

PLA 2003 Conference Program Coordinating Committee (CPCC)
Sunday, January 20, 2002
2002 ALA Midwinter Meeting
New Orleans, LA

Attendance

Present:

Nann Blaine Hilyard
Mabel Ann Kincheloe
Barbara Webb
Jonalyn R. Woolf-Ivory
Jane S. Eickhoff, Chair

Guests:

Beth Hovius, Canadian Library Assn.

Staff:

Linda Bostrom, PLA Education Director

Introductions and Background

The 2003 ALA Annual Conference will be held June 19-25 in Toronto, Canada, jointly with the Canadian Library Association (CLA). It has been over 40 years (1960) since ALA and CLA partnered in this manner. Beth Hovius represented the public library sector of CLA (in place of Beth Barlow who was unable to attend). She provided some background information on CLA and what expectations are for this joint conference. CLA has only 2700 members but have the same issues as ALA members. CLA members will not be submitting program proposals but will work with ALA divisions and other units to shape programs to fit the needs of both groups.

Hovius suggested several topics that are of interest to CLA members:

- Internet labeling and the expectations of libraries without the funding required to back it
- Improving access to the Internet in languages other than roman alphabet-based (Gary Strong was suggested as a possible speaker to this topic)
- Buildings/library construction (esp., designing efficient buildings run by fewer staff members)
- Economic impact of public libraries
- Library leadership
- Canadian literature
- Children's use of public libraries
- Regional literature (Beth Hovius offered to work on this using local Toronto authors)

Review of Proposals:

PRECONFERENCES

Two preconference proposals were discussed, one with supporting paperwork and one without.

PLA #90 Filling Your Niche in the Digital World: How Libraries Add Real Value in a Warp-Speed World. (One-day)
Source: Practical Applications of Technology Committee; overview presented by Bruce Zeigman.
Topic: Administration/techonology
Status It was suggested that Canadian examples be incorporated; that Cate McNeely or other Canadian speakers be invited. Beth Barlow may be a source for other names. **Approved.**
Liaison: **Jonalyn Woolf-Ivory**

PLA #40: Librarians and Trustees: Teamwork for the Community's Benefit. (One-day)
Source: Kansas Library Trustee Association; overview presented by Ellen Miller, ALTA representative to PLA Board.
Topic: Administration
Status: Committee suggested that Ellen seek ALTA cosponsorship and that program needs fleshing out. May work better as half-day preconference. Linda Bostrom is to check on the monetary support requested. **Tentatively approved.**
Liaison: **Jonalyn Woolf-Ivory**

PROGRAMS

The following program proposals were reviewed, some without benefit of supporting paperwork, which was submitted in New Orleans after the CPCC's meeting:

PLA #60: I Want to Speak to the Person in Charge
Source: Jefferson County (CO) Public Library; overview presented by Elena Rosenfeld on behalf of Ann Kress.
Topic: Administration, Customer Service, Staffing/Staff Development
Status: Program focuses on Columbine response. Concern was expressed as to continuing interest. Perhaps focus more on developing an emergency response for various types of emergencies. Beth Hovius suggested plan developed by Hamilton, Ont. be used as an example, and if this type of program hasn't been presented in a while it may be time. **Tentatively rejected.**
Liaison: **Barbara Webb**

PLA #70: They Never Tell Me Anything
Source: LD/Public Library Systems; overview presented by Art Weeks on behalf of Lorri Lessey
Topic: Administration, Staffing/Staff Development

Status: CPCC recommended that an outside communications expert be included.
Approved.

Liaison: **Nann Blaine Hilyard**

PLA #80: Teaching for Lively Learning: Putting Active Learning into Classes
Source: Adult Lifelong Learning Services Committee; overview presented by Elena Rosenfeld.

Topic: Administration, Customer Service, Staffing/Staff Development
Status: Since this program is about making presentations interesting and adding variety to educational programming, the CPCC asked that a speaker beyond Jefferson County (CO) be added. This may be a good PLA/CLA program. **Approved.**

Liaison: **Barbara Webb**

PLA #220: School and Public Libraries: A Team Effort

Source: Services to Children, Youth and Their Caregivers Committee

Topic: Children's Services

Status: More explanation of models used would be helpful. B. Hovius noted that Canadians are moving away from public library/school cooperation. CPCC recommended that the description be expanded. **Approved.**

Liaison: **Jane Eickhoff**

(NOTE: THE COMMITTEE HAS SINCE WITHDRAWN THE PROPOSAL ABOVE, #220,)

PLA #20: Do We Make a Difference? Evaluation of Public Library Services to Preschool Children

Source: PLA/ALSC Joint Preschool Initiative Task Force

Topic: Research/Statistics, Strategic Planning

Status: **Approved.**

Liaison: **Mabel Kincheloe**

PLA #10: Quality Customer Service: Survival Skills Spanish

Source: Houston Public Library Staff

Topic: Customer Service, Special Populations, Staffing/Staff Development

Status: CPCC would like this to be more about the process, i.e., making it applicable to any language. Currently too limited for Toronto.
Tentatively Approved.

Liaison: **Jonalyn Woolf-Ivory.**

PLA #50: Catalogers: Why We Need Them; Where Will They Come From.

Source: Bridgeport (CT) Public Library

Topic: Administration, Customer Service, Staffing/Staff Development

Status: Objectives do not seem measurable; they're more needs statements. Would better make a talk table. Jane Eickhoff will discuss with the organizer. **Tentatively rejected.**

Liaison: **Jane Eickhoff.**

PLA #100: Hot Topics Talk Tables
Source: Emerging Issues Discussion Group
Topic: Topics of Current Interest
Status: Low maintenance program. Has been presented several years in a row.
Approved.
Liaison: **Linda Bostrom**

Requests for Placeholder

Chair Eickhoff informed the group of an unwritten proposal from the Collection Management Committee. Tentative title is “What Do You Do When Your Budget Is Cut?” Cynthia Orr and Marsha Spiros are Cochairs of the committee. This is a popular topic for Canadian libraries. Mabel Kincheloe is liaison and will pursue this.

Another unwritten proposal was presented for the Services to Multicultural Populations Committee (Joseph Eagan, Chair). Working title is “Serving New Immigrant Families.” The SMP committee would like a 2:00-4:00pm time slot on either Saturday or Sunday.

The Job and Career Information Services and Services to Business Committees asked for a placeholder. Their program topic is on web sites on business and career information using both Canadian and U.S. examples. No liaison was assigned.

The Intellectual Freedom committee requested a placeholder for a joint program with their Canadian counterpart. They would like to compare U.S./Canadian intellectual freedom issues, perhaps focusing on patron privacy and the U.S. Patriot Act. Nann Blaine Hilyard is liaison.

Program Ideas to Pursue

The following ideas/topics emerged from the committee’s discussion as needing development.

- Services to Children, Youth and Their Caregivers Committee has a couple of ideas: the image of children's librarians, and emergent literacy.
- Small-Mediums Sized Libraries Committee would like to pursue the idea of a joint school and public library facility. Beth Hovius thought CLA could partner on this, especially the Prairie Provinces. (Nann Hilyard)
- Small and Medium Sized Libraries Committee has a working title of “Everything Old Is New Again,” e.g., bookmobiles. Perhaps they could partner with Rural Library Services committee and focus on bookmobiles since they are frequently used in rural areas. (Nann Hilyard)
- A Canadian media awareness group is teaching Internet safety and media awareness to children. A program on this topic would demonstrate materials currently available and train librarians to teach children. (Beth Hovius)

Cosponsorship

Cataloging Needs of Public Libraries Committee recommends that PLA cosponsor an ALCTS preconference on the new Dewey Decimal Classification, Edition 22.

Other Business

The role of each CPCC member as liaisons to individual programs was discussed. The liaisons are expected to keep in contact with program organizers, giving advice and troubleshooting as needed.

The next 2003 CPCC meeting will be planned for Sunday afternoon in Atlanta.