SLA Canada board meeting  
29 March 2021  
Via Zoom

Present: Patricia Cia, Katherine Scott, Jane Dysart, Bronwyn Smith, Catherine Lavalée-Welch, Juanita Richardson, Stephen Abram, Jim Miller, Merritt Kalagian, Karen Bleakly, Caleb Nault, Therese Mainville, Thomas Blennerhasset, Craig Wingrove

Guests: Kimberley Silk, Valerie Perry

Regrets: James Monasco & Manfred from SLA Kentucky (invited but unable to attend)

Standing Agenda:  (no other business brought up at beginning of meeting)

1. Welcome
2. Review minutes from previous meeting. Report on any follow up from actions.
   ● No changes or corrections to minutes from last meeting
   ● Debit card for PC not yet received
3. Finance
   ● Financial report distributed by email in advance of the meeting
   ● Review of the submitted report by Merritt. No questions or comments. Merrit motioned to approve the budget as presented. Seconded by Juanita. Approved (no objections).
   ● Paypal remains an ongoing issue. There is a balance of $4,000 due to SLA Canada.
   ● Juanita asked Catherine Lavallée-Welch for her advice.
     Action: She will speak to Amy to follow up.
4. Governance (Pres Elect/Past Pres)
   ● Role of SLA re: advocacy
     ○ KB: renewal of FMD membership, cost was prohibitively expensive compared to value of membership, in addition to the requirement of SLA representation at their meetings. Paired during CPI conference deems not a good use of the joint conference planning. This decision was not well-received by the FMD. SLA members did not respond with any indication that there was a desire to join.
     ○ Meantime, SLA has been invited to participate in a prix d'architecture. No cost was discussed.
     ○ JD: SLA wants to support special librarianship in Quebec and approach cooperation as a partner rather than as a member.
     ○ SA: We can commit to another form of partnership (eg. marketing, programming) instead of open-ended membership.
     ○ CLW: Catherine reached out to offer a new form of partnership and was bluntly refused.
     ○ CLW is also a member of CPPQ where there might be partnership opportunities that serve the same geographical community.
     ○ KB will respond to FMD that there is consensus among the board that we do not wish to renew membership and will explore other opportunities for partnerships in Quebec.
• CLW: Joint job fair with McGill, U de M. Students who participated shared contact info and, in some cases, resumes.
• TB: proposes refocusing his efforts within the SLA board on social media rather than partnership development.
  ○ JB: Juanita commented that TB’s partner relations work has been excellent in a difficult year. The board agreed.
  ○ Jane: Supported the idea of a more robust social media strategy that would benefit the association.
  ○ SA: the new initiative with Gary Price can be a key component for developing content and contextualizing the content.
  ○ CW: Students are in high need for social media content especially for industry knowledge, jobs, etc.
  ○ PC: asked if there were any objections or concerns. None noted. TB has board support to take on this work.
  ○ PC: invited suggested for other days or times for board meetings.

5. Communications
• Position is open, but TB to start some social media work

6. Web Manager
• CN Will connect TB re: social media
• CN unable to do additional web work due to professional demands.
• CN did solve the issue of the time-out on the website. Should be resolved now.
• Upcoming meetings and events, as well as new social feeds will be embedded in the website.

7. Programming
• SLA Kentucky seeking to increase student membership
• Manfred, of the UBC Student chapter, was invited to speak at SLA Kentucky but was unable to attend. SA provided a list of resources and potential speakers.
• Jane has completed a calendar of events for the remainder of the year.
  ○ April 15 event - will advertise through social (Virtual tour of Regent College Library, hosted by Bronwyn)
  ○ April 20 - event featuring author of adventure novels
  ○ May 4 - presentation with director of marketing, Women’s college Hospital
  ○ End of May - Government library session; looking for a non-librarian government staff who can talk about information sharing.
  ○ June - Standing tall and articulating our value (may use Air Meet to allow people to meet at tables)
  ○ Date TBD: Our community event
  ○ August: IFLA (Virtual); JD will find opportunities for SLA Canada to participate (e.g. as speakers)
  ○ September: Gary Price event
  ○ October: potential event with Canadian Music Libraries
  ○ December: AGM and Social
• JD asked about potential non-members being involved in an unofficial capacity such as volunteering with programming. Valerie suggested bringing people in. CLW indicated that ideally volunteers would be members, but potential to bring in volunteers.

• CLW: asked to clarify out access to directory/member lists from SLA HQ. Excel spreadsheet received is inconsistent with the online directory. PC indicated online directory is severely out of date. SA suggested a focus on membership data in preparation for revenue generation.

8. Regional Voices
9. Partner Relations
• JR to take over the partner relations role and recruit a new volunteer for the campaign.

10. Student Chapters
• Meetings with Montreal groups. SA confirmed that employment is a primary concern by students.
• CW/SA: several students have full summer terms so we should not ignore students throughout the summer.
• Acknowledgement of particular challenges for learning/teaching in a virtual environment.
• JR to follow up with Stephen on sponsorship

11. Any other business: new / old
• VP: There is an upcoming leadership training session through SLA HQ

12. Next meeting: 26 April 2021 (PC to send out meeting request)

13. Adjourn: 29 March 2021 @ 5:03 p, EST