

ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGE AND RESEARCH LIBRARIES (ACRL)
NORTH DAKOTA/MANITOBA CHAPTER
2007 ANNUAL MEETING
5 p.m. May 9, 2007
Victoria Inn
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Present: Betty Braaksma – U of Manitoba; Linwood DeLong – U of Winnipeg; Dorrene Devos – UND Law Lib; Kaaren Pupino – UND Law Lib; Janet Rex – UND CFL; Judy Rieke – UND Lib of Health Sciences; Rhonda Schwartz – UND Law Lib; Jim Sutherland – U of Manitoba

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Betty Braaksma.

I. VERIFICATION OF QUORUM

We did not have quorum (25% of the chapter members present). Jim Sutherland said we now have 32 members in our ACRL chapter. We have 21 members from North Dakota, 10 members from Manitoba, and 1 member from Minnesota. Although 8 people were present at the meeting, one person was not a member.

II. MINUTES of the last meeting: June 9, 2006:

Janet Rex presented the minutes from 2006, however, without a quorum we could not vote and approve the minutes.

III. TREASURER'S REPORT

Jim Sutherland presented the Treasurer's Report for May 24, 2006 - May 9, 2007, however without a quorum we could not vote and approve the report. Jim announced that on May 24, 2006 we had \$2,317.19. During the year we had \$985.42 in revenues and \$470.10 for expenses with a balance of \$2,832.51 on May 9, 2007.

III. DISCUSSION:

- A. Membership: Jim provided the membership figures above---32 members total. He said he sent the list of members to Phyllis Bratton in March for balloting. Some of the issues that affect membership: Individuals mentioned that visibility/awareness of the group is an issue, and that it is unclear when and how dues should be paid. Membership runs from September 1-August 31. It was reiterated that the Treasurer will determine the exchange rate every year on August 15th and place this information on the web site (http://www.lib.ndsu.nodak.edu/acrl/nd_mb.html) and on the membership form that is distributed at that time. We send our checks to the treasurer. Our funds are in the US Bank Minot (because the initial meeting was held in Minot). The treasurer mails all of the checks to the US Bank Minot. The Canadian checks are converted to U.S. currency. The group discussed whether the alphabetic membership list that currently exists on the web site (& needs updating) could indicate if people had paid their dues for the year, but

others felt that this is an invasion of privacy, and they didn't want any list available for spammers. Others pointed out that our e-mail addresses are not listed on the web site and/or that the list could be password protected. Privacy concerns were still an issue for some members. Dorrene Devos mentioned that, as a new member, she did not receive the chapter e-mails this past year; and this needs to be resolved in the future. We need to clarify how one can get added to the ND-MB ACRL listserv.

- B. Attendance at ND-MB ACRL Annual Meetings: Although our chapter membership is fairly strong, our meeting attendance is weaker. Last year we had a program, as well as strategic planning sessions. It is unclear who was assigned to take notes at the strategic planning sessions. As we recall, one planning suggestion was to have a ND-MB ACRL booth at our regional conferences. There was a booth at the NDLA conference, and some of our members joined then. Betty said she sent lots of announcements to the listserv this past year. Members were appreciative of her efforts. A couple of other planning suggestions dealt with updating our web site and creating a newsletter. Judy Rieke remembers that Tom Bremer had been responsible for the web site, and we need to clarify if he will continue to update the web site. This year we attempted to improve attendance at our annual meeting by piggy backing on the Manitoba Library Association Conference. This did not prove to be successful. Participants cited the costs of attending the conference, as well as relevancy when governmental issues differ across the border. Also, people felt that other conferences are more germane to their library interests, and there is a limit as to how many conferences their libraries can support. The timing of the meeting was cited as a possible problem. Anyone who had attended the Manitoba Library Association Conference might have felt conference burnout by the evening of the last day. The evening meeting might have also been an issue for individuals traveling at a greater distance. Perhaps a mid-day meeting is more appealing. Individuals said they were not aware that food was going to be provided at the evening meeting. On the ND-MB ACRL web site, "Minutes of the Annual Meetings," it indicates that two out of three meetings in Winnipeg have been cancelled in the past. The only successful meeting in Winnipeg was attended by two directors of libraries who encouraged their staff members to attend the meeting. Do directors need to encourage staff attendance at these meetings? Perhaps all directors should receive a letter asking them to promote ND-MB ACRL membership and meeting attendance. Also, meetings in the middle of the ND-MB area seem to attract a greater number of participants. Linwood DeLong asked if any U.S. motels accept an at par Canadian rate. Although none were found to offer such rates in Grand Forks last year, the Vegas Motel in Minot might still take at par Canadian if people pay in cash. The increased emphasis on passports makes it more of a challenge for members from either side of the border to attend meetings on the other side the border. Are other trans-border chapters having the same problems that we are having? Betty reported that the NY and Ontario chapter is doing well. She spoke to the President of the Saskatchewan Library Association to see if they are interested in joining us, and they are, but what are the benefits? There would be some educational benefits because of the diversity between the two countries. Still, the benefits need to be clearer for everyone involved in the chapter. Judy said we might run a survey asking members why they didn't attend this year and what would make them come to the ND-MB ACRL chapter meeting.

- C. Sponsoring Individuals to Library School: Betty said we might offer \$500 scholarships to library school students. We would need to set the terms, such as marks, need, etc. We could send this to the listserv for a vote.
- D. Sponsoring Officers to National Meetings: Do we still want to investigate whether our ND-MB ACRL chapter might sponsor individuals, such as the Chair, to go to national meetings? At the Midwinter meeting, chapter members meet to discuss programming, speakers, funding, and other issues; and the Chair has a vote at those meetings. We could send this to the listserv for a vote.
- E. ACRL National Conferences: Jim attended the ACRL National Conference in Baltimore, and he said it was well worth it. He feels the ACRL conferences are more pertinent to academic libraries than the ALA conferences, which are often geared toward public libraries. Betty said she feels the ALA conferences are also useful when you find your niche, because ALA conferences often have a lot of information on Information Literacy that she finds useful for her library. Jim said he could share his summaries of the best sessions of the ACRL Conference with the group. Janet said she attended the ACRL program at the ALA Midwinter Conference in Seattle, and she could share her notes with the group, as well.
- F. Immersion '07 Program: Betty said that the University of Manitoba, University of Winnipeg, and Brandon University proposal to host ACRL's Institute for Information Literacy Immersion program in 2007 has been successful. It will be held at the University of Manitoba during the first week in August 2007 for 4 ½ days of intense hands-on immersion in information literacy. Approximately 108-110 applicants applied to get into the program, but the program is limited to 90 people. The Information Literacy Immersion Program will coincide with Folkarama.
- G. ACRL Programming for Next Year: Betty said that Sally Dockter sent a note asking if we might deal with advocacy issues that we have in common. Linwood said advocacy to governmental agencies can be an important aspect, but it is hard to lobby on political issues when our governmental issues, such as copyright, differ between the two countries. Kaaren Pupino agreed and added that the issues dealing with the Government Documents themselves also differ. We have emphasized before that we need programs of interest to both sides of the border. We are eligible for an ACRL speaker next time, which might draw people to our meeting. We discussed the times of the year that are best for people, and Rhonda Schwartz concluded that she will call a chapter ACRL meeting sometime between late April to mid May of next year. She will see if we can have a national speaker. Betty will send the gavel to Rhonda. The next ACRL national meeting will be in Seattle in 2009.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Rex, Secretary
May 2007