

MLA Technical Services Section -- Annual Meeting – 10/13/11

### **Introductions**

The officers of the Technical Services Section were introduced. Rachel Wexelbaum, Chair-elect, Emily Asch, Past-Chair, and Marcia Semreau, Chair (in absentia).

Sara Ring provided information regarding the next president of MLA, Carla Dewey-Urban. As she is a technical services person we have her “ear”. She looks forward to receiving many ideas for programs and events for MLA and what MLA should be doing from the technical services perspective. She WANTS to hear from us.

### **Survey Monkey Results**

Rachel Wexelbaum provided an update on the survey sent to MLA members regarding technical services programming for a webinar. 140 MLA members responded. The preferred day with 40% responding positively is Tuesday with Thursday following in popularity. The majority of respondents preferred morning to afternoon sessions. (the survey results will be added as an appendix to the minutes).

The top four topics were:

1. E-books and e-readers (40%)
2. Mobile technology (31%)
3. Collection analysis (28%)
4. Collection development (27.5%)
5. Copyright & Digital collections tied at 25%

The next step is to find a presenter for one of the top topics and work on logistics and scheduling.

Sara Ring asked if digital preservation was one of the topics selected. It was reported that it was listed but did not receive many votes.

Rachel Wexelbaum gave thanks to Melissa Palank for helping create and distribute the survey.

### **2012 Priorities**

The priorities for 2012 are as follows:

Spending our budget (conference calls of executive committee, webinar, PR, and social event).

### **Membership**

Rachel Wexelbaum introduced the topic of membership and trying to increase our numbers. Donna Peterson asked what the membership numbers look like. Our numbers are around 30.

It was stated that some members would like to see TSS do more for catalogers and increase our cataloger numbers.

One member felt there was an untapped constituency with library students.

A few reasons were brought forward as to why our numbers may be going down. Perhaps outsourcing of technical services functions could be one reason. Rachel Wexelbaum suggested it could be the name that is off-putting or non-representative of current folks' responsibilities.

### **MLA Monthly Roundup**

The Executive Committee is getting good at submitting something to the MLA Monthly Roundup. Please let us know if you have anything you would like us to add to our reports.

### **Brochure**

Emily Asch presented ideas for a brochure for TSS. The purpose of this brochure would be to have a PR piece that can be provided at various library conferences and events to inform people about TSS and what we can offer folks. The handout was primarily for review of content. The following comments were made:

- Add Systems librarians, Technical Services librarians, students to WHO YOUR ARE
- Make the list of WHO YOU ARE visible in one glance in the final brochure
- Add ALCTS Affiliate Member to the brochure
- Ensure graphics and images are more modern and not stereotypical

### **Election of Officers**

The nominating committee was introduced, Ginny Heinrich, Mary Huisman, and Sara Ring. The committee did a great job of finding candidates.

Nominations from the floor were solicited and none were provided.

Bios of the candidates were provided. With one chair-elect candidate the candidate was approved unanimously. Sara Weeks from St. Olaf College was elected as chair-elect.

There was a vote taken for the role of secretary with Jessica Shaykett of the American Craft Council elected.

### **Discussion regarding Technical Services and the name of the section**

Discussion was held regarding the changing nature of technical services and the possibility of changing the name of the section to more properly embody what we do and who the section represents.

Rachel Wexelbaum started the conversation off with talking about the nature of technical services, that it is a changing field and non-traditional tasks are being incorporated into technical services. Rachel talked about her department at St. Cloud State and what the department is called and the responsibilities of the department.

Points made during discussion:

- It is time to change the name and it should involve the electronic nature of many of the resources and process we do
- Digital should be brought into the discussion and would this attract people outside of technical services departments as well
- Name idea of Library Collections and Technical Services (closer to ALCTS), something more nation all recognized
- If we get rid of technical services all together it might exclude many of our members
- Several people agreed that keeping technical services in the name is appropriate and should be first in the name of the section, take the idea/name and expand it
- Collection management was brought forward as a possible topic/name option. The question was then raised as to what does collection management really mean? It includes licensing, acquisitions, patron driven acquisition, etc.
- What we don't want is something that means nothing for our name
- Technical Services, Acquisitions, and Resources (TSARS)
- Let's take a look at "who we are" and flush it out from there.
- Discussion can continue via e-mail

### **YouTube Presence**

Rachel Wexelbaum introduced the idea about having a YouTube Presence for TSS. This is a strategy for educating people about TSS and outreach for us. A few people could create a YouTube video that would market the section, or provide video about a technical services process.

This would be a good way to share difference processes, methods, tools that are used at different libraries. Folks are often interested in how other people are doing their work. We could start by picking something that a fair number of people are interested in.

A blog was also mentioned as a more dynamic vehicle to put stuff out there. Folks could then comment and it would be more process oriented.

### **ALCTS Affiliate Group**

Emily Asch reported on the ACLTS Affiliate Group of which she is a committee member. MLA TSS is an official affiliate of ALCTS. ALCTS is looking for program ideas to replicate or create a panel of local presentations for the upcoming ALA. If you have any ideas or would like to nominate local presentation that you saw, please let Emily know.

### **Program Ideas for 2012**

- RDA
- Debate on MARC standard
- Collection development of A-V/DVD at public libraries
- How the library catalog thinks – why I'm doing what I do guide
- Joint session of reference and catalogers about how the OPAC works and why it works the way it does
- Pre-conference or break into consecutive break-out sessions
- Vendors for ILSs – what is out there

- How does MNLink work

Respectfully submitted by Emily Asch