

**Minutes of the Literatures in English Section, Executive Committee I
Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL)**

American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference, Washington D.C.

**Saturday, June 22, 2007, 8:00 – 10:00 am, Washington Convention Center,
Room 157**

Present: Kathy Johnson (Chair), Kristine Anderson (Vice-Chair), Juliet Kerico, Sofia Lesinska (incoming Chair) Karen Munro (Secretary, incoming Vice-Chair), Angela Courtney, Vince Graziano, Steve Harris, Millie Jackson, Kathleen Kluegel, Michael Macan, Shawn Martin, Linda Stein, Susanna Van Sant

Note: Karen Munro was absent the first hour of the meeting, due to a conflict. Susanna Van Sant took minutes from 8:00 am to 9:00 am.

Meeting called to order 8:00 am
(Susanna Van Sant's minutes)

1. Welcome and Introductions: Kathy invited members to sign retirement cards for Yvonne Shofer and Bill Wortman.
2. Approval of Agenda: Approved.
3. Approval of Minutes from Midwinter 2007:
 - o Exec I: Kathy suggested adding date and location, correcting spelling of Julie Todaro's name in 3rd paragraph, regarding leadership conference.
 - o Exec II: Kathy suggested adding date and location.
 - o Minutes approved as revised.
4. Announcements from ALA/ARCL:
 - o ACRL Sections liaison: Adam Burling replaces Mary Jane Petrowski.
 - o Bylaws: Sections still need bylaws, but ACRL Sections Council is deliberating process, timeline. LES Planning Committee, during Sophie's chairship of LES, will address the transfer to LES Officers' Manual material from LES bylaws.
 - o Committee size limits: ACRL may lift the caps on number of committee members. LES will exercise discretion regarding committee sizes so that committees are inclusive but manageable. Committee chairs will be consulted if committee appointments might exceed current numbers set in Bylaws.
 - o Archiving LES materials: Chair forwards minutes to ACRL. ACRL prints and saves. After 5 years, ACRL sends to archive at UI. We could send more (e.g. print-outs of Web site) to ACRL and which ACRL will in turn archive. Suggestions: **1) maintaining list of what we've sent for archiving, and 2) adding list of what we send to ACRL for archiving to Officers' Manual.**
 - o LES anniversary: Interest in noting landmarks?
 - English & American Literature Discussion Group formed in 1982
 - English & American Literature Section established in 1994

EALS renamed as Literatures in English Section in 2000

- ACRL dues increase: ACRL has proposed that we allow ACRL to increase dues, tied to the consumer price index, whenever it sees the need, without seeking approval from the membership first (by vote in the spring elections). This proposal (and others) will be on the spring 2008 ballot.
 - Liaisons to other associations: After discussion, concluded that we need more information from various sources (e.g. Dorothy Ann Washington/ACRL, Barbara Chen/MLA). **Kathleen Kluegel offered to seek clarification from ALA, Kristine from MLA, and Sophie also offered to assist.**
 - "Afterlife of conferences": The College Library Section, for example, offers a Webcast of its program. Ours will not be recorded, but **Kathy has asked speakers to allow their opening remarks to be posted on the LES Web site.**
 - ACRL's leadership priorities:
 1. Advance the strategic plan.
 2. Environmental scan.
 3. Enhance value.
5. Review of General Membership meeting plans.
- Introduction of LES officers, invitation to participate, strategic plan/LES goals, discussion topic.
 - Michael: ACRL 101 being held on Saturday and Sunday (re: engaging newcomers, pointing out opportunities for involvement).

9:00 am: Karen Munro's minutes

1. LES Liaison to the Modern Languages Association (MLA): We are setting up an investigatory group for the topic of a liaison to the MLA. We can't do an action plan for this year, because the timeline is too short. **Kathleen Kluegel and Sophie Lesinska will be on the committee—they will report to Exec at Midwinter on their findings. Kathleen Kluegel will write a charge to be considered for Monday.**
2. General Membership Meeting: The topic for this year's general membership meeting is "marketing libraries." The committee will use a print evaluation form for attendees. Membership will spend a few minutes at General Membership addressing issues raised on the LES-L discussion list by a member who expressed dissatisfaction about the New Members Discussion Group at Midwinter 2007. Membership committee will provide an introduction to the structure of LES, roles of various members and groups, etc. New Members Discussion Group will in turn give an abbreviated version of same, and perhaps do a round-robin of introductions and what individuals want to get from the meeting. **Suggestion: All LES meetings should give an abbreviated introduction to the organization of the meeting, and where the committee and/or meeting is situated in the overall scheme of business.**

Membership will also address the Strategic Action Plan for 2009, explaining it to membership and brainstorming ideas.

3. LES Strategic Plan: Kathleen Kluegel suggests that the LES Strategic Plan needs revision and combing, especially the Activities in Support of Goals. These need to be

revised according to what is achievable and useful. Kathleen wants an endorsement from ACRL Planning to revamp the Activities portion of the plan—prune, weed, attach dates and responsibilities, etc. Michael Macan notes that this work may change charges for committees. **Kathleen will do a pass through of the plan to identify areas for revision.** Kathy Johnson notes that the LES Past Chair can submit an article to *BibliNotes* reporting on overall achievement, in the manner of an annual report. This can address our major goals. The Chair can also report out to Membership at Midwinter meeting, and post to the LES website.

Note: it would normally be the business of the Planning Committee to revamp the LES Strategic Plan, but the Planning Committee is in a bind, with 2 new members and no chair. Kathy Johnson will be ex-officio on Planning, so cannot serve as chair. Question: can we install Kathy as acting chair? Kristine Anderson will bring the invitation to chair this group to General Membership.

4. 2008 Strategic Action plan proposals: Millie Jackson reports that librarians and two faculty members have ACRL support to attend MLA to discuss experience and success with the LES Research Competency Guidelines for Literatures in English. However, this proposal was not accepted by MLA at the national level, so ACRL approved a new application to regional MLA. South Atlantic MLA was very interested in putting the item on their agenda—the deadline is past for this year, but they solicited for 2008. Because the faculty members involved are 18th century specialists, the group may also plan to attend the South Central Eighteenth Century Society Conference, being held in New Orleans in February 2008. (Approved by Mary Ellen Davis.) Sophie Lesinska commented that it is worth affiliating with MLA discussion groups for the future, for another try, but in the meantime, smaller conferences are a good way to go, and will help us prepare a better presentation for the national level.

5. ACRL Information Literacy definitions: Kathy Johnson reported that ACRL is reviewing its definitions of information literacy, with open sessions at Annual and input welcome after conference. ACRL guidelines are supposed to be reviewed every 5 years, and are now 2 years overdue.

6. LES Budget Items: Kathy Johnson called for an oral affirmation of expenditure of 2007 budget: \$300 on LES Folger tours. This was a confirmation of the earlier affirmation by email to budget \$300 for the Folger tours in order to allow for ACRL's \$75 charge to handle tour reservations. As LES rather than ACRL ended up handling tour reservations, Johnson asked for permission to reimburse the Folger the full \$300 instead of the originally agreed on amount of \$225 (\$75 per tour). All in favor. [Note: the actual reimbursement to the Folger ended up being the originally agreed on sum of \$225.00.-KJ]

7. Appreciation and thanks; Susanna Van Sant reported that the Friday Folger tour was a great success, and thanked Kathy Johnson for all the work she's done as Chair of both LES and of the 2008 Program Planning Committee. Appreciation and applause.

Adjourned 10:00 am