

GODORT Membership Committee

ALA Annual Conference

Sunday, June 26, 2005, 8:30-11am

Hyatt Regency, Skyway 284

Marilyn Von Seggern, Chair & Recorder Present: Becky Byrum, Chelsea Dinsmore, Nancy Kolenbrander, Andrea Morrison, Catherine Morse, Marilyn Von Seggern

Introductions--After introductions the committee roster for the next year was reviewed. Chelsea Dinsmore will chair the committee and Steve Hayes will join as a new member.

Minutes of the January, 2005, meetings were approved with the exception of the spelling of DttP.

Announcements--Andrea displayed a new member orientation flyer as an example for the committee to use.

Agenda--There were no changes to the agenda.

Membership Development Preconference--Chelsea Dinsmore reported on this ALA Preconference held on Friday, June 24. The speaker talked about how to grow membership using all available resources by identifying what you want to do (development of a membership plan based on organizational goals), identifying people resources and taking advantage of the entire membership, and then maximizing your resources. Several things GODORT could use are a profile of likely GODORT members, a membership recruitment plan, and a member skills database.

Reports

New Members Lunch—the lunch in Chinatown on Saturday had an attendance of 28 people and ran smoothly except for some problems with transportation back to meetings. A set menu served family style helped with the time restriction and payment. A list of lunch handouts (such as attendance sheet, GODORT meeting schedule, brochures, and reception information) needs to be developed. The lunch announcement at the Saturday morning GODORT Update needs to be arranged before the conference.

Becky volunteered to find a place for the lunch in San Antonio.

Brochures, membership stats, dues--the committee agreed that a notion should be brought before the GODORT membership to specify a budget line for ongoing brochure and ribbon costs. We will request \$250 annually for conference badge ribbons and to have a color brochure printed by ALA Publications. Brochures need to be available for prospective members, at the FDLP meetings, for the GODORT bin, at the GODORT Update, at the booth table (annual only), and for mailings to depository librarians and state/regional GODORT organizations.

Current membership statistics were distributed.

The dues proposals for students and organization/corporate members that will be voted on at the GODORT Business meeting were reviewed.

List of state GODORT organizations—Nancy reported that the list is complete on our committee website. She used the depository library directory and called regionals to get the information.

Communication with dropped and new members—Nancy called a small sample of dropped members as a substitute to the mailed survey of the previous year. She found that nearly half were dropped unintentionally and intended to remain as members. Those who intentionally dropped usually had changed job duties. Several had negative experiences and suggestions for change. A larger sample is necessary before conclusions can be drawn.

Lists of new, dropped, and reinstated members were slow in coming, not received by the chair until May. A note explaining the late welcome was handwritten on letters that went out to new members who joined August-December 2004.

New Member Survey-- Andrea presented a draft survey of GODORT members that covers points such as organizational effectiveness, communication with members, and provision of opportunities for involvement. She recommended consulting with a survey expert after the