



**SELA Board Meeting
August 7, 2020
Via Zoom
9:00 a.m. CST**

MINUTES

Tim Dodge called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. CST. In attendance were: Tim Dodge, Melissa Dennis, Crystal Gates, Camille McCutcheon, Kathy Wheeler, David Owens, Bev James, Rebecca Rose, Emily Rozario, Peggy Kain, Bernadette Johnson, Vicki Gregory, Natalie Logue, John Siegel, Doris Felder, Preston Salisbury, Laura Slavin, Perry Bratcher, Muriel Nero, Ben Carter, Ashley Dees, Sarah Simms, Wendy Stephens, Stephanie Adams, Kristin Rogers, Nacole Adams, Becky Bickford, Beth Anderson, Bonnie Thornton, Bill McRee, and Gerald Holmes

Motion Preston Salisbury, second Bonnie Thornton to approve the Minutes of March 11, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

Tim Dodge gave the President's report. Tim produced a draft statement on justice and solidarity in response to the growing national concern over the killing of unarmed African Americans by white police officers and systemic racism in American society and institutions. It was sent to the SELA listserv and the American Library Association Chapters listserv. The statement is also available on the SELA website and the ALA website.

The ALA Chapter Relations Office held several virtual meetings where chapter leaders including Tim have participated in discussions primarily relating to the COVID-19 pandemic including library services, whether to open or not, planning virtual conferences, etc.

Preston Salisbury, Chair of the NMRT, inquired about how to update/revise the bylaws. Tim provided directions and assisted in getting the document to Michael Law, Chair of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee. Mr. Law's committee approved, and then the Executive Committee approved the changes on May 21, 2020. Michael Law has stepped down as Chair of the Bylaws Committee, and Camille McCutcheon has taken his place.

Tim responded to appeal from Outstanding Library Program Award Chair Bill McRee to locate volunteers from Alabama to serve on the committee. Tim provided suggestions to Mr. McRee for how to proceed and encouraged him to keep Awards Committee Chair Vicki Gregory informed.

Tim hopes to have a Chair in place for all Sections and Round Tables for the next biennium. He has sent out several communications asking Section and Round Table Chairs to elect or confirm their leadership for 2021-2022. Committee leadership will be appointed/confirmed by Melissa Dennis as she begins her term as President. NMRT Chair Preston Salisbury held elections for new leadership. Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect is Lauren Geiger and Secretary is Jamie Stanfield. Special Libraries Section Chair Nancy Richey's term ended, and the current Secretary does not want to serve as the new Chair. Nancy will hold an election soon. Library Education Section Chair Carol Walker Jordan had to step down. Chair-Elect Sharon Holderman stepped up as Chair and held an election. Kiersty Cox was elected Chair-Elect. Library Instruction Round Table Chair Derek Malone had to step down. The new Chair is John Siegal. Government Documents Round Table Chair-Elect Trellis Buckles will be moving to Chair.

The Centennial Committee is planning various events relating to the Centennial Anniversary of SELA. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a major impact, so events to be held in-person at the joint conference will now be virtual. Plans include a possible Past Presidents program, interviews with Past Presidents, interviews with Past Editors of *The*

Southeastern Librarian, and interviews with SELA Honorary Members. A commemorative event to be held November 12-13 at the Signal Mountain, Tennessee public library, the location where what became SELA was established in 1920, is also planned. A special Commemorative Issue of *The Southeastern Librarian* will be published in 2021.

African American Issues Round Table Chair Kathy and Tim discussed the name concerns raised at the joint conference with the Arkansas Library Association, and Tim asked her to confer with her round table members. Tim will continue to follow up.

Melissa Dennis gave the President-Elect's report. North Carolina Library Leadership Institute requested SELA have a member participate in the program. Melissa was selected to participate. She will be appointing committee chairs in early spring of 2021. She encouraged everyone to participate, and anyone interested should email her regarding their interest. She also encouraged everyone to chat with current committee chairs about details involving the committees.

Tim gave the Administrative Services report for Gordon Baker. Gordon is continuing to work on regular maintenance, including updating honorary memberships. He worked on the upcoming election, which will be held mid-August. He sent renewal notices to expired members, including those from the years 2011-2019. He has facilitated numerous zoom meetings and worked on the Centennial Committee plans as well.

Bev James submitted the Treasurer's report, a copy of which was provided to attendees. The budget looks good, dues are good, and we are close to already having enough revenue to cover projected expenses for the year.

Camille McCutcheon gave the Archivist's report. She has updated forms ready, and the Executive Committee will electronically vote on them soon. She is working on creating an annual report form for officers to complete online at the end of their biennium. Those forms will automatically be sent to the Archivist when submitted online. She will be traveling to Valdosta State to visit the archives soon.

Perry Bratcher has been working with Ashley Dees over the summer to transfer editorship duties before the end of the year. He is positive that the journal is in very good hands. Tim thanked Perry for his years of service. Ashley reported that two issues have been published since March. She followed along with Perry for the summer issue to see how the process works. For future issues, they have approximately seven articles and ten books under peer review currently. She thanked all of the reviewers for their work in reviewing the works for the journal. Michael Hooper advised her that embargoed issues had 48 page views since April. She is working on an online form for members to apply to be a reviewer of articles and books. Her first issue as editor will be the Fall Issue, which is planned to be out by October 15, 2020.

State Representative Reports are as follows:

Alabama – Jeff Simpson, no report.

Arkansas - Emily Rozario, Arkansas Library Association virtual conference will be Oct 15-16, 2020.

Florida – Vicki Gregory, the FLA Board has rescheduled their conference for Oct 28-30, 2020, at the Doubletree at Universal in Orlando.

Georgia – Ben Carter, no report.

Kentucky – Cindy Cline, no report.

Louisiana – Sarah and Hayley, Both will be rotating off and they will update once the new representative information is available.

Mississippi – Ashley Dees, MLA virtual conference will be Oct 13-15, 2020; proposals are due by August 10.

Sarah Mangrum is the new rep.

North Carolina – Gerald Holmes, Invited SELA to celebrate the centennial at the 2021 Joint Conference, which is planned to be in person in Winston-Salem. The next SELA President will be involved in planning SELA activities and events at the SELA/NCLA Joint Conference. Melissa, as President-Elect, is assisting the Joint SELA/NCLA conference planning along with Kate Engelbrecht and Gerald Holmes. During the July 6th Joint SELA/NCLA Conference Planning Meeting, Gerald recommended that since the Joint SELA/NCLA may be the next Face to Face opportunity for SELA members to gather, host a program, take photographs and celebrate the SELA Centennial, that we consider celebrating SELA/NCLA in Winston-Salem (Oct. 18-22, 2021). He shared this with

the understanding that the conference is 14 months away, which is being planned as in-person unless they need to change it to virtual.

South Carolina – Doris Felder, SCLA virtual conference will be Oct 13-15, 2020. They also just celebrated their centennial.

Tennessee – Stephanie Adams, The TLA Advisory Council and Executive Board met virtually on June 12, 2020. The majority of the Advisory Council portion of the meeting was spent editing a draft of the TLA Statement on Racial Justice. The final draft was approved by the Executive Board and posted to the website. The 2020 Annual Conference (Powering Limitless Opportunities) was originally scheduled for March 31 – April 2 in Knoxville, TN and then rescheduled to May 5 – 7 due to COVID-19 concerns. The conference was eventually cancelled when the Knoxville Convention Center informed TLA that the rescheduled dates were part of their mandatory shut down period. TLA was able to waive their “no conference refunds” policy and refunded conference registration fees upon request. The 2021 conference is being planned for Memphis and the 2022 conference is set for Knoxville. An organization called Library Instruction Tennessee (LIT) that has been holding an annual conference focusing on information literacy programs and library instruction requested TLA affiliate status. TLA decided that a better solution was for LIT to be added as a subcommittee of the Access & Patron Services Roundtable. LIT will have use of the TLA website for their future conference registration operations. Tennessee Library Legislative Day was held at the Nashville Public Library on March 10, 2020. TLA’s main legislative concern throughout the spring was the proposed Parental Oversight of Public Libraries Bill (TN House Bill 2721 and Senate Bill 2896). The bill was an attempt to mandate the creation of parental oversight boards to judge the appropriateness of materials and programming for children in each public library. TLA felt that the bill not only supported censorship of library materials, but also called for unnecessary and duplicate legislation, placing an added burden of government oversight on local library boards. TLA President Jill Rael and TLA Legislative Monitor Sharon Edwards worked hard to represent us in our opposition to this bill. She is pleased to announce that it died in subcommittee in mid-March.

Virginia – Kathy Bradshaw, no report.

West Virginia – David Owens, WVLA cancelled their spring fling; they have moved the November conference to a virtual conference. He and Beth Anderson have recruited in their state, including six members. They had a successful advocacy day for their state legislature.

Committee Chair Reports are as follows:

Awards – Vicki Gregory, Individual reports given by the specific chairs.

- Honorary Memberships, Camille McCutcheon, she is working with Gordon on separating out honorary memberships from regular memberships and have a designation for those who are deceased.
- Outstanding Author, Nacole Adams, As of August 2020, there are 17 OAA committee members. A call for nominations was emailed June 1 and a reminder was sent on June 17. Voting link was emailed to OAA members on July 7 and remained open until July 24. Award recipients are:
Outstanding Southeastern Author Award for fiction is Angie Thomas for *The Hate You Give*;
Outstanding Southeastern Author Award for non-fiction is Kiese Laymon for *Heavy: An American Memoir*.
- Outstanding Library Program, Bill McRee, The committee consists of Kent Snowden, Troy State University, Debbie Cobb of University of South Alabama, and Kathy Field of Middle Tennessee State University. To date, there is one nomination. Please encourage your colleagues to submit programs. Encouragement is given to programs that took place in 2019. They will count as well.
- Southern Books Competition, Peggy Kain, We have had some challenges relating to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, we have continued to move forward with this year’s award. Letters were sent to potential Southern publisher entrants, March 2020. Website was updated with 2020 Award submission information. Potential judges were identified. They have all been contacted and agreed to judge/review all entries received. Due to the pandemic, the Chair’s University physical campus closed March 15, 2020, and all campus mail was stopped. Therefore, the mailing address for submissions was changed from UAB Libraries to Peggy Kain’s home address. To-date, one entrant has completed the online form and paid the entrance fee; we are still waiting for the arrival of the

submission. Unfortunately, we do not know if it will be sent to the UAB Libraries' address or the Chair's home address. At the time of this report, it has not been received.

- Rothrock Award, Sharon Parente, The call for nominations for SELA's Mary Utopia Rothrock Award was disseminated through the SELA listserv. Award and nomination information was also sent to SELA State Representatives with a request to post to their state library association listservs. The committee will be meeting on Tuesday, August 11 to consider a nomination for the award and will report the outcome to Vicki Gregory and Tim Dodge.

Joint Conference - Melissa Dennis, She will reach out to those who volunteer to help with the joint conference as more details become available.

Continuing Ed- Laura Slavin, They were busy evaluating the Ginny Frankenthaler Memorial Scholarship applications, which had a large, strong pool of applicants this year. Victoria Slessman, of South Carolina, is the scholarship recipient. She requested a picture and biography from Victoria that was submitted to Ash Dees for publication in *The Southeastern Librarian*. They held elections. After years of chairing this committee, Laura decided to step down. Muriel Nero is the new Co-Chair. They decided to be co-chairs for next year so they can work together to make a few administrative changes to the Frankenthaler scholarship and so Laura can help Muriel transition into managing the scholarship. Muriel Nero will become Chair of the committee in 2022.

Scholarship – Laura Slavin, Frankenthaler Scholarship was awarded to Victoria A. Slessman. It was a tough decision with many qualified applicants this year.

Constitution and Handbook – Camille McCutcheon, no report.

Public Relations and Marketing – Kristin Rogers, They are focused on social media. She encouraged anyone with announcements, meetings, call for proposals, etc. to be shared. They are promoting the Joint Conference and the Centennial. Please send information to Kristen at kerogers@olemiss.edu.

Resolutions - Bill McRee, no resolutions to date. A resolution will need to be done for the centennial before the Joint Conference.

Centennial – Camille McCutcheon, will be updated under New Business.

Section Chair Reports are as follows:

Library Education – Sharon Holderman, The group is working on the advocacy effort to get SELA listed with library science programs as a professional organization for their students. They are contacting all library-related education programs in the SELA states to ask them to place a link to SELA on their website. As of July 24, 2020, they have contacted all the programs in Arkansas, Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia so far. Most of the programs do not have a list of resources or organizations on their website. Therefore, they also ask them to promote SELA and the student membership opportunities in other ways if possible. Responses received so far indicate they will not put it on their website, but they will promote it to their students through listservs, email, announcements, etc. Carol Jordan had to step down as Chair. Sharon Holderman was the Chair-Elect and will now be the Chair for the remainder of 2020. Sharon will then remain as Chair for 2021 and 2022, and Kiersty Cox will be the Chair-Elect for those two years.

School/Children's Librarians – Wendy Stephens, Issued a call for a collaborative session for the joint conference with Georgia this fall, and Camille McCutcheon and I were working on a program proposal for that, but we tabled that when we learned it was going virtual. Shannon Hicks, Library Services Director at the William F. Laman Library in North Little Rock, AR, volunteered to run for section leadership.

Public Library - Beth Anderson announced the new officers. They have sent out information on how public libraries can work with families with virtual school.

Resources and Technical Services – Bonnie Thornton, no report.

University & College Libraries – Muriel Nero, In May, Muriel was contacted by Linh Uong, Chair for the GLA Academic Library Division/Selected Papers Review Committee, about the possibility of submitting one proposal for a joint session for the research papers from both committees. However, Linh discovered there was not an option for a double-session this year. With only 45 minutes allotted for one session, there would not be enough time for three presenters. After this email correspondence, Muriel submitted a program proposal for the University and College Library Section to present the New Voices winner followed by a business meeting with

the introduction of the 2020/2021 officers. The deadline for paper submissions for New Voices is August 14, 2020. At this time, only one paper has been submitted for consideration. After this deadline, the section officers will make a decision on the status of the award this year. On August 3, 2020, Rebecca Rose, Chair-Elect, emailed a call for nominations to the SELA listserv for the position of Chair-Elect for 2020/2021. Currently, two candidates have contacted Rebecca to be included on the ballot for this position. The election will take place in September 2020. Paula Webb will continue in her role as Secretary for 2020/2021.

Round Table Reports are as follows:

African American Issues, Kathy Bradshaw, They are continuing the conversation regarding changing the group's name.

Circ/Reserves – Natalie Logue, The Circulation & Reserves Round Table met on Thursday June 18, 2020. We discussed reopening plans and the challenges facing circulation and reserves. Among the topics covered, we address the possibility of UV light as a sanitization option, standard quarantining days, and Fair Use in scanning for digital course reserves. The round table will meet again the week of August 10, 2020. This meeting will focus on the bylaws of the committee. We are currently not in compliance with no vice chair or secretary.

Electronic Resources – Laura Slavin, They have held Zoom meetings recently, and will have another soon, to discuss how to handle services during the pandemic. She has been re-elected as Chair.

Gov Docs – Bernadette Johnson, On July 27, 2020, Bernadette sent an email to the Government Documents Roundtable to check up on the members to see how they are adjusting to the new rules and guidelines put in place by their libraries due to COVID-19. She also shared a few of the new rules and guidelines for her library. She received a few responses and the most common changes put in place by libraries were signage, rearranged library furniture, additional hand sanitizing stations, and allowing only students/faculty into the academic libraries. It was during this email exchange that a member suggested the roundtable meet on Zoom for further discussion and share individual experience at our libraries due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Most of the roundtable was in favor of having a meeting, so she will soon be sending out a Doodle Poll to set a date. She announced to the RT that the Federal Depository Library Program is offering free FDLP-themed facemasks and shared the link where depositories can order them.

New Members – Preston Salisbury, New Members Round Table continues to grow and expand activities in order to fulfill their mission of encouraging involvement and participation. NMRT held a called business meeting via Zoom on April 14. At this meeting, our bylaws were amended to reflect current practices, and the decision was reached to extend the term of the chair through the next biennium and hold elections to appoint a vice-chair/chair-elect and a secretary with terms also extended through 2022. Lauren Geiger was elected as vice-chair/chair-elect and Jamie Stanfield was elected as secretary. At the end of April and beginning of May, we held Zoom lunches to provide opportunities for librarians throughout the Southeast to talk to each other despite the ongoing shutdown. Lauren Geiger, now chair-elect of NMRT, and Sarah Mangrum, an NMRT member, organized and moderated these discussions. NMRT is also sponsoring a panel discussion at the upcoming joint conference with Georgia Libraries. While we are disappointed that we will not have an in-person conference this year, the virtual environment has enabled us to put together an all-star panel that probably would have been impossible otherwise. Library educators and professionals from Kansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, and North Carolina will be discussing time management strategies. Several NMRT members are working with GLA's NMRT on a conference guide for the upcoming virtual conference. NMRT member Hali Black is working on this in addition to SELA and GLA NMRT leadership. Once again, big thanks to Gordon Baker for setting up the Zoom calls for our meeting and for the Zoom lunches.

Library Instruction - John Siegel, No report.

Motion Laura Slavin, second Bonnie Thornton, to approve the New Members Round Table updated Bylaws. Motion carried unanimously.

Melissa reviewed the Joint Conference info, including the sessions, dates, etc. There are time slots for SELA business, including a SELA night. The conference is free to SELA members, and she encouraged participation.

Camille gave a shout out to Centennial Committee members and the webmasters for their work on the celebration. The group has been working on several initiatives, including a conference session highlighting SELA Past Presidents and their time in office, resolution for ALA celebrating the SELA Centennial, videos, the Centennial Club, and more. The ALA Council passed the Proclamation and Resolution celebrating the SELA Centennial, and a copy of the certificate will be on the website. Donations to the Centennial Club will help cover the cost of printing special commemorative editions of the *Southeastern Librarian*. Tim thanked Camille for the work she is doing to lead the Centennial Celebration committee and their work to make the celebration successful, especially during the time of the current pandemic.

Tim will be reaching out regarding a last meeting for the year to be held possibly sometime around conference in October.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:06 a.m. CST.