

Draft Minutes of the RBMS Publications Committee Meeting

1:30 p.m., Saturday, 28 June 2008, Disneyland Hotel, Anaheim, California

Attendees: James Ascher, Terry Belanger, Katherine Carr, Steven Cox, Christian Dupont, Sarah Fass, Hjordis Halvorson, Jason Kovari, William La Moy (chair), Christine Megowan, Richard Noble, Leigh Anne Palmer, Rochelle Pienn, Jessica Pigza, Martha Repp, and Christopher Smith

The attendees introduced themselves and confirmed e-mail contact information for William La Moy's records. Jessica Pigza was selected to record the minutes, and the minutes of the previous meeting (24 June 2007) were reviewed and approved.

Terry Belanger and Christian Dupont brought the following new business to the committee and requested its advice on how to proceed. In keeping with the fiftieth anniversary of the section, there is an expectation that a commemorative volume should be published in conjunction with the 2009 preconference. This publication would draw upon the work being done for the exhibition at the University of Virginia on the section's history, but it would ideally include additional elements.

Suggested items included lists of the titles of preconferences, meeting locations, section chairs, officers, and major speakers. David Stam was named as a possible essayist. Marjorie Wynne's review of the section's first meeting was also mentioned for inclusion.

Terry Belanger cited the Rare Book School address book as an example of a possible format for such a publication. The suggested print run would be a minimum of five hundred copies, but ideally this would be larger in order to allow for other uses. The question of funding would need to be addressed.

Terry Belanger stated that such a printing job might cost about five thousand dollars. The committee agreed that there should be a concerted effort to have the publication printed in Charlottesville or its environs.

Individuals who may become involved in this endeavor include Kenneth Giese and Barbara Paulson (the University of Virginia exhibition curators), Elizabeth Johnson and Daniel Slive (both of whom are on the section's history subcommittee), and Arvid Nelsen (who has been gathering key factual details on RBMS history). The need for a general editor was discussed. It was agreed that the committee wishes to have a part in organizing and facilitating the production of this volume.

Richard Noble suggested that the Publications Committee consider taking on the task of managing the publication of the list of submissions to the Leab competition concerning library exhibition catalogs and the actual award certificates. He explained that the Exhibition Awards Committee would continue to provide the content, but that, under this new arrangement, the

Publications Committee would develop templates for the production of both the list of the entrants and the award certificates.

The committee is planning another iteration of *Your Old Books* in the form of a PDF file that could be downloaded from the Web site. It was generally agreed that it should be designed for paper of a standard size.

It was reported that E. C. Schroeder still has perhaps five hundred copies of the brochure form of *Your Old Books* stored at Yale. He will continue to mail copies to interested parties who are prepared to cover the shipping costs.

Sarah Fass offered to contact the ABAA to find out what its brochure needs are.

With respect to the RBMS Web activities, James Ascher and Christopher Smith reported that, with the help of a small team of volunteers (Athena Jackson, Leigh Anne Palmer, and Shannon Supple), they have been busily converting legacy code to xhtml. The search box for thesaurus terms is now in place, and, since February 2008, they have been using Google analytics in order to track use of the site. The statistics reveal that most of the visitors arrive as a result of a direct Google search and that they look at more than one page while there. Most of the international visitors are from English-speaking locations, and the majority of the U.S. visitors are from the eastern states. *Your Old Books* is the page that receives the most visits.

Everett Wilkie, as well as others, expressed an interest in PDF versions of issues of the journal *RBM*. This would need to be negotiated with ACRL. Space on the server may be an issue, depending on how many back issues were to be made available through the site. The new editor could be charged with the task of discussing this possibility with ACRL. William La Moy agreed to inform the new editor of this suggestion.

The meeting concluded at 3:25 p.m.

William La Moy

Chair