

MINUTES

(FINAL approved Feb. 1, 2011)

RBMS Publications Committee

American Library Association 2011 Midwinter Meeting

Saturday, January 8, 2011, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Cobalt 500. Hilton Bayfront. San Diego, California

Committee members in attendance: James P. Ascher, U. of Colorado, Boulder (Chair); Melissa Hubbard, Southern Illinois U. (Recorder); Elizabeth Call, Brooklyn Historical Society; Jeffrey Makala, U. of South Carolina (Member at Large); Christine Megowan, Loyola Marymount U.; Laila Miletic-Vejzovic, U. of Central Florida; Jason Kovari, U. of Mississippi (Ex-Officio, Asst. Web Editor); Beth Whittaker, U. of Kansas (Ex-Officio, Editor of RBM);

Guests in attendance: Will LaMoy, Syracuse U.; Melanie Meyers, Polytechnic Institute of New York U.; Garth Reese, U. of Idaho; Molly Schwartzburg, U. of Texas; Bruce Tabb, U. of Oregon

Approved action items in bold

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:35pm
2. Designation of a recorder: Melissa Hubbard
3. The online vote approving the minutes from the 2010 ALA Annual meeting was ratified
4. Report from chair
 1. There is now a Wikipedia article for RBMS (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rare_Books_and_Manuscripts_Section), thanks to Everett Wilkie and Christopher Cook
5. Reports from working groups and ex officio liaisons
 1. Web Team
 1. Jason Kovari reported on behalf of Shannon Supple, Web Editor.
 2. Experiments with Drupal, digress.it, and social media tools are continuing.
 3. The Web Team issued a survey regarding the section's use of rbms.info, which has led to consideration of options to change the navigation and design of the site, and has indicated the need to promote the use of the "share" button among the section. The survey is available on the RBMS.info website:
<http://rbms.info/committees/website/index.shtml>
 4. The complete report is available on ALA Connect:
<http://connect.ala.org/node/128145>
 2. Audio/Visual
 1. Melissa Hubbard reported that most sessions from the 2010 RBMS Preconference were recorded, and those recordings have been posted on rbms.info, along with several photographs from the Preconference
 2. Melissa Hubbard, with assistance from James P. Ascher, completed a survey of the Section's privacy and photographic documentation needs on behalf of the

Publications Committee. The survey showed a plurality of participating members were in support of posting images without prior permission, but a robust take-down policy. The whole report is available on ALA Connect: <http://connect.ala.org/node/112263>

3. News Editor
 1. James P. Ascher read the following on behalf of Ethan Henderson: "As News Editor, I continue to work with the Web Team to determine the most efficient and effective platform to broadcast the news of RBMS. We have been experimenting with a blog format that will be able to be fed through an RSS feed, and possibly, Twitter and Facebook. As most committee heads have been successful in transmitting the news about their proceedings, the News Editor will be looking for additional features to highlight online. Suggestions are most welcomed and encouraged."
4. Listserv
6. *RBM* options
 1. Discussion of the future of the future of *RBM* as a print publication and its relationship to the section was added to the agenda without objection at the request of Beth Whittaker.
 2. Whittaker reported that *College & Research Libraries* will begin publishing as an open access journal by April 2011, which may significantly change the situation for ACRL publications
 3. RBMS members have often suggested that it would be appropriate to allow RBMS members to select *RBM* as their ACRL membership benefit journal. Whittaker would like to explore this and other possible options for the future of *RBM* and its relationship to the Section
 - 4. The Committee will work with Whittaker to issue a survey to the Section about the future of *RBM*. Whittaker will seek input from her editorial board to inform the survey.**
7. Review of Publications Committee charge
 1. The Committee has been working on a revised draft of its charge on ALA Connect. **This work will continue, with Garth Reese coordinating the effort.**
8. Leab Awards website
 1. The Committee has been investigating the creation of a new website documenting the Leab Award winners. Omeka was initially chosen as the platform for this site, but work has stalled because of unanticipated complications.
 2. Molly Schwartzburg, incoming Chair of the Exhibits Committee, reports that an attractive site documenting the winners is still needed.
 - 3. The Committee is now considering using the current Leab Awards page for this purpose, adding images and bibliographic information for documentary purposes. Schwartzburg will discuss this option with the Exhibits Committee, and Publications will await further communication.**
9. Template for RBMS resolutions on rbms.info
 1. Chris Smith would like to make a template for RBMS resolutions posted on rbms.info for the sake of visual consistency. **The Committee approves of this**

plan, and anticipates reviewing Smith's work at the 2011 ALA Annual meeting.

10. News feed on rbms.info homepage
 1. The Web Team and the News Editor have created a feed for the rbms.info homepage that will pull information on news items directly from the News Editor's blog. **The Committee reviewed and approved this work.**
11. Listserv attachments
 1. On behalf of Everett Wilkie, James P. Ascher moved- "I move that item ' , other than files of the type doc, docx, or txt.' be inserted following item '6 Any message with an attachment.' in the RBMS Listserv Policies statement." (which is currently located at http://www.rbms.info/publications/discussion_list/index.shtml)
 2. **The Committee approved the motion.**
12. Preconference photograph procedures
 1. Melissa Hubbard brought up for discussion the report she and James P. Ascher issued- a survey of the Section regarding photographs taken at the RBMS Preconference. The Committee has discussed various options on ALA Connect. ACRL takes the view that allowing the Section to post photographs without explicit permission is best, as it is more likely to avoid legal complications associated with asking for explicit permission. **The Committee endorsed this option, with a "takedown" policy, and will propose collaborating with the 2011 Preconference Committee to the Executive Committee as follows- "The Publications Committee proposes to collaborate with the 2011 Preconference Committee and Web Team to manage taking photographs at the 2011 Preconference and posting them to the Section's Website with a robust takedown policy."**
13. *Your Old Books* pamphlets
 1. James P. Ascher reported that it is almost time to print new copies of *Your Old Books*. Although there is now a PDF version of use for reading rooms, thanks to Will La Moy, the four-color version is still needed as a promotional tool at Book Fairs and other events. Ascher reported on various price schemes and options.
 2. **The Committee will suggest smaller print runs to the Budget & Development Committee to be discussed at the 2011 ALA Annual meeting. In the meantime, Ascher will make initial contact with ABAA, ABEBooks, and Rare Book School about possible sponsorship of a print run.**
14. List of RBMS Publications and Standards
 1. **Elizabeth Call will work on creating an updated checklist of RBMS Publications and Standards for posting on rbms.info. The Committee endorses and will assist her work.**
15. Social media tools
 1. Discussion of the use of social media tools, such as Facebook and Twitter, was added to the agenda without objection. Jason Kovari reported that these tools are being used by the Section, but do not have significant readership at this point. The use of these tools as news sources will continue, but no further consideration of social media will be undertaken at this point.

16. The meeting adjourned at 3:30.