**Annual Meeting**

**Library History Round Table**

**ALA Midwinter Meeting**

Tuesday 14 January 2020, 1-3PM (Pacific)

Zoom via: https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/103777812

**Attendees**: Anthony Bernier (Chair), Jenny Bossaller (Past Chair), Dana Hettich , Allison Kaplan, Steve Knowlton (Secretary-Treasurer elect) , Bernadette Lear, Cindy Mediavilla , Eric Novotny (Secretary-Treasurer), Danielle Ponton (ALA Liaison), , Ellen Pozzi , Brett Spencer

Recording available at: <https://sjsu.zoom.us/rec/play/7p1-drurrm03TNDD4QSDU6MvW9S-J6Ks23NM__MKmkiyVXUEOwCkN-QRNKQJysnJQ-c6TzvkVFw5Ahc?continueMode=true>

Documents shared with Executive Committee via ALA Connect, <https://connect.ala.org/lhrt/viewdocument/materials-for-lhrt-executive-commit?CommunityKey=ccd47e54-771f-4a50-bb47-d161af05fd7e&tab=librarydocuments>

INTRODUCTIONS, GROUND RULES, AND PAST BUSINESS

A. **Welcome and ground rules for the meeting** Bernier 5 mins

B. **Introduction of attendees** All 5 mins

C. **Approval of Annual 2019 Meeting Minutes** [attached] Bernier 5 mins

Meeting minutes from the June 2091 Annual meeting of the Executive Committee were posted to ALA Connect. Draft minutes were unanimously approved.

D. **Officers’ Reports**:

**Chair’s Report** (Bernier)– the report of the LHRT Chair was posted to ALA Connect. LHRT is in a strong position. Bernier thanked the Executive Committee for their support as he transitions to a leadership role. Bernier athanked Brett Spencer for his work on LHRT *News and Notes* and notes that the journal *LCHS* is now entering its 4th year.   
Bernier announced that members have been appointed to all 4 LHRT award committees. He has recruited several LIS students to serve as observers of committees and hopes that going forward we can include at least one LIS student on each committee as a way of engaging with newer (potential) members.   
Bernier is attending ALA Midwinter and plans to represent LHRT at RTCA and organizational effectiveness meetings.

1 **2020 Edward G. Holley Speaker** (Bernier)  
Lisa Tetrault from Carnegie Mellon has accepted our invitation to give the Edward G. Holley lecture at the 2020 conference. She is a historian who specializes in the history of U.S. women and gender. She’s published a very important book in US history, *The Myth of Seneca Falls: Memory and the Women's Suffrage Movement, 1848-1898*.

2. **2020** **Research Forum**

Action Item: Pozzi, Bernier, and Bossaller volunteered to take the lead on the 2020 LHRT Research Forum. This group will select a Forum theme, issue the CFP issued and review submissions. They will recruit others if needed. Bernier has requested our usual Sunday time slot subject to ALA approval

3. **LHRT Awards**

a. Donald G. Davis Article Award (Spencer, Chair)

Nominations have closed. Have received 9 nominations. Members advertised outside ALA including the American Historical Association, Organization of State and Local Historians, Archives and History group in SAA. Action Item: Spencer will share a full list of places award advertised in case it is useful to other award committee chairs.  
Group discussed whether to include book chapters. Spencer consulted with several members including past committee chairs and decided to accept book chapters this year.   
Action Item: Spencer was asked to write a recommendation to the Executive Committee regarding the inclusion/exclusion of book chapters. This is a recurring issue and we should have clear and consistent criteria going forward.

b. **Phyllis Dain Dissertation Award** (Barry Seaver, Chair)

Bernier reported that the committee members have been appointed and they have begun the call for nominations.

c. **Eliza Atkins Gleason Book Award** (Kaplan, Chair)  
 Kaplan noted that the group is just getting started as the award is not scheduled to be given until ALA Annual 2022. Plan to issue an initial call in Feb.2021, and repeat periodically until nominations close in Jan. 2022. Encourages everyone to share strong library history books with the committee.

d. **Justin Winsor Essay Award** (Mediavilla, Chair)

Mediavilla reported that the committee has established a review schedule and sent call for nominations via ALA and LHRT News and Notes. Not seeing many submissions, invited ideas for generating more. Pozzi will post to LHRT website, Spencer can re-post to News & Notes, which will also go out to LHRTs facebook and twitter accounts. Suggestion to reach out to LIS professors/schools to recruit essays and use H-net to reach non-ALA members, including history, literature doctoral students. Action Item: Mediavilla will share places where call announced to help guide future chairs.

4. **Communications** **Committee**(Team)

Bernier appointed LIS student,Terry Schiavone to the group. Terry has talked with B. Spencer and discussed projects relating to LHRT News and Notes. Terry also submitted a book reviews for *LCHS*  
Novotny noted that the June 2019 Executive Committee meeting minutes include; “General agreement that a Communications Committee was unnecessary. The blog editor, LCHS journal editors, and webmaster all communicate and coordinate already and the process is working well.”

After discussion the decision to eliminate the Communications committee was affirmed. The editors of LHRT publications (News and Notes and LCHS) will still be asked to submit updates to the Executive Committee meetings. Action Item: Bernier will reach out to Terry Schiavone about serving on another LHRT committee.

5. **Secretary-Treasurer** (Novotny)

LHRT expenditures exceeded revenues by some $7,000 in FY 2019. After some investigation it appears that we made an extra journal payment. Due to a delay we paid a bill in 2019 that should have been made in 2018. Also, during this period we made the final two “support” payments agreed to at the launch of the journal. The financial situation should stabilize going forward after this spike. The support payments are done and we will start to receive royalties in 2021. On the plus ide, we have added 90 personal members since the launch of the journal.

6. **Budget Approval** (Bernier)

Bernier previously submitted a proposal via email and the executive committee approved $1,500 for the Holley lecture speaker. Anticipated expenses include the Davis Award ($500). There may be an expense for ALA Annual conference if we request A-V.   
Action Item: Ponton will see if she can get estimate of costs from Conference Services. We may get equipment free for the Chair’s Program, but not for a 2nd program.

Action Item: Eric will reach out to Suzanne Stauffer about any desired financial support for Library History Seminar

E. **Other Reports**

1. **ALA Liaison Officer** (Ponton)  
ALA Headquarters moving to new location in April to Michigan Avenue. Hoping to host an open house for ALA Annual attendees. Proposal that round tables have 1% of ALA membership to continue.

2. **Membership & Outreach** (Novotny)

The latest report (November 2019) shows a modest increase in personal memberships with 425 in November 2019 compared to 410 in November 2018. Organizational memberships declined from 12 to 11. Overall membership is 436, still well short of the “1% of total ALA membership” threshold proposal in ALA’s “Forward Together” strategic document.

3. **Nominations** (Bossaller)

Took some time and effort, but produced a good slate of candidates. Have candidates for each open position. Need to encourage those who run and are not elected to continue to stay active in LHRT.

4. **ALA Conference Program Jury** (Bossaller)

Pozzi reminded the group that LHRT has a representative to serve on the group that reviews round table conference program proposals. We can appoint a representative every other year. Ponton noted that ALA is starting to establish the jury for programs at ALA 2021 (the 2020 program already established)

Action Item: Ponton will review when LHRT is scheduled to have a representative on the program review committee.

5. **News & Notes** (Spencer)

Spencer thanked everyone who contributed content. Still looking for more student papers – those who teach, please encourage students in your classes to submit. Could make publishing on the blog a part of the assignment. Open to new ideas - sas started a new “Teacher’s Corner” to share library history teaching materials. Some copyright hurdles with things like syllabi, but always looking for general teaching tips/ideas. Also creates a new section for international news and considering compiling a list of open access resources.   
Bernier thanked Brett for all his work on the blog.

6. ***LCHS*** (Novotny & Lear)

Issue 3.2 was published in Spring 2019 and is available on JSTOR with print issues mailed to LHRT members. Issue 4.1 is in production with the Press. We’re seeing slower, but still steady increases in page views and subscriptions. We’re also pleased to report that LCHS has been added to major LIS and history indexes and databases, including *Library and Information Science Inde*x, *America History and Life*, *Historical Abstracts*, and others. EBSCO has also agreed to add relevant content to *MLA Bibliography*. These are signs of a stable, maturing publication. Spencer’s efforts as book review editor have paid off in a considerable increase in reviews. This is a good way to engage a diverse range of authors in the work of the journal.  
Going forward a major issue to discuss will be the publishing contract. Our 5 year agreement expires with the Press in 2021. Bernadette and I met with the Press in June and they are pleased with the arrangement. The journal is generating sufficient revenues to be sustainable and will soon allow LHRT to receive a royalty payment. The Press does not anticipate any increase in what LHRT pays per member (currently $10/year). The editors will request time on the agenda at the annual meeting to further discuss publishing options.

Novotny submitted and Bossaller seconded a **Motion,**   
MOTION to reappoint Bernadette Lear as co-editor of the journal Libraries: Culture, History, and Society. The term will be two years, effective May 1, 2020 and concluding April 30, 2022, with the possibility of renewal.

RATIONALE:  The co-editors of the journal serve staggered two year terms.  This minimizes the chance that both editors would need to be replaced simultaneously.  Bernadette's term concludes April 30, 2020.  Reappointment is recommended as the co-editors work well together, have successfully published all issues on time, and journal growth is healthy.   
Eric Novotny was reappointed by the Executive Committee to a term that concludes in April 2021.

After discussion the motion was approved unanimously.

Bossaller asked if there had been had any discussions about succession plans for replacing an editor. Novotny and Lear noted that we serve staggered terms, which makes it likely that at least one experienced editor would stay on. Also noted that the book review editor would be familiar with the editorial review system. The short term for Editors (two years) allows for regular Executive Committee input. If not happy with direction, can easily make changes.

Action Item: Bernier asked the LCHS editors to compile a list of discussion questions/items for discussion at future Executive Committee meetings.

II. **CURRENT & NEW BUSINESS**

A. **Update on ALA Forward Together** (Nov ’19)

Posted to ALA Connect

Discussed the report issued by the Steering Committee on Organizational Effectiveness (SCOE) Bernier noted that SCOE is organizing Q&As at ALA annual conference. Ponton recently heard that SCOIE is scheduling a session specifically with round tables.   
Major concern for LHRT is the 1% membership threshold. Ponton reported that ALA personal membership is currently around 52,000. Round Tables would have 3 years to reach 1% of that number. Lear notes that report includes possible exceptions for “essential” organizations. Lear noted that LHRT could make a strong case for this (have included past chairs, support LIS curriculum)

Group discussed other responses if 1% threshold is enforced including merging with other round tables, ramping up recruitment, including promoting the journal as aperk of membership. Important that we preserve core functions. Also prepare for the worst consider what we could do on our own – perhaps host the research forum separate from ALA via Zoom.   
ideas for increasing membership? Ramp up publicity around journal.

Question about portion of document referencing “administrative efficiencies” Ponton responded that there are 20+ round tables each with own by-laws. Want to make these more uniform, believe more consistency will make it easier for liasions to support the round tables. Also looking to standardize round table dues.

III. **ADDITIONAL NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/QUESTIONS**

 **Visit from ALA Presidential candidate (Patty Wong**)

ALA invited Patty Wong, candidate for ALA President. She highlighted her qualifications, priorities and core values should she be elected. These included intellectual freedom, increasing engagement, diversity/inclusion promoting ensuring the health/well-being of ALA staff, and fostering leadership at all levels of librarianship. Sees Round Tables as another way members are engaged. Noted that LHRT engages not just with ALA but the profession more widely through our journal and News and Notes.

IV. **ADJOURNMENT**