OREGON LIBRARY ASSOCIATION (OLA)	**Technical Services Round Table** **Steering Committee Meeting** Friday August 22, 2025 10:30am – 3:30 pm Newport Public Library *McEntee Room* 35 NW Nye Street Newport, Oregon 97365 www.newportoregon.gov/dept/lib/

Present (IRL): Michael Grutchfield (incoming chair), Emily O'Neal (past past chair), Stephen Whitener, Shaun Hearn, Kristynn Johnson (past chair)

Present (online): Damon Campbell (secretary), Christina Spence (2025 scholarship recipient), Ellie Avis (Vice Chair)

10:30 -10:45   Introductions
Everyone

- Lunch decisions – in case we need to order ahead.

10:45-11:15   Updates from OLA board retreat/ OLA Annual debrief
Michael/Ellie/All

- OLA 2024 highlights/stats
    - Board retreat – give incoming board members a chance to meet together and network. Michael is a non-voting member.
    - Outgoing president report – **(see OLA Board Retreat Summary.docx)**
        - SB1098 passed - OR is one of 20ish states with an intellectual freedom act in play to deal with book challenges etc. Emphasizes that schools and school libraries are covered and important pieces of intellectual freedom.
        - Positions filled for OLA conference committee, planning is underway. Michael is not on the conference committee, so we won't have an inside track there.
        - Rainbow Roundtable has been approved – LGBTQIA+ roundtable
    - Incoming President discussion

- April's presidency theme is "One OLA". Aware that certain groups feel left out or overlooked by OLA.
    - How can OLA work for and include everyone? Foster collaboration.
        - Can large libraries help smaller, nearby, struggling libraries?
- Legislative Committee is prepared to advocate for libraries at the federal level, as large scale cuts are happening
    - Seeking stories of how the State Statistical Report has contributed to/benefitted members of TSRT in support of the State Library
        - Where should these be sent? **[Legislative committee](#)** - **ldlcchair@olaweb.org**
        - What are the parameters of the story? A use case may be more approachable
            - Stories sit better with legislators minds
            - More of an elevator talk than a long story
    - House Resolution 1 was signed, but it's a broad framework rather than details of congressional appropriations.More work going forward on this
- Preconferences are becoming less and less profitable, we didn't have one last year. This is our (TSRT's) main source of income. Fundraising is an issue for various units, and losing preconferences means other revenue generators become competitive.
        - There were two raffles last year!
    - OLA is doing quite well
        - Some of the "windfall" from investments may be shared among various units.
        - An equal distribution would give us around $287
    - Could we schedule a webinar as a pre-conference that's open to OLA attendees?
        - Session at the conference to report out on the webinar
- Call for conference proposals will be coming in September
- Successes as per Kristynn
    - 2 conference sessions accepted (though one pulled out)
    - Scholarship recipient, is involved in steering committee and is interested in conference tabling
    - Continued work on the website
    - We got a chair, vice chair, and secretary, all three!
    - 2 successful meetings
    - 5 new members
- Challenges as per Kristynn and ongoing from past years
    - Loss of preconferences
    - Attracting session presenters
    - Listservs went down this year during invites

- - ■ Membership lists are out of date

11:15-12:00   TSRT Scholarship
Scholarship Committee/All

- 2024 scholarship recap
  - Christina Spence, Technical Services Librarian at the Coos Bay Public Library, was our 2025 scholarship recipient. Christina received $1000 towards her 2025 OLA Annual conference expenses (registration, lodging, and travel) and joined the Steering Committee.
- Suggestions
  - Start the process sooner next year to allow institutions/librarians to factor the scholarship into their travel plans
    - This year, the call ran Jan 8 – Jan 22. In 2020, we were announcing the winner by Jan 24. Early-bird registration is generally in March.
    - Start process early: Run December 1 - Jan 7
      - Application would need to be added to the website - Kristynn has added a scholarship page also linked to OLA aggregating scholarship page
      - Advertising
      - Updated application form
  - Make it clear in the application that awards will be publicized on whatever outlets we decide on.
  - Signal Boost: Currently posting scholarship and award announcement on Libs-OR
    - OLA Hotline
    - Any programs or events we host
    - Other ideas?
- Recommendations for matching fund
  - Historically, we've funded our scholarship with preconference funds, but didn't have one this year.
    - As of our meeting in April 2025, the anticipation in conference committee meetings is that preconferences will not be a regular part of conference going forward
      - Combined PNLA conference coming up – OLA will be taking the lead on Technical Services programming (see **Conference program proposal brainstorming** section for details)
        - We generally have even less input in preconference activities and sessions than usual at combined conferences with OLA specific sessions being low priority, Oregon TS sessions even lower
  - Bake Sale - not sustainable or logistically viable, but a nice idea.
  - Solicit vendor sponsorships?
  - Charge for Webinar as mentioned under the Incoming President's discussion above

- Next steps?
- Establish funding source(s)
- Signal boost/widen announcement range
  - Post to TSRT inviting people to join the committee, make it clear that we're a subcommittee of TSRT
  - Ask OLA to send emails through their official channels = Talk to Shirley

11:00-12:00   TSRT Business
All

- Website report - Kristynn
  - Adhoc committee organized by Emily gathered URLs and links on various TS topics (metadata, processing, serials, Acq, etc). In 2024-2025 Kristynn edited the urls, developed and sorted into tables and created 11 TSRT Resource pages or so. All link hits reset on 5/28 to **0**
    - About page - 82 hits
    - Coll Dev - 59 hits
    - Metadata - 63 hits
    - Procs - 65 hits
    - Cat - 105 hits
    - Community - 52 hits
    - Scholarship - 306 hits
    - EDIA - 915 hits
    - ACQ - 75 hits
    - **Resources - 3,046 hits**
  - Added links or ideas are welcome
- Discussion: Ashlee Chavez sent TSRT Vendors statements on AI use; ethics of AI and information literacy.
  - Ingram has provided a statement on AI generated titles, exclusion of low-quality titles. They're working on it. Alert them if you find a bad title, and they will credit your account.
    - Should/Could TSRT make a statement?
      - As per Emily, statements are, to an extent, performative.They alert others that agree with us that we agree with them. No reason why we can't have stances and draft statements.
        - Process - We'd draft a statement, collect feedback, adjust, get signatures of support, send to OLA executive board to make sure they support their names being added
          - Publish to libsOR, website. Consider sending to media.
    - OLA/State library level statements is warranted by this issue
      - IFC's statement to Hoopla might be a good guide

- Baker & Taylor has been delayed 60-90 days on materials deliveries and blamed publishers
  - Peter Devries, after ALA, came to OR for a mea culpa tour. B&T had agreements with publishers during the pandemic where the publisher gave them 90 days to pay the invoice.
    - Admits they're not capable of being anyone's primary vendor, even though they're being used as such.
  - B&T stopped paying on time at one point and required immediate payment, which B&T didn't have, so they resorted to charging customers for inventory they actually did not have. Inventory gap continued to cascade for ordering customers
    - This has led to encumbrance gaps for libraries expecting products to ship promptly and had funds tied up
    - In order to make this $, they sold off Collection HQ and an Australian jobber. This was supposed to give them the funds to purchase high interest titles, but other titles that aren't high-demand are 60-90 days.
  - Lots of this traffic has diverted to Ingram and is noticed by members using primarily Ingram especially for preprocessing and prepub orders
- Michael is willing to craft a statement to vendors on AI content, identify problems, encourage them to act ethically. Wants EXTENSIVE feedback

LUNCH on your own. We are able to have food and drink in the meeting room so we could entertain having a working lunch. You are welcome to bring a lunch with you. For those coming from a distance, some suggestions for lunch options can be discussed at the meeting.

1:00-3:00   **Conference program proposal brainstorming**
    Everyone

- Program ideas - see if anyone is willing to submit proposals
- How do we represent collection development?
  - It often falls under technical services, but sometimes doesn't
  - Changes to collection development strategies, approval plan changes, changes in how discretionary funding is applied, priorities based on funding reductions
    - Impacts and could attract tech, subject specialists, vendors
    - Damon is interested in being part of this panel.

- ○ Homosaurus retry as webinar? Didn't happen last OLA:
    - ■ Due to current administrations defunding to TSA, presenter felt unsafe boarding a plane at the time
    - ■ TSRT could not afford to fly them here, and wonder if the presenter was unable to procure organizational funding for travel after changing organizations
        - ● Michael will reach out to the Homosaurus presenter again and gauge interest in presenting a webinar at the upcoming conference.
  - ○ PNW libraries experiences using B&T and Ingram, required to invite vendor reps
  - ○ ACQ experiences with Language vendors, experiences with smaller vendors, EDIA+ vendors
  - ○ Difficulties getting Spanish materials (we've lost Libros for Oregon), getting Spanish materials to circulate. *Spanish after libros*
    - ■ Christina will reach out to Star Kahn on tracking Spanish material circulation
  - ○ How did you build a successful Spanish collection?
    - ■ Strategies for assessment, weeding
    - ■ Kristynn will reach out to EPL Spanish selectors as possible presenters on the panel
  - ○ AI use; ethics of AI and information literacy, junk AI publications
    - ■ Christina will post to a list looking for interest in presenting on AI
    - ■ Damon will reach out to Rayne Vieger @ UO to gauge her interest
    - ■ Hoopla, non-human purchase suggestions, AI generate marc records
    - ■ AI is now starting to impact our systems. Programming around it is advisable.
    - ■ As it gets smarter, how will it become beneficial? Will it learn to avoid the "tells" we use to identify AI generated content?
  - ○ Different organizational/departmental structures - Christina Spence would be willing to be part of this panel.
    - ■ Fairly agnostic to public vs academic
  - ○ Organizational change/workflow changes amid shifting priorities and organizational structures
- ● Combined OLA/PNLA Conference
  - ○ Proposals due: Mid-October?? (exact timeline undetermined). A call for proposals will be coming in a matter of weeks
  - ○ Conference theme: No theme yet, but our president will recommend a theme and get input from the PNLA side. OLA is taking the lead on this conference, so additional proposals of broad interest are likely welcome.
  - ○ Location: Portland, Oregon at The Holiday Inn - Portland Columbia Riverfront (909 N. Hayden Island Drive, Portland, OR, 97217
  - ○ Dates: April 22-24, 2026
  - ○ Pre-conferences: Happening this year or no?
    - ■ **NO**

- As mentioned in the scholarship recap: As of our meeting in April 2025, the anticipation in conference committee meetings is that preconferences will not be a regular part of conference going forward
    - No preconferences unless we create our own webinar as discussed above
- Does PNLA have a tech services cohort? When we combined with Washington Library Association (WLA), we found that they had a tech services cohort that was more active than ours and submitted a lot of proposals, so the responsibility was shared.
    - If PNLA doesn't have a cohort, then responsibility for tech services programming will all fall to us.
        - As per Emily's search, PNLA does not appear to have a tech services division.
            - Michael is reaching out to PNLA in case there is an appropriate contact.
        - Some libraries MAY be motivated to submit programs, but historically, not many as per Emily
    - Last OLA, most technical services programs were scheduled on the same day at the same time

3:00-3:30   Task review and wrap-up
Everyone

- Michael will craft a statement to vendors on AI content, identify problems, encourage them to act ethically. Wants EXTENSIVE feedback
- Scholarship
    - Start process early: Run December 1 - Jan 7
- Scholarship Signal boost/widen announcement range
    - Post to TSRT inviting people to join the committee, make it clear that we're a subcommittee of TSRT
    - Ask OLA to send emails through their official channels = Talk to Shirley
- Damon will reach out to Rayne Vieger @ UO to gauge her interest in submitting a proposal for an AI program
    - As per Rayne: Two of her colleagues are interested in the ethics of AI information literacy, too.
    - Kate Thornhill is developing an AI Teaching Assistant and would be interested in submitting a proposal
- Michael will reach out to the Homosaurus presenter again and gauge interest in presenting a webinar at the upcoming conference.
- Michael will reach out to PNLA for an appropriate contact for TS program coordination
- Christina will reach out to Star Kahn on tracking Spanish material circulation
- Christina will post to a list looking for interest in presenting on AI
- Kristynn will reach out to Henry Christopher RE Spanish language promotion issues
- Kristynn will reach out to EPL Spanish selectors as possible presenters on a panel