

**OLA Leadership Retreat
August 17-19, 2020
Virtual Meeting**

Present via Zoom:

Elaine Hirsch (President), Katy Lasky (Vice President), Esther Moberg (Past President), Lori Wamsley (Treasurer), Laura Baca (Secretary), Jennifer Patterson (State Librarian), Kirsten Brodbeck-Kenney (ALA Representative), Shirley Roberts (Association Manager), Erin Wells (Outgoing PLD chair), Rachel Bridgewater (ACRL-OR), Candise Branum (ACRL-OR), Rodrigo Gaspar-Barajas (ORT), Elsa Loftis (Awards Chair), Emily O'Neal (TSRT), Holly Freewynn (Staff Training Round Table), Amy Mihelich (TSRT), Bruce Flath (IRRRT), Buzzy Nielsen (Legislative Committee, Parliamentarian), Bryce Kozla (CSD), Joanna Milner (RRT), Keli Yeats (OYAN), Lacey Legel (Incoming Conference Chair), Laura Kimberly (PLD), Liisa Sjoblom (Outgoing Conference Chair), Marci Ramiro-Jenkins (REFORMA, EDI Task Force), Rachel Timmons (OYAN), Rebecca Stoltz (Membership Committee), Roberta Richards (STRT), Sare Webster (SSD), Star Khan (member-at-large, REFORMA), Stephanie Goodwin (CSD), Sue Ludington (Legislative Committee), Susan Cackler (CSD), Susan Davis (CSD), Alma Plasencia (EDI), Arlene Weible (Incoming Vice President), Brad Engelbert (DIGOR), Kate Weber (OASL), Tracey Letmate (STRT), Amanda Dalton (Contracted Lobbyist), Nicole Crane (Dalton Advocacy), Lee Van Duzer (LRRT), Melissa Little (Leadership Committee), Deborah VanDetta (CSD), Angela Parsons (Incoming Secretary)

Monday, August 17th

Incoming President's Vision (Kate Lasky)

- Support EDI and anti-racism, including implementing the EDI Task Force's recommendations and carrying forward the planned 2020 conference theme
- Engage new members
- Update vision statement
- Support 2021 Library Legislative Day
- Conduct annual membership survey
- Increase fundraising revenue
- Success will be:
 - A more racially diverse association
 - Increased funding for school libraries and librarians
 - All library workers represented in OLA

Outgoing President's Reflection (Elaine Hirsch)

- Priorities were EDI, strategic planning, annual conference, Census 2020
- COVID-19 caused the cancellation of our annual conference
- Worked on statement to close libraries early in the pandemic, IFC recommendation on contract tracing, and statement against public library layoffs
- Created EDI Task Force who made recommendations to OLA

- Survey of membership to inform an updated strategic plan
- Difficult conversations, including one about an article published in the OLA Quarterly last fall. Hopefully these missteps and conversations contributed to learning and growth.
- OLAQ transitioned from Pacific University to OSU

Legislative Report (Buzzy Nielsen, Amanda Dalton)

- Advocating for:
 - Net neutrality & rural broadband/hotspots
 - Finding ways to strengthen school libraries
 - Funding for county law libraries
 - COVID-19 relief
- This year was a short session, but there've been 6 emergency meetings & 2 special sessions since then
- Participate in National Library Legislative Day
- Sue Ludington is the incoming chair

State Librarian's Report (Jennifer Patterson)

- Current year's budget cut by \$200,000. Ready to Read preserved. Money saved through vacancies, professional development cuts, etc.
- Significant cuts expected to 2021-2023 budget. Unsure whether or not there will be federal relief.
- CARES Act funding: Oregon was allocated \$380,000. The goal is to increase digital inclusion and engagement in communities with the highest need.

Tuesday, August 18th

OLA Conference Reflection (Liisa Sjoblom)

- Challenge this year: requests for additional speakers after OLA Quarterly issue (pressure to change keynote speakers)
- Conference cancelled due to the pandemic
- Pleased with committee & their work
- Met hotel reservation requirement & food minimums
- Everyone was refunded registration fees, advertising dollars
- Normally a major fundraiser for the association (about \$20,000 expected)

OLA Conference Vision (Lacey Legel)

- Commitment to continue EDI theme
- Seeking committee participation from BIPOC & LGBTQ+ volunteers as well as first-time volunteers
- Since COVID-19 may still be a factor in April as far as what's allowed and what people are comfortable doing conference will probably be virtual
 - Less profit but also less expensive

- Potential for larger number of attendees & no limits on how many people can attend the most popular programs & events
- Many libraries have reduced budgets; virtual means more reasonable fees & no travel costs
- Mix of pre-recorded programs & moderated livestreams
- Can be archived and offered online for a certain period of time
- Conference accessible via an app that could be integrated with Memberclicks
- Poster sessions in more detail and for a longer timeframe
- Exhibitors - virtual booths
- Sponsors could be offered banner ads, intro slides, advertising on website, etc.
- If COVID better, option to create regional “pods” or in-person events for sharing the conference experience.
- Shirley: virtually the biggest cost would be to hire a professional conference vendor/organizer

ALA/OLA Councilor Report (Kirsten Brodbeck-Kenney)

- Midwinter meeting in January
- Major reorganization happening with ALA counsel
- Report called “Forward Together”
- Representative board of directors instead of 200 counselors?
- ALA organization running a deficit (planned & unplanned overspending) - cash reserves drained, but working on getting on stable footing again
- ALA virtual conference worked really well
- Resolution on contract tracing & patron privacy passed
- Security presence & police presence in libraries - worth keeping an eye on

OLA Unit Reports

ACRL (Candise Branum)

- How to move forward with formulating a plan for advocacy - supporting both those impacted by COVID-19 & EDI/Anti-Racism
- Making their advocacy role more clear
- Online webinars this summer
- Award for excellence pending - 3 great candidates nominated
- Rachel Bridgewater is incoming president

CSD (Deborah VanDetta)

- Summer reading summit event went well - will continue every other year
- Mock Geisel in January
- Bryce Kozla is incoming chair

OYAN (Rachel Timmons & Keli Yeats)

- Discussing how to support teachers & students during this time

- Drafting letter of support for how important youth & teen librarians still are
- Incoming chair will no longer be responsible for raffle
- Not working with CLSP for summer reading resources anymore - now working with iRead

PLD (Erin Wells)

- COVID made an impact this year
- Went after LSTA funding for Library Squad but postponed due to COVID
- Fall meeting cancelled but will do something virtually
- Pearl Award to Victoria Campbell (Beaverton City Library)
- Laura Kimberly is incoming chair

OASL (Kate Weber)

- Reorganization of board structure last year
- Finished standards for K-12 last year, including a searchable database
- Pushing for better definition of what compliance is as far as school library services
- Virtual conference October 10th

SSD (Sare Webster)

- July conference cancelled - Timberline rolled over contract to next year
- Looking at what is most helpful to community right now
- Focus on EDI and recruitment

Communications Committee - Charles Wood is the outgoing chair
(See annual report on website)

Conference Committee
(Conference reports earlier in the day)

Finance & Investment Committee (Lori Wamsley)
(Treasurer's report tomorrow)

Awards Committee (Elsa Loftis)

- No awards presented at conference this year due to cancellation
- Did give out distinguished service award to Sara Charlton, retiring Director of Tillamook Library

EDI (Marci Ramiro-Jenkins)

- Since presentation of recommendations to OLA board this special committee is in the process of becoming a standing committee
- 8 librarians involved from different types of libraries and still recruiting

Intellectual Freedom Committee (Kristin Brodbeck-Kenney)

- Coordinating and offering assistance and advice to other committees and State Library
- Focus on how intellectual freedom can be understood through an EDI and Anti-Racist lens
- Worked on guidelines for OLA Quarterly
- Publish Tuesday Topics once a month
- Perry Stokes is incoming co-chair

Leadership Committee (Melissa Little)

- Scholarships, mentorship program, and professional development (LIOLA)
- Looking at EDI and how to get more diverse voices on committee
- Liisa Sjoblom is incoming chair

Legislative Committee

(Report from Buzzy Nielsen yesterday)

Membership Committee (Lacy Legel)

- Travelling OLA roadshow on hold due to COVID
- Membership numbers have dropped in the last 5 months (few new members joining right now) due to layoffs and financial uncertainties

Nominating Committee (Esther Moberg)

(See formal report on website)

ORCA (chaired by McKenzie Ross - no report yet)

Oregon Authors Committee (chaired by Ann-Marie Anderson and Crystal Garcia)

Resource Committee (John Hunter continuing as chair)

DIGOR (Brad Engelbert)

- Supported the Western States Government Information virtual conference
- Virtual spring meeting to check in with status of various libraries

IRRT (Jian Wang outgoing, Bruce Flath incoming)

- Fundraising major focus
- Horner Exchange did not happen May of this year (postponed)
- Free public lecture in March - \$1200 raised

LRRT (Sue Ludington)

- Focus: education and networking
- Legislation about law libraries
- Law Librarians have assisted with Answerland for years - transitioning to become more involved and provide live chat
- Lee Van Duzer is incoming chair

Wednesday, August 19th

OLA Unit Reports, continued

New Member Round Table (Alison Ihrke outgoing chair, Kelly Stormking incoming chair)

Outreach Round Table (Rodrigo Gaspar-Barajas is incoming chair)

Reference Round Table (Joanna Milner)

- This round table took responsibility for the Oregon Reference Summit this year. It was cancelled, but they have been hosting a series of online presentations called "Oregon Reference Summit Presents."

REFORMA (Star Khan)

- Successfully completed petition to become a division (from a round table) - vote at next conference
- RNC 7 - planning national conference, rescheduled for November 2021
- Elections postponed, current leadership extended 6 months

STRT (Tracey Letmate)

- Coordinate library staff who conduct staff training, share best practices
- Hoped to offer 2-4 sessions this year - went virtual
- Moving into their 3rd year
- Roberta Richards is incoming chair

TSRT (Amy Mihelich)

- Looking at whether still want to present sessions planned for this year's conference
- First scholarship awarded - used for online learning instead of conference attendance

Treasurer's Report (Lori Wamsley)

Reports include:

- Revenue (membership dues and conference income)
- Expenses
- OLA/OASL Investments
- OLA Finance & Investment committee recommendations

Development Report (Shirley Roberts)

- Membership slightly down from previous years
- Sept. 1 we're implementing the ability to make quarterly payments
 - Shirley will reach out to recently lapsed members
 - Renewal notices after September 1 will include this info

- OLA General Fund

New Leader Orientation

Finances (Lori Wamsley)

- Where to find info on website
- Units can submit budget requests for funding

(Slides will be posted on website for future reference)

Parliamentary Practices (Buzzy Nielsen)

Structure: We are a 501c3 non-profit with an executive board, but we are a membership-based organization

Memberclicks (Shirley Roberts)

New leaders and chairs will be listed on the website September 1st

Zoom (Shirley Roberts)

Next meeting: August 28th (virtual)