



**Michigan Chapter SLA Board Meeting  
Teleconference  
February 23, 2009**

1. **Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at approx. 4:30 p.m. by President Sophia Guevara. In attendance were Nathan Rupp (President Elect), Randy Dykhuis (Treasurer), Arjun Sabharwal (Director), Nancy Yee (Archivist), Laura Berdish (Bulletin Editor), Senovia Guevara (Diversity Chair), Colleen Lyon (Membership), Alicia Biggers (Vendor Relations), and Joel Seewald (Secretary).
2. **President's Report:** Sophia Guevara and Nathan Rupp attended the 2009 SLA Leadership Conference in Savannah, Georgia. The SLA 2009 Annual Conference will be in Washington, DC. It should be special because it is the centennial conference. If you haven't attended an SLA event or conference in recent past, you might want to check out this one. Sophia submitted President's letter to Laura Berdish and is asking for members to become more active, such as by coming out to chapter events and by submitting articles for the Bulletin.

**3. Programming Committee Report**

**Goals:**

Increase student involvement in chapter activities

- Talk to faculty at UM and WSU to find out how we might be able to get them to encourage their students to join SLA.
- Have some chapter (board?) members visit the library schools and talk about the chapter and association. This could be part of programming or membership. Colleen expressed interest in following up on this.
- Offer reduced student rates for chapter activities. We already do this for any UM or WSU library school student.
- Encourage members to sponsor a student by paying their event fees. Sophia thought this was a good idea, but how would we implement this? Colleen thought it would be best to have something set up ahead of time so we'd be prepared if a student approached us. Nathan, however, is interested in how to get the membership interested in participating. Nancy suggested contacting Judy Field for input, since she has sponsored students. Could we ask vendors for support? Alicia will look into this, but Nathan mentioned that vendors are cutting back on sponsorships.

How do we determine whether members are interested in what we're doing?

A survey may help with future programming ideas; this year's ideas are already mostly formulated. Nancy Yee thought a survey was done about 4 years ago. Alicia suggested a short 3-5 question survey to be turned in at end of events, but

Joel wondered about how to get input from those who don't come to meetings. Alicia mentioned the possibility of sending a short e-mail survey to the membership after meetings with expectation that responses would be expected within a week. Senovia asked about most popular past events. Sophia said this might be able to be found in Survey Monkey statistics; Nathan will look into this.

#### Connecting with non-active members

- Nathan suggested surveying non-active members (because we have contact information for them) as to what would interest them and what venues might be attractive.
- Involving members from outside metro Detroit area by having meetings elsewhere throughout Michigan.
- Online payment and registration.
- Webinars for more instructional related events and video recording of events. Leslie Burke chaired the Virtual Planning Committee and may have ideas about how to proceed.

#### **Ideas for upcoming programs:**

- Trying to have a meeting, probably later in the year, hosted at the state library combining 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary and visit from SLA President.
- West side of the state event – Upjohn Institute for Employment Research in Kalamazoo.
- Cyclotron at MSU might be just a fun event or it might tie into something else at MSU.
- Possible Detroit Free Press library tour or it might also include talk.
- Bring in a couple of well-known folks from the library world, such as library bloggers.
- Career workshop bringing in library placement office/career service office at library schools.
- Auction has been successful the last couple of years, so we'll be doing that again.
- Something fun over the summer like a Tigers game

#### **4. Discussion**

- Nancy suggested that the silent auction could help raise money to sponsor students at each of our events (e.g., 1<sup>st</sup> three students to sign up could get free ticket to an event).
- Arjun suggested that we could offer small scholarships to help with book costs or SLA membership. We have these set up with both UM and WSU.
- Sophia wanted to know if the teleconference format works. There was a unanimous "yes".

#### **5. Adjournment of Meeting:** Sophia adjourned the meeting at approx. 5:05 p.m.

Submitted February 25, 2009  
Joel Seewald, Secretary