

CHAPTER COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
Austin Convention Center,   
Saturday, May 16, 2015  
Austin, Texas

The 2015 meeting of the Chapter Council convened at 10:15AM, Angela Dixon, Chapter Council Chair presiding.

Members Present

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| Angela Dixon, Chair  Heather Brown  Alan Carr  Mina Davenport  Diana Delgado  Montie Dobbins  Lisa Ennis  Stephanie Ferretti  Todd Hannon | Karen Hanus  Gary Kaplan  Angela Lee  Jennifer Lloyd  Sylvia McAphee  Sunny McGowan  Dina McKelvy  Beverly Murphy  April Schweikhard |

Members Excused

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| Kate Anderson  Hal Bright  Marianne Burke  Antonio DeRosa  Diane Kunichika  Mark Lasek | Michelle Rachal  Bart Ragon  Melissa Ratjeski  Bette Sydelko  Annie Thompson  Jackie Wirz |

All chapters present introduced themselves with their Chapter affiliation.

**Agenda**  
AD presented the agenda for adoption.

**Minutes**   
Prior to the meeting, AD distributed the link to the minutes via email from the 2014 Chapter Council meeting in Chicago. Minutes approved as amended with the addition of the one minute report from Southern Chapter.

**Chapter Council Directory**   
AD passed around the 2014-15 Chapter Council Directory for members to make corrections.

**Chapter Council Chair’s Report – Angela Dixon**  
AD anticipates changes coming to MLA with the arrival of the new executive director, Kevin Baliozian. She pointed out the new “Full Speed Ahead” blog as the best way to stay informed of these changes. The executive board is addressing strategic goals such as defining the MLA audience and attracting new professionals. They have in place a task force for strategic orientation for attracting new professionals and engaging the membership. Education is another strategic goal including professional competencies.

AD reported that the MLA web platform and structure of web content will change to an association content management system. First, MLA sections will transition to the MLA platform (target date of September 1, 2015). The reason is that MLA content will be more findable together on one platform. Next year the chapters will be invited to join, but AD unsure if there will be a cost for joining the platform. There followed a discussion of the finance management features such as membership renewals, website hosting, member databases. AD believes chapter participation will be voluntary.

After 2015 MLA will no longer be a member of IFLA. The executive board felt it was expensive for the perceived value.

The executive board decided that 2015 MLA president will not travel to every chapter meeting. Michelle Kraft will only go to southern chapter in Puerto Rico because they are paying for her travel. The executive board will revisit the decision. There followed a discussion of the impact of this decision on communication and audience engagement with chapters, and whether Skype greetings or other options would be possible. Kevin Baliozian will travel to chapter meetings this year to meet members.

Other changes: chapter chair’s midyear and annual report previously followed a template and that template will be changing. It will be based on chapter goals not the MLA goals and the changes may be in place by the fall. AD reflected on the executive board meeting and sees that MLA is becoming more open and more communicative with members

**Elections Report – Alan Carr**This year, when voting for nominees, the ballot was mistakenly sent to a chapter’s executive board and someone else submitted the votes. Some chapter council representative send the ballot to their chapter executive board for input and this confuses the ballot submission process. This process may be in the procedure manual in each chapter. AC asked that representatives clarify this process with their executive boards for future elections.

**Majors/MLA Chapter Project Jury – Melissa Ratajeski**

The award this year will go to the Southern California chapter for outreach to non-medical libraries.

**Annual Meeting Table** – **Sylvia McAphee**  
Sign up spots are all filled and the table is set up with brochures.

**Continuing Education – Bette Sydelko**

The continuing education committee continues to maintain the CE wiki on the chapter council site.

**MLA Recruitment & Retention Liaison- Heather Brown**

MLA continues to offer a resume clinic at the conference. There is a review of the MLA website for recruitment and retention content. They are looking at highlighting specialized training opportunities from other organizations as well as what MLA offers. They are hoping to expand the expertise and mentoring database. Recruitment is also targeting library assistants and para-professionals.

**MLA News Column Editor - Jennifer Lloyd**

JL requested submissions and will email each of us to make sure that she has the following contacts from each chapter: president/chair and communications chair. The new MLA News editor is Cheryl Owen.

**Technology Advisory Committee - Bart Ragon**

No report.

**Chapter Roundtables - Karen Hanus/Antonio DeRosa**

This year there were fewer topics and six were canceled due to low registration (4 or fewer). We have 18 tables and 153 registered participants. In the past, new members were offered a chance for one free ticket per topic. We had noticed the trend that the free ticket registrants did not show up. Last year those who received a free ticket were given the recorder job at the topic table. There were no free tickets given this year and we didn’t solicit money from the chapters. Last year’s strategy did work – all but two of the participants who got the free ticket and the table job did show up. This year’s cutoff date was early (April 22nd) which helped everything go very smoothly. Recruiting facilitators and recorders went pretty well.

**Rising Star: Roundtables Project - A. Schweikhard**

AS reported to the group and on her poster that people felt they get a lot of value from the roundtable events. They especially appreciated getting outside their usual network and mixing with new people. Reported trends over time shows that fluctuation in price impacts attendance. There followed a discussion of expert facilitators and how they would be selected and evaluated. Next steps include finding a new co-chair with Antonio. They will then create a small group for review and determine a timeline for implementing recommended changes.

**-8 minute break in lieu of lunch-**

**Web/Home page - Lisa Ennis**No report.

**MLA Core Membership Liaison - Melissa Ratajeski**

No report. Please note that chapter council will need a new liaison – MR is rotating off. Suggestion – working on with ICS – providing reduced fee for librarians in developing countries. No decision on that yet from the board

**Chapter/Section Poster Session - M. Rachal**

This joint session is available again this year. Sixteen sections and seven chapters are participating in the exhibit hall.

**MLA Credentialing Liaison - C. Pope**

Beverly Murphy is the new liaison to the credentialing committee. There are a few changes to point out such as point structure for articles; i.e. whether article appears in peer reviewed or non-peer reviewed, whether sole author, one of 4, or one of 5+. A subcommittee is considering other point eligible activity such as IRB participation. The point distinction between internal grants and external grants will be dropped. There followed a conversation about the AHIP requirement for an ALA accredited masters. For example can someone apply with an MBA instead of an MLS?

**New Business**

*Scheduling of chapter meetings*

Chapter council representatives expressed concerns about overlap in scheduling. A major issue is that vendors have to choose between chapter meetings. Discussion followed about how to be aware of other chapters schedules so that there are not conflicts. Chapters should consider it professional courtesy, realizing that conflicts can’t always be anticipated

*Committee chair recruits needed*

* + Co-chair for Roundtables
  + 5th member of Majors/MLA Chapter Project of the Year Jury
  + Membership Committee Liaison
  + Elections committee liaison
  + Annual meeting exhibit table coordinator

**Recognition of Outgoing Members - Angela Dixon**

Alan Carr, Todd Hannon, Christina Pope, Sylvia McAphee are rotating off the council this year. AD commended them for their service.

**One Minute Chapter Reports - All**

See attached.

**Adjourn – Angela Dixon**

The meeting adjourned at 1:05pm.