

## **MiALA Board Meeting Minutes**

### **February 19, 2021 at 2:15pm**

**Attendance:** Kate Langan, Beth Martin, Gina Bolger, Emilia Marcyk, Darlene Johnson-Bignotti, David Malone, Tim Peters, Brenna Wade, Carin Graves, Rachel Minkin, Heather Ladiski

Absent: Cynthia Simpson, Bethany Kennedy

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 2:18 p.m.

### **Board Business Meeting:**

1. Approval of agenda - Johnson-Bignotti made a motion to approve the agenda and Martin seconded. The motion carried.
2. Approval of Consent Agenda (agenda items within 2) - Martin made a motion to approve the consent agenda and Johnson-Bignotti seconded. The motion carried.
  - a. Approval of the [January 15, 2021](#) board meeting minutes
  - b. Committee reports
    - i. Advocacy - Emilia
      1. The committee discussed pushing out information to members about current legislative efforts and opportunities to take individual action around issues related to academic libraries. Keep an eye out for future communications
      2. Member(s) of the committee will take part in MLA's Library Advocacy Day
      3. Adding the Advocacy Committee to the bylaws (see New Business)
    - ii. Communications and Marketing - Brenna
      1. The committee discussed contacting new members and inviting them to participate in the member spotlight.
      2. They also discussed broadening the scope of social media beyond MiALA events and notices to include ideas, displays, etc. from other libraries and academic library related content in general.
      3. They also discussed ways to be more inclusive of non-librarians.
    - iii. Executive - Cynthia
    - iv. Membership - Rachel
      1. 6 new individual members joined in January
      2. Muskegon Community College joined in January
      3. Membership/ IG driven meets ups are going strong
    - v. Nominating - Beth
      1. Committee has been formed with two members from Publicly Funded Universities, 2 from Private/Independent Universities/Colleges, and 2 from Community Colleges

- vi. Conference - Kate
- vii. Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, & Accessibility - Darlene
  - 1. 1. (See item under New Business)
  - 2. The committee has also expressed an interest in adopting the Board's suggestion to compile a demographic profile of the membership. Will update as this project progresses.
- c. Partner Reports
  - i. MCLS -
- d. Treasurer's Report - Heather and I will be working on the 21-22 budget soon so watch for that:
  - i. A line will possibly be added to provide membership to BIPOC librarians and library staff. If it hasn't already, it will be requested by the IDEA committee in support of ACRL's Membership Funding for BIPOC Library workers initiative.
  - ii. Also included in that, money for the MIX workshop. They traditionally have their annual meet up in even years, although they skipped 2020 and were to meet up this summer. Instead, they'd rather skip this summer and use the funding once they're back on schedule.
- e. Policies and Procedures Manual -
- f. Interest Group Coordinating Council - Carin
  - i. We've seen an increase in funding requests for guest speakers at IG meetings. We will be drafting a policy on the total cost and frequency of grants per year per IG to ensure equity.

## Old Business

1. Annual Conference [Schedule](#) and [Pricing](#)
  - a. Price: Full conference fee only, no one-day pricing). This fee will allow for the viewing of all available poster sessions and breakout session recordings for up to 60 days after the event). \$50 for MiALA members (this is also available for ALAO and MHSLA members per reciprocal agreements) \$75 for non-members, free for all LIS students. Martin made a motion to accept the conference pricing and Johnson-Bignotti seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.
  - b. Dates: Minkin made a motion to move the annual conference from May 13 and 14 to May 18, 19, 20 because it conflicts with LOEX. Malone seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
  - c. Schedule: Minkin made a motion to accept the schedule change. Malone seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The 2021 conference will be held on three half days - Wednesday 1-5, Thursday 1-5, and Friday 9-12. All but one presenter will be able to make this change.
  - d. Keynote: waiting on dates to extend invitation to AG Nessel, Nancy Kirkpatrick executive director at Ohionet, or Denisse Solis - co-editor of In the Library with the Leadpipe.

## **New Business**

1. Advocacy Committee questions:
  - a. Marcyk reported that the Advocacy committee would like [the paragraph below](#) to be added to the Committees section of the MiALA bylaws. The paragraph will be edited and voted on by the membership during the annual election.
  - b. MLA has sent a letter to the governor advocating for frontline library staff to receive COVID vaccines in group 1b:  
<https://www.milibraries.org/assets/MLA%20vaccine%20advocacy%20letter%20PDF%20012521.pdf>. The board members agreed that MiALA will not join this effort, but would leave these decisions to their respective academic institutions.
  - c. Do committee members have term limits? If not, should committees set their own term limits (if they want), or would this need to come from the board? Term limits are not set in place for these volunteer positions, but a procedure is in place if a member needs to be removed from a committee.
2. The IDEA committee is considering funding 10 BIPOC librarian/ 4-5 BIPOC staff memberships (\$600 each) in the 2021-22 fiscal year budget. Johnson-Bignotti will bring the proposal to the board when it is ready.
3. The Information Literacy IG has canceled this year's August MIX conference, which was rescheduled from 2020, and will return to their normal biannual conference in 2022. They will need to reapply for funding next year.
4. Advocacy Day with MAME and MLA 4/20/2021 - The Advocacy committee would like to send their chair, Laura Thompson, to this meeting. Minkin will work with her to communicate a message from MiALA.

Johnson-Bignotti made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:02 p.m. Martin seconded and the motion passed.

## **Issue Bin / Future Agenda Items**

- IDEA funding of BIPOC librarian/staff positions
- Information Literacy IG MIX conference funding

## **Next Board Meetings:**

The third Friday of every month at 2:15pm.

- March 19, 2021
- April 16, 2021
- May 21, 2021
- June 18, 2021

## **Next Executive Board Meetings:**

The first Friday of every month at 2:30pm.

- March 5, 2021
- April 2, 2021
- May 7, 2021
- June 4, 2021

---

**Advocacy Committee:** The Advocacy Committee is charged with providing resources and education about issues of importance to academic libraries, especially within the context of higher education in the state of Michigan. The committee engages in activities that raise professional awareness of specific issues and creates tools and documentation to support academic librarians and library staff in their own advocacy efforts. The committee promotes the efforts of ACRL in its commitment of helping members demonstrate their value by highlighting and documenting best practices and assessment efforts. The committee promotes professional development to increase librarian and staff capacity to advocate on issues impacting libraries by supporting ALA advocacy efforts and hosting workshops. As appropriate, the committee may work with other library communities within the state to highlight issues related to developing an engaged citizenship and promoting lifelong learning.