

LAUC President's Report or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love LAUC Fall 2007

While perhaps not an earth shattering idea, I want my year as LAUC President to be focused on programs. Programs that would be of broad enough appeal to interest not just those of us that attend LAUC Assemblies as delegates, but programs that might draw in newer librarians and librarians across departments and disciplines. Accordingly, bylaws revisions (and I know we need bylaws and they need to be revamped periodically – thank-you Linda Kennedy and all those that worked on the last few go-rounds of bylaws) is not on my horizon, nor am I particularly interested in navel gazing or being reflexive about where we as librarians fit in to the greater academic sphere. I think by providing assemblies that offer programs about topics or areas that concern us as professionals, we accomplish the task of defining ourselves, informing the University Librarians of those things that matter, providing each other with the opportunity to learn, and hopefully having some fun in the process.

With that in mind...appealing programs and potentially making LAUC more attractive to newer UC librarians...when the executive board transition meeting took place late in August we discussed a number of topics that might make for interesting, informative, and engaging assembly programs. They included:

- MELVYL OCLC Pilot catalog
- Future of bibliographic control (from Library of Congress)
- Future of public service workshop outcomes
- Grant writing, excellence in research
- Mass digitization projects- issues ownership, access, preservation, copyright, searching
- E-book collections- buying into e-books, where are we?
- Web 2.0 – Libraries 2.0 technology, social aspects, technological aspects, local library aspects
- Google programs- If it has Google in the title...
- The growth of Merced (a millennial library) “Out of the box” no print
- Remote conference tools- teleconference

Two from that list are part of the fall assembly today and tomorrow, and if all works as planned, we will also be including others from that list for the Spring Assembly, which is slated to be held May 7th at UC Irvine.

Just to try something new, we also have two librarians in attendance that will be blogging the Assembly. The only guideline I have insisted upon is that they not be cruel.

We will also be videotaping the assembly for those that were unable to attend. This will not be live, but posted after the meeting.

LAUC Bylaws Revision

Now I know I just said I was not going to talk about bylaws, but I did want to update everybody on the bylaws revision and creation of standing rules that were approved by LAUC membership last year. The bylaws and standing rules at this point are still in need of the official stamp of approval from UCOP, and Gary Lawrence will no doubt give us an update on that process in a few minutes. As you may remember the bylaws revision reduced the number of standing committees and incorporated parts of those disbanded committees' charges into the remaining committees. Because of the bylaws not officially being approved, I have been slow to get out charges to the standing committees (not wanting to be in violation of our existing bylaws) and those disbanded committees have yet to be formally retired. I do apologize to the committee chairs for this delay and hopefully we will be able to move forward without too many more bumps.

Meeting with the University Librarians

Unlike last year, the meeting with the University Librarians took place before the Fall Assembly. Due to scheduling conflicts, only I was able to attend the meeting with the ULs on October 26 at Preservation Park in Oakland. Normally, both the President and Vice-President have an opportunity to meet with the ULs. I believe I had a good dialog with the University Librarians, letting them know what LAUC was planning and how we were carrying out our business. They too had questions for me that I in turn have shared with the LAUC executive board. The ULs were gracious enough to allow me to stay for the next portion of their meeting as well. Four representatives from Google Books gave a presentation for the ULs and AULs. I thought the presentation was quite candid and included what Google knows to be problematic.

UCOLASC (University Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication)

As LAUC President, I also am an advisor to the UCOLASC systemwide Academic Senate committee. The committee has had one conference call thus far (on October 15); broadly outlining the areas the committee will be focusing on for the coming year. These included working on a subvention policy for younger UC faculty, the Open Access Policy, and the possible organization of a conference or forum to discuss open access and other scholarly communication issues. As last year, Ben Crow, professor of Sociology from UCSF, chairs the committee. A face-to-face meeting of the committee is scheduled for December 17.

UL for CDL Search

The search for the University Librarian in charge of the CDL is underway. I was asked to participate, as LAUC president, on the search committee for this obviously very important position. The rest of the search committee is comprised of a Vice Chancellor/Provost, faculty, ULs, and CDL staff. Ellen Wartella, Executive Vice Chancellor & Provost from UC Riverside, chairs the Search Committee. The search firm Isaacson Miller is being used in the recruiting process and as a result, much of the

process cannot be openly discussed. The search committee has had one meeting thus far on October 18 and is scheduled to meet again December 14. I will be happy to share what I can, when I can during the process.

Spring Assembly Travel Support for Newer to UC Librarians

As in the past, I hope to be able to pay travel support for newer UC librarians to attend the Spring Assembly. Last year we were able to support travel for five librarians, and I hope again to be able to support travel for at least that many. More information about this will be forthcoming early in 2008.

I am looking forward to hearing the speakers today and tomorrow and the discussions that hopefully ensue.