

**FINAL Approved Minutes
RBMS Diversity Committee
ALA Annual Meeting | Washington, D.C.
Sunday, June 27, 2010, 8:00-10:00 AM
Renaissance Washington, Meeting Room II**

Members in attendance: Athena Jackson (Co-Chair), Louisiana State University; Katharine Chandler, Free Library of Philadelphia; Helice Koffler, University of Washington; and Anne Marie Lane, University of Wyoming

Members absent: Verónica Reyes-Escudero (Co-Chair 2008-2010); Daniel J. Slive (Ex-officio member)

Visitors: Melissa Conway, University of California, Riverside (Executive Committee Member-at-Large, Diversity Committee liaison); Mark Danley, University of Memphis; Katie Henningsen, University of Kentucky; Michelle Mascaro, University of Akron (Incoming member); Meg Meiman, University of Delaware (Incoming member); Fernando Peña, Grolier Club (former Co-Chair); Michael Taylor, Louisiana State University (Incoming member); Christina Thompson, Simmons College (Incoming member); and Deborah Whiteman, Santa Clara University (Incoming member)

Introduction and selection of recorder:

- Helice Koffler volunteered to record the minutes.
- Special thanks to Verónica for her service as Chair (and will now be serving as a member) and Anne Marie who is cycling off of the Committee.
- In addition to gaining several new members (many of whom were present at the meeting), Athena mentioned that the Diversity Committee will also have a virtual intern, Lisa Tafoya, whose first official role is to be the moderator of the Committee's ALA Connect presence.

Review and approval of minutes

The minutes from the Midwinter 2010 meeting were approved unanimously.

Creating Committee Historical document

- Committee agreed to the creation of a historical document.
- With documents gathered from past chairs, Athena will create the portion relating to the early history of the committee. Katharine will compile and edit the document as a whole. She will post it on ALA Connect for input by other committee members.

Diversity recruitment

- The Toolkit is available online. Committee will coordinate (via ALA Connect) a schedule for checking links and updating any statistics found on TK.
- Outreach has begun to ACRL REDC – where the chair, Trevor Dawes, has agreed to work with RBMS Diversity to bring them into the Diversity outreach initiatives throughout ACRL.
- Committee will begin a working bibliography for access to relevant articles regarding Diversity in our field.
- Committee will begin to explore ways to get involved in conferences related to Diversity in librarianship (e.g., 2012 Joint Conference of Librarians of Color: to which we've been invited to participate)

- Committee supported Athena beginning contact with M&PD chair, Katie Carr, to see if they are willing to perform another survey of the Section. If so, the Committee offers to assist in creating the survey in an effort to reflect any updates with regard to diversity in our field.

Preconference update – Jackson

The Diversity Committee sponsored a seminar at the RBMS preconference, “Recruiting Members of Underrepresented Groups to the Profession.” A nice crowd attended, and after they engaged in a healthy dialogue regarding outreach and cultivating diverse professionals in our field.

Scholarship Committee representative update – Jackson (for Slive)

Dan Slive was formally thanked for work as committee liaison. 41 applications were reviewed and 19 scholarships were awarded. Of these awards, all 6 applicants who self-identified as being members of under-represented groups received funding.

Future diversity-related conference programming

- Committee will continue to consider seminar proposals borne from diversity-related issues, as well as take on new proactive measures by identifying existing programming for Preconferences that may lend themselves to including a diversity focus within the context of a segment’s given theme. Basically, we agreed it is time to blend diversity issues into programming more integrally.
- July 30th is the deadline for getting a draft or some sort of outline for a seminar proposal.

Liaising to other committees

- Committee members are encouraged to liaise with other RBMS committees and other organizations. July 30th the deadline for letting Athena know if there are specific committees with which members wish to work informally.
- Anne Marie mentioned the Diversity and Outreach Fair she had attended that was sponsored by the Ethnic & Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table (EMIERT), another important ALA group with which the committee could work more closely.

Other Business

See below.

Announcements

No further announcements. The meeting was adjourned at 10:03.

Submitted by,
Helice Koffler