

MILEX Meeting – June 17, 2016

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Loyola Graduate Center, Columbia, MD

Present: Gina Calia-Lotz, Sharon Casey, Melissa D'Agostino, Shak Dhanesar, Chris Drolsum, Sian Evans, Stephen Ford, Sarah Gilchrist, Jeremy Green, Mike Kiel, Michael Macan, Jennie Ray, Sarah Sheehan, Simmona Simmons, Lisa Sweeney, Brandy Whitlock

January Minutes

Gina (secretary) was not at the January meeting. Sarah G. will check to see if she has any notes from that meeting.

Treasury Report

We have enough money to cover an entire program without taking in any money, which is great if we ever have to cancel a program last minute

Fall program with ACRL -- \$500 profitable.

Spring program -- lost \$100. Reasons: We planned that program assuming a certain number of attendees. We didn't get as many people attend as we thought. We had a lot of speakers (10), and we didn't have any formal policy for what to charge them, so we comped them, but still had to pay for food for them. Plus credit card fee ate away a little at our profits. Plus we had two \$70 refunds last minute.

Steven suggests having an ad hoc group to investigate and discuss these policies for running conferences and events.

- Sarah G. suggests discussing marketing policies, are there other places besides the listservs?
- Gina: maybe in July we should discuss having a Twitter account. If no one else wants to moderate it, Gina is willing to do it.
- Volunteers for ad hoc group: Gina, Jennie, Jeremy. Will have something to report by 7/15.

Mike received notice from IRS that we are being audited! The reason was totally random -- they just selected at random some organizations for the purpose of analyzing whether their new process for forming small organizations works. Mike has to make a long list of everything we did that year (2015) with supporting documentation. Shouldn't be a big deal because we do not pay any of our members or officers. Mike will send draft of report to MILEX officers, will also send to Brandy Whitlock whose brother is an accountant for nonprofit organizations. Worst case scenario, we will be told we are not compliant in some way, and we would just have to make some amendments to become compliant. And we might have to pay some taxes.

Steven noted that it's important that these decisions be backed up by the MILEX officers, that Mike isn't going at it alone.

Have to submit form each year to IRS, and have to register with the state -- memberships count as "charitable donations."

Webpage Report

We now have a way to take membership fees online! Thanks to Melissa. Has been updated on the MILEX website. Used a Google form to create the membership form -- Melissa linked the member spreadsheet to the form, so it will autopopulate with current member information! Can pay in person by check, money order, or credit card, or can pay via PayPal, but Mike is working on being acknowledged by PayPal as a nonprofit.

Question about whether the website roster could be automatically updated via the membership spreadsheet. Do we need to have two rosters, one alphabetical and one by institution? This was discussed by the website subcommittee. There might have been a time when we had institutional membership. We probably could do without it now. Easy enough to search the site using control-F.

Discussed website colors (red and yellow) are kind of jarring, also fonts are not consistent. Melissa toned down both the yellows and the red. Web safe colors -- only one "red" that looks red, which Melissa used.

Font: Melissa created three versions. Showed both serif and non-serif fonts. Discussion about which is easier to read. Demonstrated Georgia, Helvetica, Tahoma, Verdana (original). Consensus to use the Georgia (serif) font.

Also discussed that "Join Us!" is buried. Now have hover over of all options in the top toolbar. Discussion about having under "Join Us!" a link to the roster as well as the membership form.

"Invite Us" link -- don't really have anything under here -- "MILEX Speaker's Bureau."
Suggestion to take this link off for now until we have something to list here.

Bylaws

The ones on the website are not the most current. Sarah Sheehan has edits by hand. Gina will check against the most current document she has.

Elections

All officers re-elected by unanimous vote!

Program

“Bring Your A-Game: Active Learning Strategies that Actually Work,” Sarah Sheehan.

Idea #1: Sarah Sheehan has students fill in a worksheet, numbers 2 through 5:

What are the steps to the research process?

1. Pick a researchable topic.
2. [Where to search (databases)]
3. [How to search (keywords)]
4. [How to get it (find the article)]
5. [Is what I have any good?]
6. Write paper, project, proposal, poster

Students get in groups to fill in the steps. Sarah commented that she feels like these steps are too prescriptive now in light of the Framework.

Asks students, How does research make you feel? Gets students talking.

What do students say? Google, “go to the library,” use a database, outlining

Idea #2. PowerPoint slide with different kinds of sources, put them in order of when information happens. Talk about how the kinds of sources they need to use can determine what topics are researchable. Topics that are too current, you won't be able to find empirical longitudinal studies, etc.

Other ideas:

- Sharon Casey has students look at citations and identify what kind of sources they are looking at.
- Sarah S. has a worksheet asking students to list five elements of book, journal, blog, tweet.
- Sian Evans (MICA): Conducted a Beyonce-based lit crit class for art students. The importance of understanding the social and historical influences on pop culture. Also how research is important for grant proposals.
- Brandy: The idea of citation can be strange to students who have grown-up in a “sample”/remix culture.
- Mike Kiel: How will your sources support you? Introduction to the BEAM (Background, Exhibit, Argument, Method) Model. What are you doing with this stuff once you get it? Sends students links to six different sources, put them in groups, and has them enter in a spreadsheet pieces of information and how they would use it for a given scenario. Example: proposal for a high-speed train.
- Sharon Casey demonstrated how she uses Padlet on LibGuides where students can write simple responses such as their topics, how they feel about research, etc. CCBC Library Research Guides -- Research Challenge

Discussion about whether librarians incorporate use of the print collection in their instruction. Depends on the class, number of students, time. Sometimes we use print materials in the classroom as instructional tools. Art students, the visual is very important.

Program Ideas for FY17

ACRL-MD is interested in working with us again for fall. They are thinking about ideas for fall: OERs, scholarly communication.

Theme/Topic Ideas:

- Critical librarianship/culturally-responsive teaching
 - UMD did a great workshop on Inclusion/Diversity -- people were really interested, we could have a second workshop that builds on those ideas, maybe in spring.
 - Emily Drabinski did a talk on Critical Pedagogy in a Time of Compliance. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=41ymjLLteBo> She's in NY.
 - Critical librarianship: Impact on LC subject headings, collection development.

- Spring program: Sarah Sheehan thinks crit lib is going to be huge for ACRL in Baltimore in April. Could the spring be, if you didn't get accepted to ACRL, present at MILEX! The Island of MILEX Misfits/Rejected Proposals.

- Usability/universal design/ADA-compliance --this might also fall under crit lib

- OERs (Open Educational Resources)/scholarly communication-- makes sense to do as a joint topic with ACRL. Cook Library just hosted a workshop (ACRL roadshow) on scholarly communication in April. Brandy asked if this could be tied to instruction? Think of scholarly communication as being about digital repositories. Open access journals -- the non-predatory journals can get grant money to subsidize fees.

- Possible January mini-program: How exactly do we get better at what we do? Observation of teaching and getting feedback from peers. What have people systematically done to improve their teaching? How to give feedback -- critical feedback is so important. Sarah Sheehan: Teaching squares. Sarah G: They have formative peer observation, you can pick your peer.

- Lightning talks:
 - Conferences you've been to, new ideas for professional development you haven't been to before.
 - Latest apps you used in your classes.
 - What you learned at ACRL 2017 (for summer 2017 meeting?)

TCAL Conference

MILEX has agreed to sponsor a panel on having one combined service point. If you have a combined service point, Sarah Crest would like to hear from YOU!

Swag/Branding

Sarah C. would like to have some kind of MILEX promotional materials. Pens, folders, notepads. Mugs? Business card holders (Sarah Sheehan showed example of a holder with mini pad and sticky notes). Grocery bag that folds up. Ideas for companies to use for these products. Suggestion: Target Marketing Group in Owings Mills. Simmona and Sarah G are already investigating some of these products for Sarah. Need to get the logo and figure out how to order. Sarah G. will take the lead and work with Mike, Melissa, and Simmona.

Branding in general: Should we have a motto or tagline?

Adjournment: 1:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Gina Calia-Lotz, MILEX Secretary