



Oregon Library Association Executive Board Meeting

Monday, October 28, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Location: Zoom

Minutes approved November 25, 2024

[Agenda](#)

Present: Ayn Frazee (OLA President), April Witteveen (OLA Vice President), Ericka Brunson-Rochette (OLA Past President), Stuart Levy (OLA Treasurer), Buzzy Nielsen (OLA Parliamentarian), Shirley Robert (OLA Manager), Roxanne M. Renteria (OLA Secretary), Lex Faller (OLA Hotline), Jane M. Nichols (ACRL), Jaime Thoreson (CSD), Liisa Sjoblom (Leadership Committee), Jennifer McKenzie (OASL), Kirsten Brodbeck-Kenny (ALA Chapter Counselor for OR), Vickie Kromer (OYAN), Lisa Elliott (OYAN), Kristen Curé (REFORMA OR), and Rinny Lakin (SSD).

[ACTION ITEMS highlighted below] [ACTION ITEMS for everyone in yellow]

Welcome & Icebreaker (Ayn Frazee)

- Our [community agreement](#) during our meetings.
- Icebreaker - introduce yourself, including pronouns, as well as something you are looking forward to.

Agenda Changes/Minutes (Ayn)

- See [September Minutes](#)
- Motion to pass the September Minutes approved
- Changes to agenda—Horner Exchange Update moved to November meeting.

Association Report (Shirley Roberts)

- Overview comments
 - Portland public schools is now using an outside vendor to manage their school facilities and the liaison would not accept OLA's certificate of liability.
 - ACRL OR finished joint conference.
 - Has been in communication with potential conference sites for 2026 (both the Holiday Inn Portland - River Front and Riverhouse Bend), in so far as partnering with PNLA. Both appear feasible, although the Portland location is more expensive.
 - Will send financials to the board in November.
 - Has been handling membership renewals.
 - Will need to contract out for AV services for OLA 2025 at Lane Events Center

(Eugene)

- Rinny asked a question about Organizational Membership.
 - **ACTION ITEM: Ayn and Shirley need to meet to discuss the possibility of putting together a task force to research establishing an Organizational Membership.**
 - Ericka shared Buzzy's note in the chat: this would require a change to the bylaws.

Leadership/LIOLA Leadership Institute Report (Liisa Sjoblom)

- Report emailed.
- Content and overview comments
 - **Leadership Committee**
 - The Mentor Match program is being revitalized by new committee members, Nichelle Cottrell and Brystan Strong, Promotion of the program planned for early 2025. Recruiting for mentors and mentees. Challenge is to match up people with similar work experiences.
 - The first round of scholarship applications are due Thursday (10/31/24); (one application submitted at this time).
 - **LIOLA Leadership Institute**
 - Contract with Mt Hood Resort has been signed—Save the Date notifications will go out this week.
 - In-person sessions will be held July 17-18, with three virtual sessions to follow in August/September.
 - A virtual welcome and introduction session are scheduled for July 7th and Liisa hopes to have participants attend an OLA Board meeting virtually (retreat?).
 - Will reach out to the OLA membership for mentors and panelists for the virtual sessions.
 - Those interested in mentoring, should contact Liisa.
 - The registration fee is \$750 and mentor costs are covered (except mileage).
 - The OLA Executive Board voted to approve the allocation of \$5000 to be used for scholarships.
 - Applications open in February.
 - Jaime Thoreson shared CSD will offer one scholarship (\$800) for a member to attend the Leadership Institute.
 - Rinny Lakin shared SSD will offer one scholarship (\$1000) for a member to attend the Leadership Institute.

State Librarian Report (Buzzy Nielsen on behalf Wendy Cornelisen)

- See [State Library Report](#)
- Overview Comments
 - Submitted agency request budget, and waiting to find out if policy option packages will be approved (Governor Tina Kotek will submit the budget in December)
 - This includes Ready to Read (to increase minimum grant to \$2000), two

positions in Government Services Division, as well as a librarian position and cataloging position to be made permanent

- Government Services digital collection migrated to new platform ([Recollect](#))
- The Support Division's Northwest Digital Heritage content migrated to a new backend—users will not see much of a change beyond increased speeds and having broader access to content hosted for other organizations.
- Annual competitive grants will open next month, and these funds can be used for various things.
- This year, SLO is requiring the annual competitive grants funds be used to support underfunded projects, and applicants will be required to answer a few simple questions.
- Preference will be given to partnerships outside the library (or other departments when it comes to school and academic libraries, or public libraries that belong to a city or county).

Horner Exchange Update (Wendy Cornelisen)

- This agenda item moved to November Executive Board Meeting

Approving REFORMA bylaws (Buzzy)

- See [REFORMA bylaws](#)
- Overview Comments
 - Changes are primarily administrative
 - REFORMA OR bylaws update seeks to create parity between general bylaws in so far as how elections are held, etc.
 - Main substantive change pertains to those who join REFORMA National and opt to affiliate with REFORMA OR (fees are forward to REFORMA OR)
 - Per the updates, these individuals will be considered members of REFORMA OR and possess the ability to vote and participate, but will not be considered OLA members unless they pay membership dues.
 - Bylaws were shared and discussed during the August Retreat and Executive Board Meeting
 - **ACTION ITEM: Shirley and Kristen will meet to discuss REFORMA spreadsheet reports and establish procedures.**
- Motion to approve the updates to the REFORMA bylaws passed

Approving IFC bylaws (Buzzy)

- See [IFC bylaws](#)
- Overview comments
 - Bylaws have been extensively reviewed by IFC
 - Updates include a lot of new text, but these are not substantive changes, instead it describes how things are.
 - Article I Name—what are they called, and who are they affiliated with
 - Article II Purpose—essentially content that was kept, edited or added.
 - Article III Membership—sets minimum committee members at 9 and set caps of 13
 - Other sections pertain to the chair, meetings, meeting occurrences,

- committees, and amendment of bylaws, etc.
 - Shirley asked a clarifying question regarding one of the duties listed in Article IV Officers—A. Chair/CoChairs “iv. prepares and manages annual budget”, and Buzzy shared it pertains to handling IFC funds.
- Ayn shared IFC is currently without a chairperson—she has appointed a co-chair but it is not yet official.
- **ACTION ITEM: Let Ayn know if you are interested in co-chairing IFC or know someone who is.**
- Motion to approve the updates to the IFC bylaws passed
- **ACTION ITEM: Buzzy will add updated IFC bylaws to the website**

Unit Reports (All)

- **OLA EDI & Anti-Racism Committee** (Roxanne M. Renteria)
 - A number of guests are lined up to record upcoming episodes of *Overdue: Weeding Out Oppression in Libraries*, through December.
 - Upcoming guests or topics include Dhonielle Clayton and Caroline Richmond from We Need Diverse Books (WNDB), Jamia Williams a Consumer Health Program Specialist with the Network of the National Library of Medicine(NNLM) Training Office, and the RAILS BIPOC Library Workers Group.
 - November episode will feature an interview with Dr. Emily Know (Illinois iSchool at Urbana-Champaign) regarding IF, neutrality, and censorship.
 - CoChairs are enrolled in the course Indigenous Idaho to prep for an upcoming interview.
 - Co-Chairs are setting up interviews and meetings with prospective new members to share how the committee operates and what projects are in the works, as well as ensure they have the support and time to join us.
 - Reminder, the committee received a professional development \$50k IMLS grant administered through the State Library of Oregon to go toward professional development for library workers serving marginalized/minoritized communities as well as those libraries that are underfunded and seeking to better serve those communities.
 - Regarding the scholarship, the CoChairs are meeting with Darci Hanning and Ericka to discuss the application, updates to the committee website to highlight funds—more to come.
- **ACRL OR** (Jane Nichols)
 - Conference held at Reed College
 - There was a bit of cross over with the AI event
 - Approximately 80 people attended
 - Able to provide a support scholarship for a library student to attend
 - A little behind on their award
 - One open position on the board (Legislative Representative), those interested can reach out to Chair, Jane Nichols (or board members)
- **OYAN** (Lisa Elliott)

- Want to establish stronger connections with CSD and OASL, surveyed folks regarding meeting times.
 - Next meeting, in January, will be held during convenient times.
 - Will continue the pod system, established by Mark and Ian last year.
 - January 25th–Mock Printz Workshop at Salem Public Library
 - In the process of selecting the final 8 books for the workshop
 - Teens will be in attendance.
 - Met with CSD regarding the desire to hold a joint get together at the conferences.
 - Submitted a number of sponsored conference proposals.
- **CSD** (Jaime Thoreson)
 - Approved past meetings
 - Approved the budget
 - Board agreed to allocate \$800 for a scholarship to send someone to LIOLA, will be working with Liisa.
 - Agree to support 5 OLA 2025 (Eugene) conference related programs or ideas.
 - **SSD** (Rinny Lakin)
 - The division submitted 4 proposals, and agreed to support 2 STRT proposals
 - Seeking a professional to speak upon the topic of effective internal communication/so this proposal is incomplete at this time–budget is \$500.
 - **ACTION ITEM: Send referrals to Rinny (ssd@olaweb.org)**
 - Will offer a \$1000 scholarship for one individual to attend the LIOLA Leadership Institute.
 - **REFORMA OR** (Kristen Curé)
 - Kristen and Brandace Rojo (Past President) will take turns attending monthly executive board members.
 - Next quarterly meeting is coming up on Saturday, November 9th.
 - Working on Mock Pura Belpre.
 - Received a grant from SLO.
 - Working to get back to pre-pandemic levels of engagement.
 - Working on branding, and getting the word out.
 - **OASL** (Jennifer McKenzie)
 - Concluded OASL Fall conference (200+ attendees)
 - Conference revenue was down (despite historic high in attendance) due to the conference being one day instead of two.
 - Held first school library bus tour (plus photographer) during the conference.
 - Fall 2025 Conference will be held in Eugene, and include another school library bus tour.
 - Will forgo Fall 2027, and instead hold a Spring 2028 event
 - Advocacy
 - Did a postcard campaign, and sent to legislators
 - Laura will spearhead an OASL Chapter advocacy award

Legislative Committee (Ayn on behalf of chairs)

- September Meeting canceled because it conflicted with the Freedom to Read Committee meeting.
- The Freedom to Read Committee submitted a job description to the Oregon Department of Education for a IF support staff person role.
- Eames Consulting will handle our lobbying.
- Note—Shirley consulted our accountant to ensure the contract meets IRS guidelines, etc.
- Ayn is pending an update regarding the signing of the contract, and will attend tomorrow's Legislative Meeting.

ALA Councilor Update (Kirsten Brodbeck-Kenny)

- Will attend LibLearnX (Phoenix, Arizona) in January 2025.
- On a side note, was recently appointed to the 2SLGBTQIA+ Student Success Plan Committee for the Oregon Department of Education.
- Is the only public librarian serving on a student success plan committee.

Spam Emails Warning (Ayn)

- Ayn and a couple of other board members have received spam emails.
- Use caution and be mindful—look for spelling errors and a sense of urgency to help establish what communications are legitimate.

Announcements

- Rinny shared there are 70+ session proposals, and unit heads have been asked to review
- Shirley said this close to the limit
- A short discussion was held regarding the short review window, which is problematic in terms of EDIA best practices.

Action Item Review/Next Meeting (Ayn/Roxanne)

- **ACTION ITEM: Ayn and Shirley need to meet to discuss the possibility of putting together a task force to research establishing an Organizational Membership (Buzzy noted this would require a change to the bylaws).**
- **ACTION ITEM: Shirley and Kristen will meet to discuss REFORMA spreadsheet reports and establish procedures.**
- **ACTION ITEM: Buzzy will add updated IFC bylaws to the website.**
- **ACTION ITEM: Unit heads should review the 78 conference proposals submitted.**
- **ACTION ITEM: Let Ayn know if you are interested in co-chairing IFC or know someone who is.**
- **ACTION ITEM: Send referrals to Rinny (ssd@olaweb.org).**

Adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Appendix. Common OLA Abbreviations.

- ACRL—Assoc. of College & Research Libraries
- CSD—Children's Services Division
- EDIA—Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Antiracism Committee
- IFC—Intellectual Freedom Committee
- LEG—Legislative Committee (formerly Library Development and Legislation)

- LIOLA—Leadership Institute of OLA
- OASL—Oregon Assoc. of School Libraries
- OBOB—Oregon Battle of the Books
- ORCA—Oregon Reader’s Choice Award
- OYAN—Oregon Young Adult Network
- PLD—Public Library Division
- REFORMA—REFORMA Oregon
- SLO—State Library of Oregon
- SSD—Support Staff Division