

Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section
Minutes of 2004-2005 Executive Board Conference Call Meeting
February 11, 2005, 3:00 p.m. EST

Present: Carole Hinchcliff, Chair; Michael Slinger, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect; Sally Wise, Immediate Past Chair; Suzanne Thorpe, Executive Board Member; Susan Lewis-Somers, Secretary/Treasurer.

1. Call to order – Carole Hinchcliff

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 EST.

2. Contact with HQ about membership roster

The Board discussed Susan's communication with Susan Fox over the problems she and others have been having in obtaining membership rosters from HQ. Susan agreed to send an email to Don Arndt, SIS Council Chair, and Nina Platt, our Executive Board liaison, to brief them on her communications with Susan Fox.

3. Committee business

Membership Committee

Carole wants to send personal notes to directors who are not SIS members to invite them to join. Sally will send the current roster of directors to Carole, who will compare it to the membership roster recently sent from HQ.

There was some discussion as to whether it would be better for Carole to send her letters now or to wait until the annual membership invoices are sent out in the spring. No decision was made.

Faculty Services Committee

All agreed that the funds requested for a faculty services survey should be granted.

CONALL/Mentoring Committee

Susan will call Marian Parker to see what the status of her report to the Board is. The report is to lay out a publicity plan for the grant approved by the Board last October. The SIS will need to publicize the grant no later than April.

Statistics Committee

Judith Wright is discussing with AALL the issue of vendors providing more meaningful user statistics. The creation of a task force might be warranted, to include the ALL-SIS

Online Vendors Committee, CRIV and others. Sally will contact Kim Clarke, chair of the Statistics Committee, to discuss the idea.

Program Committee

Michael will contact Carole about forming next year's committee and report back to the Board. Once the committee is in place, it can begin soliciting programs. Michael will contact Karen Douglas to see if her special committee has met to discuss how the programs are selected.

Library Visitation Committee

Michael will see if Rich Leiter will line up some academics in urban areas who might be interested in taking the initiative to contact firm librarians in their areas to pursue academic-firm partnerships. Michael will ask Rich to send an email to the chapter presidents asking for the names of librarians who might be interested in a library visitation program.

4. ALL-SIS Reception

On February 11, Carole spoke to Elizabeth Cadena, the Business Manager at St. Mary's about the plans for the ALL-SIS reception. Elizabeth has received menus from the University caterer, which her library is required to use. Carole reminded Elizabeth to calculate how much the buses will cost, and to allow for this in the \$18,000 from West.

5. ALL-SIS Business Meeting/Breakfast

Cindy Spohr of LexisNexis is still deciding on the menus for the breakfast. The SIS will need to guarantee to LexisNexis a certain number of attendees, so we must make sure to ask members to indicate on their registration forms whether they will be coming to the breakfast. Carole will send out a reminder to the list after the conference materials have gone out. She will also follow up with Cindy and Dan Martin and get attendance figures from HQ.

6. Status of Library Directors

Barbara Bintliff will represent AALL at the meeting of the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar this weekend in Salt Lake City. She will be allowed to speak on the issue of whether the ABA Standards regarding the status of academic library directors should be amended. Carole will ask her to write an article for the SIS newsletter about the issue.

7. SIS VIP Guest

All agreed that it would be good to try to invite a member of the ABA Council as our VIP guest. Carole will consult with Rita Reusch, Dan Freehling and/or Barbara Bintliff for suggestions as to whom we might invite.

8. SIS Blog

The use of a blog to serve as an ongoing newsletter was discussed. New articles could be mounted on the blog as they are ready, and a notice sent to the list to remind members to check out the latest posting. The existing paper newsletter could become an archival record.

Carole will contact Leah Sandwell-Weiss, chair of the Newsletter Committee, to discuss the idea and she will forward Diane Murley's email on blog pros and cons to Leah.

9. Next conference call

The next Board meeting will be held (tentatively) on Friday, April 22, 2005 at 3:00 EST.

7. Adjournment – Carole Hinchcliff

The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:00 EST.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Lewis-Somers, Secretary-Treasurer