

Draft minutes of the RBMS Publications Committee meeting
ALA midwinter conference, Saturday, 24 January 2009, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
Grand Hyatt (Gray's Peak), Denver, Colorado

Attendees: James Ascher, Katherine Carr, Deborah Cribbs, Hjordis Halvorson, William La Moy (chair), Kenneth Lavender, Christine Megowan, Arvid Nelsen, Richard Noble, Rochelle Pienn, Jessica Pigza, and Christopher Smith.

The attendees were asked to confirm 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 (28 June 2008) were reviewed and approved.

The commemorative keepsake volume to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the section in Charlottesville in 2009 was the primary topic for discussion. Terry Belanger, Christian Dupont, Elizabeth Johnson, Jeffrey Makala, Arvid Nelsen, and Daniel Slive have assembled documents and data to be included in the book. Arvid Nelsen will be composing some of the introductory matter.

Terry Belanger has examined the materials compiled thus far and has made some design and formatting suggestions. The challenge will be to create a truly attractive commemorative publication while also containing the costs involved. A Charlottesville printer may be selected for this volume.

Concerning the production of the publication, William La Moy reported that funding options would be discussed at the next Executive Committee meeting. ACRL will not be involved because of the timetable for the book. Donations will be solicited from both organizations and individuals.

James Ascher and Christopher Smith reported on recent Web developments. After the 2008 preconference, they received and published online supporting documentation from some of the presentations. History and Workshops sections have been added to the Web site. Other Web enhancements include a committee roster and a print style sheet for *Your Old Books*. (The style sheet allows page contents to be printed without the navigational sidebar and graphic header.) The Web editors are also exploring Web 2.0 potentialities and are working on various pilot projects.

Statistics reveal that visitations to the section's Web site remain steady. The editors wanted to communicate that more details on site use and page hits can be harvested; if any committee chair is interested in statistics from their area of the site, more information can be obtained by contacting the Web editors. Because Christopher Smith had a time conflict, James Ascher will announce the availability of these traffic statistics at Information Exchange.

A document in the form of frequently asked questions for people new to the profession is currently being drafted by the Membership and Professional

Development Committee. This will be added to the site in the next six months or so. The Web editors are also in the process of creating a manual for future Web editors to encourage a consistency of style during such transitions.

A follow-up discussion was held concerning Richard Noble's suggestion at the June 2008 meeting that the Publications Committee consider assuming responsibility for the publication of the list of submissions to the Leab exhibition award competition as well as the display cards and award certificates. It was agreed that such an arrangement would provide appropriate support for the Exhibition Award Committee's endeavors, and that it would also help insure some cohesiveness in the design schemes as well. The information will be ready to share in March or April when ACRL announces the winning entries. At that point, Richard Noble will send the data to William La Moy, who will oversee it through design and production. Richard Noble will also provide the same information to James Ascher and Christopher Smith for its incorporation into the Web site.

Formal thanks were offered to Arvid Nelsen for his compilation of the material for the commemorative keepsake volume and to Christopher Smith and his Web team for the design, content, and sleekness of the 2009 preconference site. A hearty appreciation for these efforts was expressed.

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

William La Moy
Chair