MILEX Meeting Minutes June 10, 2022

Attendees

Brandy Whitlock	Alex Baker	Casey Hughes
Elizabeth Schlackman	Jill Burke	Melissa D'Agostino
Richelle Charles	Sarah Gilchrist	Stephen "Mike" Kiel
Mariette Largess	Lisa Sweeney	Jennifer Hatleberg
Chris Drolsum	Gina Calia-Lotz	Leo Lo
Kiyomi Deards		

Agenda:
Meeting minutes
Treasurer's Report
Research Project Update
2022 Spring Conference Feedback
2022-2023 Planning
Presentation from Leo Lo and Kiyomi Deards

Meeting Minutes

January Meeting Minutes approved

Treasurer's Report

Sarah Gilchrist

Currently MILEX has $8545.79 dollars in our savings account - one speaker has not yet cashed their cheque.

Both the 2021 Annual Report and the 2022 Annual Report have been filed, we paid for our website and domain about the same time.

MILEX has 58 current members and 40 members joined or renewed for 2022-2023

An email reminder will go out to any members that need to re-up their membership

Going forward, the email reminder about membership should include some information on future MILEX programming

Brandy W. G. will work on a form letter

Update on Milex Research project

Mike Kiel and Sarah Gilchrist

Good institutional representation within the research group, different types of both 2- and 4-year institutions

We are recreating Nichols Hess's research Academic Librarians' Teaching Identities and Work Experiences: Exploring relationships to support perspective transformation in information literacy. DOI: 10.1080/01930826.2020.1721939

The point of this project was really to help people get the opportunity to do this type of research by combining forces pooling our abilities/ideas/skills. Try to get us a little outside our comfort zones, maybe mentor others if we continue to do similar research projects. Get practice with research and making use of a professional organization to do research, and we do hope that there will be future opportunities to do more projects like this and have more participants or different participants.

Survey Responses:

- 77 people tried to take the survey
    - 40 completed the survey
    - The majority were Maryland librarians
    - 26 MILEX members
    - Instructors with 10 or more years of teaching experience.
- Institutional representation is half and half of 2- or 4-year institutions
    - It breaks down into small and large institutions at about half and half
- Most replying had a master's degree
- Mostly white (common in librarianship)
- Mostly women

The research team hopes to really dig into the comments for more information.

The difference in our survey to the original survey will be seen when the original was a national survey while this is a regional sample.

Various proposals for publishing the research's findings have been submitted.

Next Steps:

Consider data and plan publishing for the current research team. The team hopes to have more data analysis at future meetings, too. MILEX should continue to think about future research project ideas to build on collaborations and build on different perspectives.

2022 Spring Conference feedback

16 responses to the conference, most were pleased with what conference topic and thought it was well put together, lots of excellence and effectiveness. In those responses, people discussed what they were taking away from the conference such as starting a more formal evaluation process and making use of Google forms, etc.

Good suggestions for going forward to improve:

- Small group prompts being a little more streamlined
- More diverse viewpoints from speakers
- Future programming:
  - Lightning talks
  - Some technical information, such as SpringShare
  - Supporting faculty outreach
  - Developing communities of invested stakeholders on campus
  - DEI ideas for future MILEX offerings
  - Making safe spaces, making the library more open to topics
  - Accessibility, how to unbias our practices, how do we assess our efforts without making the marginalized groups do the work
  - How do we demonstrate, what are we doing that forwards this work?

Grouping for breakout: 93% liked being grouped randomly, 43% wanted to group by careful mix of librarians.

From this and conversations with colleagues: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in our programming for MILEX's upcoming year

How do we make our libraries more inclusive? Make more supportive environments for our students. How do we un-bias our work? How do we assess our efforts, especially without putting the onus on traditionally marginalized patrons?

Planning for 2022-2023 Events

Planning for 2022-2023 events: DEIA strategic planning: Lisa Sweeney helped with this effort too and is going to reach out and we'll see what might happen, Sara Arnold-Garza

July 15, 2022, meeting -- Sarah G. is organizing the presentation to cover leadership and librarianship

We investigate DEI work in relation to Leadership. It seems that we get stuck at the surface level, and we may want to go a little deeper into DEI and what we do for it, look for speakers that can discuss this with us.

Brandy W. is an ex officio of the Value of academic Libraries (VAL) committee at ACRL and will investigate whether there is someone the committee can recommend to speak on competencies around DEI.

Mike K.: Maybe take the chance to have lightning talks about tries, successes, and failures. If people are willing to go into things that they have tried that did not work, we can learn from each other.

Brandy W.: That sounds like a good subject for our half day workshop in November. I can think of small things that did work, and didn't, and other small things that didn't appear to work but now are working. Lots of possibilities. 5-6 explanation on this topic.

Alex B.: Getting someone to speak with us about a more global approach could also be very interesting.

Sarah G.: Sara Arnold-Garza from Towson was doing work on DEI, and she might be an interesting person to hear from about this. She's now at Library of Congress, Lisa Sweeney also did work on this and might have some ideas.

Lisa S.: I can reach out to the group working on this here and see what they might have to say.

Brandy W.: Thank you, it might be helpful to hear about their challenges, successes, and ideas for this.

So, are we doing meetings in-person this year? What topics do we want?

Possible in-person locations:

- Loyola in Columbia is our traditional meeting place
- Pre-pandemic discussions for meeting in Baltimore (Parking is a little bit of an issue but it's a great space)
    - Fourth floor conference room has been CDC approved
    - Meeting room with cameras for hybrid options – minor camera angle issue
    - Speaker mike and mike packs do work well
- Hybrid model might be a good way to encourage participation when travelling is inconvenient
    - Mike packs would really help make digital participants feel very welcome

November 2022 Half-Day Workshop University of Baltimore, Hybrid – tentatively 18th

-- lightning talks for this meeting

January 2023 Meeting -- normally around the 20th, so, we'll shoot for that this upcoming time too

April 2023 Conference -- 21st of April tentatively

June 2023 Meeting -- 9th to avoid Juneteenth

July 2023 Meeting -- 21st again tentatively

Election of officers

Elect officers will stay the same at this point

Short program from Leo Lo and Kiyomi Deards

Kiyomi D. Deards kdeards2@unl.edu LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/kiyomideards/ Twitter: @KiyomiD Personal Website http://libraryadventures.com/

Leo S. Lo leolo@unm.edu LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/leoslo/ Personal Website: https://www.leoslo.com/

Plan Your Impact: Stacking Your Skills to Make Yourself Irreplaceable

https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libraryscience/377/

 Career advice, how to take control of your own career, control your social media presence, and set yourself apart from your colleagues when doing the same or similar work. Allowing you to make yourself indispensable and thus secure job security, possibly better opportunities, and, if desired, promotions.