**ALA LHRT Committee Midwinter Meeting**

**February 27, 2018**

**WEBEX Meeting**

**Attendees**: Suzanne Stauffer (Chair), Jenny Bossaller (Chair-Elect), Ellen Pozzi (Past-Chair), Mike Hunter (Secretary-Treasurer), Natalie Bulick (Secretary-Treasurer Elect), Karl Pettit (Past-Secretary-Treasurer), Marek Sroka (Member-at-Large), Emily Spunaugle (Member-at-Large), Nancy Dupree (Member-at-Large), Eric Novotny (Journal Editor)

1. Meeting brought to order, and attendees welcomed at 2 p.m. CST by Stauffer.
2. Before the meeting, minutes from the 2017 Annual Meeting were distributed and corrected. Stauffer made a motion to approve and distribute the minutes as previously adjusted. Minutes were unanimously approved following a second to the motion.
3. Officer reports and old business:
   1. Stauffer reported that the 2018 Holley Lecturer would be Dr. Mary Niall Mitchell, who is the Ethel & Herman L. Midlo Chair in New Orleans Studies, Joseph Tregle Professor in Early American History, and Associate Professor of History at the University of New Orleans where she co-directs the Midlo Center for New Orleans Studies. She is the author of *Raising Freedom's Child: Black Children and Visions of the Future after Slavery* (NYU Press, 2008). Her latest book project, *The Slave Girl in the Archive*, is a study of race, photography, slavery, and memory in the nineteenth century.
   2. Stauffer reported that the proposed Lee Shiflett Historical Research Essay Award— offering $10,000 for research support at the masters level (awarded in yearly increments of $1,000), and $1,000 to defray costs to attend the conference—is still with a committee with no current updates to report.
   3. Bossaller reported on 2018 awards: The Phyllis Dain Library History Dissertation Award— a certificate and five hundred dollars—is offered in odd-numbered years and will not be offered in 2018. The Eliza Atkins Gleason Book Award is presented every third year. It will be given next in 2019. The Donald G. Davis Article Award— a certificate honoring the author—is presented every even-numbered year so that it will be offered in 2018. The Justin Winsor Library History Essay Award— a certificate and a $500—is presented annually so that it will be given in 2018. There is an endowment to cover the cost of the Winsor Award. Margaret Hung’s dissertation, “English Public Libraries, 1919-1975: Vocation and Popularisation” (Leeds Metropolitan University, 2015) won the 2017 Phyllis Dain Library History Dissertation Award. Research Forum presentations will be by Steven K. Knowlton, Librarian for History and African American Studies at Princeton University, and Margaret Bausman, Assistant Professor and Head of Social Work & Urban Public Health Library at the City University of New York. Knowlton's paper is "A Rapidly Escalating Demand: Academic Libraries and the Birth of Black Studies Programs." Bausman’s paper is "Library Collections and Services for Immigrant Women and Girls during the Progressive Era: Social Control versus Personal Agency."
   4. Hunter reported totals for the fiscal year: total revenues $2,467; total expenses: $2,261; total assets: $62,224; budget remaining $3,000 (of $5,867 budget). Novotny noted that there were additional journal expenses that had not yet shown up on the financial report. Novotny will investigate with Penn State University Press. Hunter will follow-up with Program Officer Kelsey Henke and Kathy Rosa, Director of the ALA Office of Research and Evaluation.
      1. How much of LHRT’s original commitment to Penn State University Press has been paid, how much is remaining to be paid, and what budget category are these funds coming from?
      2. Under publication expenses, there is a category for mail service-outside. We have paid $1,459. We are wondering if this is part of the expenses being paid to Penn State that should be categorized differently.
      3. Who at ALA will work with us on setting a new budget, particularly in regards to determining ALA operating expenses that we do not set?
4. Pozzi reported on three committee meetings-- the Membership Assembly, the Conference Planning Committee, and the Roundtable Coordinating Assembly. Pozzi reported that roundtable membership numbers are up from 332 at the end of 2016 to 395 at the end of 2017 (18.98%). Committee members discussed ideas for continuing to increase membership. An example was given of one round table that contacts new members with hand-written welcome notes when joining and then by email three or four more times over the first six months. The Committee can obtain a list of lapsed members if the Committee would like to reach out to them. Ron Jankowski, ALA Membership Director, may have small amounts of funding for special outreach efforts. The Committee could go to him with ideas. Promotion of the journal is essential in continuing to increase membership. The Conference Planning Committee is working on modifying the rubrics for the juries. We do not have representation next year on the jury—but hopefully, there can be some change in the jury system for the roundtables as the current system is not working for them. For example, there is no mechanism for co-sponsorships of programs. There was discussion about changing the ALA Midwinter meetings, including co-locating division events to bring in smaller conferences from the divisions. The Roundtable Coordinating Assembly discussed the launch of the new ALA connect again this spring. ALA Connect will not be available from 3/26 to 4/25 while they transfer data. Training opportunities will be pushed out after MidWinter. There was also discussion about the ALA Jury submission process (this is the jury that gets all the submissions for all the roundtables—except for president’s program and discussion group). This is not working for the roundtables. There are too many submissions, and not everyone on the jury can see all the submissions. LHRT needs to encourage its members to submit to the ALA jury next year if it is the same as this year.
5. Bossaller was not able to attend the Education Assembly or the Budget and Planning meetings but will be attending this year.
6. Novotny distributed a report about the journal (see appendage). The Spring 2018 issue marked the second year for the journal. Novotny reported that the journal has done precisely what it was supposed to—established itself as a respected outlet for the best library history scholarship. Out of 50 total submissions for the first three issues, the editors accepted 15 peer-reviewed manuscripts (30%), rejected 22, asked for revisions and submittals for 11. Two were withdrawn. Novotny reported that there were strong submissions in the pipeline for upcoming issues. The editors will wait for resubmission for a period and then remove them from the count, assuming the authors decided not to resubmit. The journal has 429 mailed subscriptions with the majority sent to LHRT members. It appears that a larger number of people are using the journal via JSTOR. In 2017, there were more than 1600 article views and 800 downloads. Institutional and personal subscribers make up a relatively small number of subscriptions. Next year the journal should be appearing in major indexes. Many index providers wait a few years to make sure a journal is going to last. Committee members asked about the journal eventually becoming a quarterly submissions continue to increase. Novotny indicated that it was too soon to know, but the editors will make a recommendation should they obtain too many good submissions for two issues. It was suggested that the journal could first move to three issues before becoming a quarterly.

Current Business

1. Stauffer presented to the Committee a request she had received for $1000 to co-sponsor the New Orleans Public Library program entitled "'Hidden Figures' in American Library History: The Desegregation of Public Libraries in the Jim Crow South” June 24, 2-4 p.m. The Committee discussed possible conflicts with this presentation and other LHRT-sponsored events at ALA. The Committee discussed the uncertainty of the budget report until follow-up is received from ALA regarding journal costs that may or may not have been correctly recorded. The Committee reviewed budget categories for conferences, speakers, and honorariums. The Committee approved in principle providing $500 to assist with the event, dependent upon the budget report information coming from Kathy Rosa. The Committee discussed having LHRT flyers or flyers about the journal at the library event.
2. Stauffer submitted a proposal from the School of Library & Information Science at Louisiana State University (LSU) to host the next Library History Symposium to be held August 11-13, 2020 with a possibility of pre- and/or post-conference events, such as a guided tour of the LSU Rural Life Museum or visit to LSU’s Hill Memorial Library Special Collections (see appended proposal). LSU’s proposal was the only proposal received for sponsorship. A motion was made to accept the proposal. The proposal was unanimously approved following a second to the motion.
3. Stauffer discussed a proposal to change the Library History Seminar (LHS) schedule to alternate with the Library Research Round Table (LRRT) every four years, in odd years beginning with LRRT in 2023 and LHS in 2025. By holding LHS every five years, we miss entire graduating classes. LHRT is a small roundtable with not much infrastructure and support. Sponsoring organizations are pretty much doing LHS on their own. LRRT is not currently on a schedule. Stauffer has contacted them about the proposal. Alternating will provide something for doctoral students every two years with LHRT only having to provide something every four years. LRRT is set for 2019 and LHS is set for 2020. If changed, LHS would happen in 2021 and LRRT in 2023. The Committee determined that the proposal would need to be voted on by membership since it is in the bylaws. Stauffer will follow-up on it since it could not be put on the elections until next spring.

**Action Items Summary:** Stauffer will report on Lee Shiflett award when information is available. Novotny will continue to investigate Penn State University Press invoices and payments. Hunter will follow-up with Kathy Rosa concerning budget categories and questions from the Committee. Stauffer will follow-up on co-sponsorship of the New Orleans Public Library program when budget information is clarified by Rosa and Hunter. Stauffer will follow-up on a membership vote concerning the LHS schedule change.

Adjourned at 3:30 p.m. CST



Report to the Library History Round Table **LCHS editors, Eric Novotny and Bernadette Lear  
February 2018**

With our Spring 2018 issue we mark our 2nd year of publishing *LCHS.* To commemorate the occasion we drafted a brief history of the journal for the 3rd issue, acknowledging the contributions made by many LHRTers. Additionally, we want to thank our peer reviewers who generously donate their time and expertise and help produce better scholarship with their insights.   
  
We believe the journal is already established as a respected outlet for the best library history scholarship. We deeply appreciate all the support LHRT has provided, both intellectually and financially, and we are eager to hear from the membership on how the publication can best serve the library history community.

# Manuscripts Submitted to LCHS

As the chart on the next page illustrates, interest in the journal has been strong and we continue to receive a steady flow of quality submissions. For the first three issues we received 50 manuscripts, excluding book reviews, and accepted 15 for an acceptance rate of 30%. Our authors include LIS faculty (7), academic librarians (5), LIS students (2), one archivist, and one professor of criminal justice. All are from the United States. Attracting international authors remains a goal.

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## LCHS, Vol. 1, No. 2 (Fall 2017)

**Editors’ Introduction**   
Bernadette Lear and Eric Novotny

**Eliza Giffard and Her Books, 1797–2015: The Legacies of a Regency Library**

Charlotte Priddle

**Libraries and Publisher Price Control: The Net Price System 1901–1914 and Contemporary E-book Pricing**

Mei Zhang and Jonathan Senchyne

**Libraries are the Homes of Books: Whiteness in the Construction of School Librarie**s

Suzanne Stauffer

**Conflicting Philosophies: Two Librarians and a Presidential Bibliophile**

Meg Miner

**Reform and Revolution: Juvenile Detention Center Libraries in the 1970s**

Jeanie Austin

Book Review–*Reading Publics: New York City's Public Libraries, 1754–1911*, by Tom Glynn

Reviewed by Anthony Bernier

## LCHS, Vol. 2, No. 1 (Spring 2018)

**Welcome from the Editors** **and a Brief History of LCHS** (includes an account of LCHS's history),   
 Eric Novotny and Bernadette Lear  
  
**The Library of Thomas B. Catron and the Transformation of New Mexico**  
Michael Taylor  
  
**It is Simply Out of the Question to Eliminate the Colorline": The Development of Black Library Service in Atlanta and the Integration of the Atlanta Public Library**   
Dallas Hanbury    
  
**’The Spirit of the Builder': The Library Career of Julia Carson** **Stockett**   
Lisa R. Lindell   
  
**One Staff, Two Branches: New York City's Fiscal Crisis and the Queens Borough Public Library**  
Jeffrey A. Kroessler  
  
**Book Reviews**:

* Alistair Black's *Libraries of Light*, reviewed by Anthony Bernier
* Thomas Hendrickson's *Ancient Libraries and Renaissance Humanism: The De Bibliothecis of Justus Lipsius*, reviewed by Astrid Meyer
* Frank Felsenstein's and James J. Connolly's *What Middletown Read: Print Culture in an American Small City*, reviewed by Callista Williams

Indexing  
We have provided the Penn State Press with a (long) list of indexing and abstracting services we would like to see the journal included in.  This includes the standard Library and Information Science indices, but also indexes covering history, women's studies, general humanities, and other disciplines.

For most scholarly indexing services there's an evaluation process and the Press has strongly advised waiting until after our 2nd volume is complete before applying.  Some indexes won't even consider a title in the first few years of publication. With others, if the journal is turned down, you have to wait 3-5 years before you can reapply.  Waiting until after we complete volume 2 will demonstrate that the journal publishes on schedule and is receiving enough submissions to publish future issues. The Press has managed applications for many journals and we value their experience in this area.  We understand the importance of having LCHS indexed and will continue to work on this.

# Marketing, Subscriptions, and Reception

LCHS has 429 mailed subscriptions with the majority sent to LHRT members. It appears that a larger number of people are using the journal via JSTOR. In 2017, there were more than 1600 article views and 800 downloads. Institutional and personal subscribers make up a relatively small number of subscriptions, but the Press assures us that this is normal for a new publication and they are happy with how the journal is developing. We appreciate your ongoing efforts to get the word out and encourage subscriptions.

We continue to take any opportunity to drum-up LCHS. The first issue has been made open-access so potential subscribers and authors can view the contents for free. This Fall, the Pennsylvania Library Association interviewed us for its "Launchpod" podcast series -- a program which focuses on innovative librarians in Pennsylvania. If you're interested in listening, go to http://www.palibraries.org/blogpost/1554646/290034/Libraries-Culture-History-and-Society .   
  
Most exciting – the Library History Round Table membership has increased. LHRT’s membership is up from 332 at the end of 2016 to 395 at the end of 2017. This is a reversal from previous years when the round table lost members. In addition to publishing quality scholarship, we hoped that the journal would attract new members and it appears that our publication is assisting in that effort. Also, we were recently informed that 2 LCHS articles are being considered for the Donald G. Davis Award -- another indicator of the quality of our author’s work and its positive reception.

**Committee Chair:**

Suzanne M. Stauffer, PhD

Associate Professor

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**Committee Members:**

Carol Barry, PhD, Director, SLIS Dr. Brenton Stewart, SLIS

Dr. Ed Benoit, SLIS

Tentative/proposed members:

Emma Bradford Perry, Dean of Libraries, Southern University

Stanley Wilder, Dean, LSU Libraries

Rebecca Hamilton, State Librarian of Louisiana

David Lloyd, Director, Rural Life Museum, LSU Burden Museum & Gardens Louisiana State Museum, Administrative Staff Member

Louisiana Museum of Art, Administrative Staff Member Louisiana State Archives, Administrative Staff Member

**Institutional Sponsor:**

School of Library & Information Science College of Human Sciences & Education

**Potential Sponsors:**

LSU Press; University of Louisiana Press; University Press of Mississippi

Ebsco; ProQuest; OCLC

Rowman & Littlefield; Libraries Unlimited; Sage Publications University Products; Gaylord Archival

Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America

Cottonwood Books (Baton Rouge); Cavalier House Books (Denham Springs) Nottoway Plantation; Houmas House

Abita Brewing Company

**Planned number of days**: Three

**Proposed dates:**

August 11-13, 2020, with a possibility of pre- and/or post-conference events, such as a guided tour of the LSU Rural Life Museum or visit to LSU’s Hill Memorial Library Special Collections

**Conference Location:**

The historic Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center Hotel and Conference Center : Ballroom for plenary and closing, three meetings rooms concurrently. The closest major airport is Baton Rouge Metropolitan, eight miles away. The Hilton has a free airport shuttle for guests. A cab is $20. Baton Rouge is 70 miles northwest of the Louis Armstrong New Orleans International airport.

Within walking distance are the LSU Museum of Art, Louisiana Art & Science Museum, Old State Capitol, Louisiana State Museum, Louisiana State Library, and Louisiana new State Capitol. Numerous restaurants are also less than a block away.

**Accommodations:**

Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center Hotel

Conference rate of $159 single/double/triple/quadruple. Rate will be available August 8-16 Wireless and DSL internet included; on-site fitness center included

Within walking distance are two Holiday Inn Express locations, Hotel Indigo and Hampton Inn, although conference goers will be encouraged to stay at the Hilton.

**Financial and Institutional Support:**

The College of Human Sciences & Education Office of Communications & Engagement Services will provide registration management through its online event management software, which includes a dynamic online registration, secure payment processing, onsite check in and on-demand badge printing. The software will also support the complete Call for Papers process, from collecting submissions to creating the final agenda and session management. The Office will also provide publicity.

SLIS has an active ALA Student Chapter, which will also be resource for additional support. Donations and grants will be solicited from the potential sponsors listed above, among others.

An estimated registration fee is in the range of $225, which includes two coffee breaks, two lunches, a reception and a catered dinner. There will be a significant discount for students.

**Proposed Conference Theme and Proposed Keynote Speaker(s):**

Librarians without Borders: Historical Perspectives on Library Outreach

This conference seeks to explore the history of library outreach in all of its forms, and defines “library” and “outreach” in the broadest possible terms. The concept of library transcends that of the traditional physical location with a specific collection of books and other materials, clearly defined audience, and formally instituted policies and procedures. Outreach ranges from traditional formal programs designed to reach underserved and marginalized groups within a library’s community of service to physical and virtual efforts that move beyond the borders of the community to collaborations between libraries and other cultural heritage institutions.

**Proposed Keynote Speaker(s)** (preliminary): Gaines M. Foster, LSU Foundation M.J. Foster Professor of History; Alecia P. Long, John L. Loos Professor of American History; Nancy Isenberg, T. Harry Williams Professor; John Maxwell Hamilton, Hopkins P. Breazeale Professor of Journalism, LSU, Senior Scholar, Woodrow Wilson International Center, Washington and author of Casanova Was a Book Lover: And Other Naked Truths and Provocative Curiosities about the Writing, the Selling, and the Reading of Books. Also numerous possibilities among LSU Women’s & Gender Studies and African & African-American Studies faculty, as well as Southern University’s History Department faculty.

**Number of Potential Concurrent Programs:**

3 programs to run concurrently. Plenary and two sessions on the first day, three or four sessions the second, plenary, one session and closing session the third day.

**Proposed Timeline:**

Dates will be finalized upon notification of selection Call for Papers will be issued June, 2019

Due Date for call for papers November 1, 2019

Decisions will be announced January 15, 2020 (ALA Midwinter)

Registration deadline for early bird (10% discount) will be March 15, 2020; advance (no discount) July 15; onsite registration will be permitted with a 15% increase