialized skills, such as data analysis, compiled by polling skills when people join the organization. Perhaps the membership form could include a section where members self-identify their specialized skills. This could make it easier to involve newer members who may find it intimidating to volunteer "cold turkey."
- Recognize that committees don't just happen, but have to be part of the larger framework of the organization.
- Put past leaders to work. Create formal and informal roles for the past President and other past leaders e.g., on advisory or nominating committees, special projects, etc. Place a past conference committee chair on the current conference committee to offer advice and continuity.
- Create staggered terms for officers.

*This version completed September 16, 2008.  
sjm marca mio*

**MEOW Notes:** Did break-out groups for each issue of recommendations section. Groups brainstormed ideas, focusing on what is feasible. Not on what is cheap and quick, just feasible. Reported back as follows.

Recommendation 1 (Money, Travel & Geography): outreach to directors regarding meeting attendance; regional training, including mentoring activities; mentoring students/new librarians; move Council meetings around more; use Internet2 capabilities at different campuses to allow virtual meetings; planning further ahead for Conference locations; increase funding from SUNYLA for Conference and Council meetings for delegates; schedule Council meetings further ahead, including location.

Recommendation 2 (Quality of Annual Conferences): have IT Committee investigate technological ways to share conference planning info from year to year; have last 3 years of Conference chairs serve formally as advisory group for next conference—they would be good choices to discuss/decide how many years of planning info should ‘travel’ from conference to conference before being moved to archives; discount structure for conferences needs to be reworked; put job titles and/or tracks on conference name badges-- recommend info lit (instruction, reference), systems, tech services, emerging technologies, archives/special collections, outreach/community relations; solicit topic ideas f/ membership in advance of CFP; get more professor (non-librarian) presentations, but not so much with publishers/vendors; new member pre-conference and event—more than an orientation session.

Recommendation 3 (Issues of SUNYLA's Relevance, opportunities to join and lead in various initiatives, general communication with members): charge working group to look at mission statement—should include newer members in this; better document SUNYLA's structure; a “What does SUNYLA mean to me?” list for marketing use; marketing! – who within SUNY have skills/interest in this area; maybe give funding support for mission/vision group activities; have committee meetings at annual conference.

Recommendation 4 (Welcoming New Members): complimentary 1st year membership tied with 1st year discount to Conference (will mean changing dues structure); an up-to-date membership list; members buddy/mentor with new folks on their campus; don't think directors will let us know about new members/hires, needs to be done by delegates; active data collection is a no brainer—must do.

Recommendation 5 (Locating and training prospective leaders): money for travel for officers and maybe chairs and delegates—perhaps a flat amount, perhaps SUNYLA activities only, how does this relate to grants program, etc.; mentoring helps to id people who are potential leaders and to foster a positive relationship between them and the organization, maybe incentivize mentoring with money, certificates; collect information about members as non-obnoxiously as possible, maybe a checklist with another box on membership form; clarify structure of organization and committees, needs to be more transparency, maybe some guidelines for operation; more communication, open communication.

Further discussion: (R.Leon) Have travel funding available per year for delegates. Discussion of what money is/is not currently available/appropriated. (E.McCabe) Add bibliographers to list for badges. (B.Grimes) An electronic manual for conference planning. (B.Drew) Don't call regular meetings “Executive Board” meetings, it's misleading and confusing, these are actually Council meetings. (S.Macaluso) This needs to be an even more open process going forward. Noted that some of these ideas are mandates, some are process changes. Motion to accept report. Seconded. Approved unanimously.

## **5.2 SAC – Dave Ritchie**

### **Report to SUNYLA from the SUNYConnect Advisory Council – September 10, 2008**

**SUNYLA Issues** - First, thanks to those several librarians who responded to my query “What should SAC be aware of?” a few days before the Sept. 4th SAC meeting. Results are as follows. Carey Hatch said that he would follow up with Ex Libris on progress in enhancing the bib info passed from the Union Catalog to the SUNY Borrowing request form (per Mila Su). In the meeting, I asked that the issues of access to Aleph tables (Bill Drew and Marc Bayer) and Aleph priority levels within Footprints (Bill Drew) be taken under advisement by OLIS staff. The request to emphasize usability in resource consideration by SAC (Angela Weiler), the SCLD-SAC relationship, the OLIS-SAC relationship (Joe Petrick), and the questions about what philosophy, vision, and

budget directions SAC will be following for SUNYConnect raised by Andy Perry and Joe Petrick will be brought up in the longer-view discussion of the year's issues at next month's meeting. Look for some response after that.

**SCLD Report** – There will be a SUNY Council of Library Directors meeting on the “library of the future” concept on September 24, and a SCLD Council meeting this Friday, Sept. 14.

**Oracle Business Intelligence Enterprise Edition software** – Carey Hatch reported that there is a SUNY-wide contract for this software, which could theoretically amass data into data warehouses from many different data sources to help decision-making. Groups are being formed to develop “dashboard”-like front ends for utilities which deans, directors of libraries, and higher administrators could use to sift through the data. He said the first area of data to be addressed will be Banner data; 2<sup>nd</sup> is Institutional Research data; 3<sup>rd</sup> is community college data; 4<sup>th</sup> is library data.

**Aleph Update** – Coming after finishing the v.18 upgrade (hurrah!), this report presented what were called facts and assumptions:

- the majority of OLIS personnel resources are committed to Aleph
- that in April, SCLD proposed that OLIS both (a) provide less Aleph support and (b) make Aleph Managed Services available to additional campuses seem to conflict as far as an overall direction
- that OLIS staff's Aleph support is more appropriately characterized as training, consulting, or outsourcing.

Included were a list of actions which are designed to relieve OLIS staff of Aleph responsibility for 20% of their time (=one day per week) so that they can take on other non-Aleph tasks which might be more useful. These actions include:

- no more upgrades for Aleph (software and hardware), and no planning for upgrades
- no Union Catalog upgrade (right now it's at v.16)
- no Media Booking implementation nor support (campuses will have to contract directly with Ex Libris for anything to do with this module)
- no shared or centralized Authority Control (however, Binghamton's table setups – yeah, Sandy! – will be put in place for all the shared-server campuses)
- move to common environments for all shared-server campuses
- for Non-Managed-Services campuses, OLIS will triage and suggest they contact Ex Libris
- OLIS will do a support review to see whether more Managed-Services campuses could be supported.

Afterward, it was not clear to me whether these actions were being proposed to SAC at this meeting, or OLIS was simply telling SAC what it was going to do. There was little reaction around the table except from me. I was told that there had been a vote that there would be no further upgrades, but I have been unable to find a record of that vote. I have asked questions about what will take the place of the back-end database for any future ILS, but the response early this year from Carey Hatch was that the future was murky.

Carey Hatch went on to indicate that OLIS is discussing what non-Aleph activities they can focus on – Search and Discovery, Course Management System content (E-reserves, library links, etc.), DSpace interfaces and hardware, Resource Sharing (possible incentives, facilitation, data analysis, etc.), OLIS internal services (using Angel for self-paced instruction, etc.).

**SUNY Borrowing Task Force** – Carey presented the group's final report, which recommended that

- (a) an annual assessment be provided at the SCLD and SUNYLA annual conference;
- (b) that ongoing governance devolve to SAC as part of its SUNYConnect oversight;
- (c) that there is no need for OLIS to create any direct support structure for Illiad (which is labeled as the “SUNY Borrowing Environment” in the diagram);
- (d) that OLIS's role is seen to be supporting workshops at LiSUG & SUNYLA, partnering with 3R's councils on training, analyzing data, assessment, advocating the “SUNY Collection”, monitoring issues with LAND and campus constraints, and guiding SUNY libraries to use the various existing support organizations (listing LiSUG/SUNYLA, Illiad's listserv and website, ShareILL, Atlas, OCLC, Nylink, and IDS);
- (e) that the reward for the SUNY Borrowing initiative should be the building of a more diverse collection in SUNY, with (1) SUNYConnect providing coordination and incentives for developing new strategies to carry this out, and (2) a focus group being formed (representing ILL, collections, acquisitions, and administration) to determine methods for developing this initiative, emphasizing thinking differently, focusing on libraries willing to implement new strategies quickly (i.e., not all libraries), and creating flexible structures. [A collection-building SWAT team!--dr] .

**E-Resources Update** – John Schumacher's report included that

- the Team is finalizing a list of potential additional resources in case additional funds become available,
- a year-by-year price model for Serials Solution's 360Search was shown to SAC members; it is stated that this model will require most libraries to participate to get the price significantly below the retail price; 15 SUNY libraries already purchase 360Search; various types of presentations are planned by SS to demo the product, with the first being at the LiSUG Conference, October 10
- EBSCO agreement expires in 2009 – ongoing survey has 49 libraries' responses so far
- Web of Science trial period has been set for September 8-November 8.

**Shared Services Task Force** - Maureen Zajkowski presented that group's final report, which noted that phase 1 recommendations had been delivered in 2007, and summarized the phase 2 tasks (Feb. 08) as:

- not possible to review the Ex Libris preferred consortial architecture (= 56 campuses on one shared bib file on one server) or the feasibility for SUNY, as Ex Libris declined to supply details and announced its emphasis would be spent toward the post-Aleph next generation ILS
- moved to Shared Search & Discovery Committee the task to recommend procedures for tighter integration of local catalogs, Union Catalog, electronic resources, patron info
- concluded that LiSUG should do more with reports as their recommendation for improved Aleph reporting
- did not address recommending a process for ongoing assessment of shared services, citing the SCLD proposals that OLIS both (a) provide less Aleph support and (b) make Aleph Managed Services available to additional campuses.

**University Centers' ScienceDirect working group** – Carey reported that the group has a meeting with Elsevier coming up.

**Discussion with David Penniman, Nylink, on increased price for minimum membership level allowing LAND participation** – Penniman admitted that he had laid out the changes to the Nylink board as a plan to implement, not giving a lot of options; that the changes were not driven by anticipated changes at OCLC (e.g.,

OCLC competing with its regional networks by offering its products & services directly to libraries) nor to increase revenue – and stated that in fact Nylink had lost revenue with the changed membership structure. Penniman said that 11 SUNY libraries had been grandfathered for a year at the lowest previous membership level (which included the right to participate in LAND) because Nylink recognized that insufficient notice was given and that the \$1500/year membership increase would be a hardship for those libraries. The conversation devolved to Penniman asking what additional services Nylink could offer in the “standard” membership to make it more worthwhile and desirable, while SAC members wanted to know why Nylink was forcing SUNY libraries into more expensive membership levels just to be allowed to pay for the LAND delivery service, and Nylink was losing money doing it! There was no resolution.

**Revised Financial Model** – SAC proposed a revised financial model for funding SUNYConnect initiatives to SCLD in April, to take effect with the 2009-10 fiscal year, giving opportunities for survey feedback and holding conference calls over the summer. Enough questions were raised about the methodology for apportioning costs, the equity of the OLIS contribution, and discrepancies between supposedly similar campuses in the April draft that OLIS has worked on further simplifying the apportioning of costs and using campus FTE's for determining the OLIS contribution. SUNY community colleges have always been allocated a compensation in apportioning the SUNYConnect e-resources contract costs across the campuses, and that continues in the newly-revised draft to be presented to SCLD members at their fall meeting on September 24, with a SCLD vote on adoption put off until December.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Ritchie  
SUNYLA representative to SAC  
SUNY Cortland

## 7. New Business

### 7.1 NYSHEI – Jason Kramer

J.Kramer, NYSHEI's Executive Director, spoke about the goals and purpose of NYSHEI and the benefits they offer to member libraries. Spoke quite a bit about NYSHEI's advocacy for academic and research libraries, in particular the ARIA initiative. ARIA is a piece of legislation that would provide \$15million annually for databases statewide. Jason would like to spread the word about NYSHEI and is looking for more ways to ‘sell’ academic libraries as key to NY's economic growth. More information about NYSHEI, ARIA, and how we can get involved is available at: [www.nyshei.org](http://www.nyshei.org). M.Hebert encouraged Jason to join the SUNYLA-L list. (R.Leon) Is there something soon that we can help with? (J.Kramer) Sign up for their email list via website. (B.Drew) Reminder to be careful with regard to campus email address. No lobbying of state officials allowed from said address.

### 7.2 Eligibility criteria for Chancellor's Awards – Joe Petrick

Question was raised at University Faculty Senate about people on professional lines competing for Excellence in Librarianship award. What are the criteria? What should they be? General discussion followed. (J.Petrick) Conflicted but basically against this idea because it would endorse hiring librarians in professional lines instead of faculty in violation of the policies of the Board of Trustees. (M.Hebert) Conflicted. This reminds of the discussions about rank equity versus calendar equity. Hard to define. (B.Drew) Maybe could look at what people are doing rather than title. (M.Hebert/J.Petrick) Probably won't work. (E.McCabe) Different requirements in professional lines vs. tenure-track faculty lines. Not sure we want to cross those lines. There is an award for professionals. (R.Leon) There are larger philosophical issues. Highly resistant to muddy-ing the waters, especially since they barely acknowledge we're faculty to begin with. (B.Drew) Cautioned against assuming that all faculty librarians have same requirements. Every campus is different. (J.Petrick) Librarians as professionals have to

compete more broadly, against entire professional staff on campus. (E.McCabe) Noted that there are several awards that everyone on campus competes for. Logan called for a motion. Motion was made to not recommend changes to the current requirements. Seconded. Passed with 2 abstentions, no objections.

### 7.3 Action items

- Task force on Library of the Future: J.Petrick recommended that Dan put out a call for Task Force participants. Of those present, J.Petrick, B.Drew, A.Perry, S.Macaluso, L.Rath, and M.Hebert expressed interest. S.Perry requested clarification from Dan on his “especially serials” point. Why especially serials?
- IT Committee: B.Drew/IT committee charged with moving the SUNYLA-L list to ITEC. (J.Schumacher) Will the archives move, too? (B.Drew) They can’t be moved and only include the last 2 years anyway.
- LIC: Logan ok’d Kim Davies Hoffman as new chair. Endorsement of name change needs to wait until another meeting.
- Prof. Dev. Comm. budget request, \$2400 for grants. Approved. (E.Hart) Who gets grants and for what? (A.Davies) Members. To/for: go to conferences, hold professional development events on their campus, seed money to bring a training event to campus or region, research projects. Guidelines are on website. (E.Hart) Can these go to other committees? (D.Coleman) No, that should be a budget request to SUNYLA. (K.Hoffman) How has the participation been the last couple of years? How many grants given? Would like to make sure that there’s a little more marketing because professional development is one of the issues that came out in the MEOW report. (A.Davies) That’s an issue that’s come up in discussions within the committee as well. (E.Hart) Could we increase that amount of money at some point? These grants are a selling point of membership. (L.Rath) This is just an encumbrance. It can be changed. (D.Coleman) Does foresee that it will grow in future.
- MDC: New roster of members online. Delegates will be able to look up current members for their campus. It links to a spreadsheet via Google Docs. Can contact L.Rath or E.Hart with questions and problems. (E.McCabe) Can we give access to the Publications Committee to help with newsletter distribution? (E.Hart) Yes. (B. Drew) Does it have emails in it? Would be useful for getting people on/off Council listserv. (K.Hoffman) Will we be preserving old data for tracking purposes? (E.Hart) Definitely. (C.Maier) Question regarding printout because of questions about processing memberships. (E.Hart) Currently backed up processing memberships. (L.Rath) Asked group if the new online membership form is working ok. (B.Drew) How about doing electronic payment?
- Publications Comm.: Delegate names or generic on packets of newsletters? Some discussion. Decided to keep delegate names and maybe add something to the label/envelope that says ‘SUNYLA’ to facilitate delivery should that delegate change without the committee knowing.
- Publications Comm.: How many newsletters to each campus? Print vs. electronic. Some discussion. Decided to do 2 each for now and include an insert (like a magazine renewal card) in the next batch that delegates could send back with their campus’s preferences.
- Formation of mission statement workgroup: Discussion. (J.Petrick) Do we really need this? (S.Macaluso) Yes. Mission statements are a selling tool. Building of them is a community building tool. They are easier to change than bylaws. (B.Drew) Vision statements are often advertising slogans. Mission is what we want to accomplish, an interpretation of all this other stuff (objectives, committee charges, etc.). (A.Davies) Noted that mission can be a very powerful statement about the promise you make as an organization, and the vision can be your dream. These are wonderful marketing and PR tools. (W.Ackerman) Did a survey of the members several years ago about what pieces of information they couldn’t find/thought was missing on our website—mission statement was high on that list; it’s something people look for. (E. Wilburn) As a new member, wondered “what do they do?” Looked at website and still wondered. (S.Macaluso) Noted that this effort is a great opportunity for longtime and newer members to work together. (B.Drew) Resolution to form an ad hoc committee to work on mission & vision statement. Passed unanimously. (A.Davies) Up to Dan to appoint/put out call for said group. Members present expressing an interest: W.Ackerman, B.Drew, E.Hart, M.Devereaux.

- Federated searching/SAC report: (B.Drew) Why didn't SAC feel they should put any money into 360Search? (D.Ritchie) SAC did discuss money issues and decided, for now at least, on campus funding. SAC's money is tied up in existing contracts now. (B.Drew) SAC needs to be more innovative, take a risk. (J.Schumacher) Brings up issue of governance across SUNY libraries. SAC not really empowered to make some of these decisions, more an issue for SCLD. (B.Drew) Someone needs to take responsibility. Can't be just talk. Most of the members of SAC are members of SCLD. (D.Ritchie) Will bring comments and discussion to next SAC meeting. (B.Drew) Did SAC accept OLIS not offering media booking support/implementation? and why? (D.Ritchie) Correct. Not happy about it personally. OLIS sees this as a necessary decision as they move forward. (L.Rath) Is there anything *we* can do about media booking? (A.Perry) LiSUG could try to tackle it. Will have to petition to have some tables unlocked.
- Question from R.Leon re: OLIS: What now for OLIS since v.18 is done? (J.Schumacher) Directive for everyone to carve out 20% of time to work on new stuff. Business intelligence/data mining, online training for Aleph, etc.
- D.Ritchie, UUP professional development program (Calendar-Year Employee Leave): provides salary replacement money to campus, next deadline April 1 (followed by Aug. 1). Allows 12-month employees some release time to work on professional development, funding for classwork/research, etc. toward continuing appointment. Campuses will be able to get around 40% match "due to budget constraints." Dave inquired whether state-op folks knew of any applications that had been stopped at the campus level for this year. Please let him know. (S.Perry) For individual development grants already approved, when is that money coming? (J.Schumacher) Any day now.

Next meeting probably Nov. 14 or 21, location TBD