



Pittsburgh Chapter, SLA International Board/Committee Chair Meeting August 31st, 2005

The Fall Board/Committee Chair Meeting of the Pittsburgh Chapter of SLA International was held at the Panera Restaurant in the North Hills.

In attendance: Jan Deitch, Adele Barsh, Denise Callihan, Linda Hartman, Earl Mounts, Amanda Shultz Mitchell, Angela Pollis, Amy Watson

- ⇒ Call to Order – Jan Deitch brought the meeting to order at 5:45 pm.
- ⇒ Chapter President's Welcome and Introduction of Attendees – Jan Deitch formally welcomed the group with a thank you to the board and committee chairs for finishing out the year, with the acknowledgement that an additional six months of service can be hard. Introduction of attendees was not necessary. A written agenda for the meeting was submitted (see attached). Unable to attend were Brian Steinmetz (Past-President), Scott Trask (Director), Sheila Rosenthal (Archives), Deborah Barker (Employment), Cynthia Schwartz (Government Relations), Steve Posti (Membership), Mary Arnold (Professional Development), Judy Lesso (Public Relations), and Kim Gregory (Webmaster).
- ⇒ Reading and Approval: Minutes of Board/Committee Chair meeting of February 8th, 2005 (Amy Watson)- Copies of the minutes were distributed by Amy Watson. With the exception of the misspelling of Angela Pollis' name, Denise Callihan moved to approve the minutes. Mandy Mitchell seconded the motion. All members of the Board approved.
- ⇒ Reading and Approval of the Treasurer's Report (Mandy Shultz Mitchell)- A written report was submitted at the meeting (see attached). In a manner similar to last year, the Chapter's outflow continues to be greater than the inflow, with a ratio around \$7,300 to \$6,000. Currently the Chapter has approximately \$800 in the checking account and \$4,000 in the pooled fund. Mandy has submitted a request to SLA International that will allow the Chapter to move some money into checking from the pooled fund in order to cover the monthly meetings. Of additional note was that the Chapter may receive some money back from Molly Krichten, one of the students who received sponsorship to SLA Toronto. Earl Mounts moved to approve the Report, and Linda Hartman seconded the motion. All members of the board approved. Jan Deitch awarded Mandy with a certificate of recognition from the awards banquet in May.
- ⇒ Report – Director (Linda Hartman) - Linda Hartman reported that the Health Sciences Library at Pitt is sponsoring an NLM/ALA exhibit called "Changing the Face of Medicine: Celebrating America's Women Physicians." This exhibit and lecture series will be at Pitt until October 14th, and Linda suggested that it could be a potential location for an evening meeting, as food is permitted. Ange Pollis asked Linda if she could update the group concerning the NIH grant for PubChem. Jan Deitch awarded Linda a certificate of recognition from the awards banquet in May.



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- ⇒ Committee Chair Report – Student Liaison/Discussion List Management (Adele Barsh) -
A written report was submitted (see attached). Adele Barsh is currently planning an event to coordinate with Pitt's Homecoming Weekend, which will also be the weekend that the distance learning students are on campus. In addition, Adele would like to have a panel of special librarians available during the annual job hunting event/pizza party to go over their "Top 10 things I wish I knew before I got my first job."
Adele is also interested in potentially seeking an endowment to do some sort of SLA/Distance Learning tie in, as currently there is no connection between the distance learning students and active chapters. A connection such as this would also tie in the Clarion students as well as students in the larger region who are unable to travel to our monthly meetings. Earl Mounts asked Adele to investigate if this is something that is actively desired by the students, and to report back to the Chapter.

- ⇒ Committee Chair Report – Nominating Committee (Denise Callihan) -
No written report was submitted. Denise Callihan recently sent a reminder request to the discussion list soliciting nominations with the reminder that due to the Chapter's conversion to the new fiscal/calendar year, the elections will be in the November/December timeframe. A good slate needs to be announced in November, so that a mentorship and accession plan can be put into place for January.

- ⇒ Committee Chair Report – Consultations (Denise Callihan) -
No written report was submitted. The Chapter has received permission from SLA International to consider our Animal Friends collaboration to be an 'ongoing involvement' instead of a consultation.

- ⇒ Committee Chair Report – Awards (Angela Pollis) –
A written report was submitted (see attached). Ange Pollis mentioned that the Chapter had received lovely thank you notes from both Sue Alman and Adele Barsh after receiving their awards. Ange then requested that she would like to create an awards committee that would be able to discuss guidelines for the awards and formalize the process, especially concerning the author award. Adele Barsh mentioned that a good touchstone would be the Business & Finance Group's procedures. It was agreed that there should be collaboration with the Treasurer, and the potential of a line item in the budget being created was discussed. Denise Callihan stated that the Chapter needs to do more nominations for awards on a SLA International level, and that we should also model our Chapter awards on the SLA International ones.

- ⇒ Committee Chair Report – Employment (Deb Barker) -
Jan Dietch presented Deb Barker's report, as Deb was absent. The employment news is slim, however Deb has checked all of the links of the job postings, and the Chapter's employment web pages have been updated.

- ⇒ Committee Chair Report – Public Relations (Judy Lesso) -
Jan Dietch presented Judy Lesso's report, as Judy was absent. Judy has announced her intentions to step down at the end of her December term. In the meantime, she will continue to send the meeting announcements to the traditional areas of publicity.



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⇒ Committee Chair Report – Webmaster (Kim Gregory) -

A written report was submitted (see attached). Jan Dietch presented Kim Gregory's report, as Kim was absent. Kim has announced her intentions to step down at the end of her December term. Having the web redesigned has long been under discussion, and Earl Mounts suggested that we should investigate having the site professionally designed. Adele Barsh mentioned that the Human Computer Interaction Program at CMU may be able to do the design as a project. An ad hoc committee was formed comprised of Jan Dietch, Earl Mounts, Adele Barsh and Amy Watson.

⇒ Report – Programs Chair/President-Elect (Earl Mounts) –

A written report was submitted (see attached). Earl Mounts reported that the Chapter averaged approximately 35 attendees per meeting last year. The recent joint meeting with the Pittsburgh Regional Knowledge Management Consortium was very successful, and the Chapter's inclusion was instigated by the PRKMC. The door prizes at the meeting were membership to one of each of the three groups. PRKMC has a February roundtable that the Chapter may want to collaborate with. Earl suggested that the Chapter may want to make it a procedure to include the past president in helping with meeting planning. Adele Barsh stated that the local ACRL chapter may want to collaborate on a meeting on management and leadership issues in April or May. Ange Pollis suggested that the Chapter expand its breadth to include library tours, a Sunday brunch meeting and a holiday excursion.

⇒ New Business -

A. Strategic Plan -

The Strategic Plan, as spearheaded by Scott Trask, has been updated and will be in place for the next five years. The plan needs to be posted to the Chapter website.

B. Committee Chair Accession-

There was some discussion that there is a need to determine when the Chair positions formally roll over, so that mentorship can be set up from year to year. Ideally, Chairs should be set up by October of this year for the 2006 terms, however this is difficult in light of it being the Incoming President's role to find individuals willing to commit to being acting as Chairs.

C. Animal Friends -

Jan Dietch and Denise Callihan met with Joanne Moore, the programs director of Animal Friends. They are opening a new facility with a library, which will be staffed by volunteers. The Chapter has expressed its position that this become a paid position in the future. SLA International has given the Chapter permission to continue to work with Animal Friends as a "giving back to the community" project.

⇒ Adjournment -

Earl Mounts motioned for adjournment. Amy Watson seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted –
Amy Watson