

Minutes for CASL Board Meeting
March 24, 2007
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

In Attendance: Mary Katherine Johnson, Jody Howard, Nance Nassar, Dianna Fricke, Barb Kidder, Su Eckhardt, Heidi Baker, Nancy White, Becky Russell

Membership

Member letter

- Gwen wrote a letter to send out to membership last fall. It didn't get sent. Kathleen has not responded yet to clarify what the status is. If it did not go out, we will need to re-write because the content is dated. Mary Katherine will obtain a copy of the draft. When should it be sent? We should wait until Fall. Content: Accomplishments of CASL in 2006. Can we dovetail on state mailing? Not permissible.

CASL insert/new CAL Brochure

- Observation: There are 3 quotes – all are public librarians. The quotes should be from 3 different associations.
- The next time they are soliciting input for a CAL brochure, the CASL board feels they should solicit quotes from other types of libraries.
- Mary Katherine will send this feedback to the CAL board and copy Jen.
- Observation – It is all about “fall.” However, we do not have the ability to make changes to the main brochure now –they are printed.
- Each association will put in an insert. Heidi presented a draft of a CASL insert. Jen Hubbard is looking for feedback on this.
- Do we have permission to use the image? Also – there is a grammatical error.
- The CASL board likes the proposed CASL insert.
- Content –could we include information/suggestions/ideas on how to seek funding for membership? No –too suggestive.
 - We should include something about networking
 - We should include just a few focused statements – Strike opportunities to get involved;
 - Want to include instruction and best practice
 - Strike workshops and training – just
 - Engagement with 21st century learning
 - Include a quote from a school librarian
 - Heidi has all recommended changes and will get to Jen. Jen did a great job with this!

Committee – report from Jen

- We have the numbers – but at the board meeting yesterday, Denise Muniz said there were more than 50 new members in CAL since the first of January. Mary Katherine sent greetings to 2 new members just last week. Mary Katherine worked the CAL membership table at the CLiC workshop, and only had about 3 people stop by.

Members as of 12/31/06 in CAL Associations:

CASL: 328

CoALA: 201

CoPLA: 662

Scheduling Meet N Greets?

- Still have not had a chance to talk with person in Eagle who is interested in hosting. Now that the weather is improving, we will make that contact and schedule a meet-n-greet.
- Could we send invitations – instead of just an open call? Mary Katherine can get the word out through Marmot.
- Maybe we should also do one in Ft. Collins or Boulder area.

- What about a conference call setting? We are not sure how a social event could be carried out that way.
- Ideas of emerging leaders who might host events were discussed.

Communications

Blog

- Statistics distributed. We had some peaks. We discussed the difficulty of managing so much incoming information. RSS feeds are one way to do that.
- CASL Board members signed up to post information so that new content is posted weekly through the end of May
 - April 2-8: YA Book Review: Jody
 - April 9-15: Mary Katherine
 - April 16-22: Su
 - April 23 – 29: Nancy
 - April 30 – May 6: Dianna
 - May 7 – 13: **Available**
 - May 14 – 20: **Available**
 - May 21- 27: Becky
 - May 28 – Jun 3: Nancy
 - Jun 4 – 10: Heidi
 - Jun 11 – 17: Su

Newsletter

- Book reviews –alert in the newsletter to go look at the blog? Yes – Dianna needs titles.
- Should we have book reviews more frequently on the blog? Yes –whenever appropriate.
- Is there a new policy regarding the books that should be reviewed? Heidi said CAL has posted the first round of Colorado Book Reviews to the web. We can post what we want on the blog so this is not an issue for us.
- Dianna needs volunteers to write articles for next newsletter. Dianna will write a blurb about LEO. The TIE conference will be written up by Sue. Gwen is doing a recap of Spring Workshop. Nancy will do “spotlight on a teacher-librarian.” Articles are due to Dianna by Thursday, March 29.
- The next deadline will be May 26. Jody will review a YA book. Becky will review a childrens’ book.

IASL Membership

- CASL will join IASL for a two-year institutional membership that permits 3 designees.
- We should have someone from the board. Dianna will ask Cris Hardin, D20 IB librarian. Jody and Nancy will also serve.
- Representatives should plan to monitor communications and share relevant information with school library community via the newsletter, blog and listserve.

Awards

- The deadline will be middle of June. Yesterday, the CAL board decided to make some changes, and the board was encouraged to advocate for more nominations. They were encouraged to not take nominations after the deadline.
- Exemplary Library Media Center Program Award—we need to add the word school.
- Discussion: It needs to be an award for the person. Some did not agree.
- Change the wording at end of award description to “be directed by a certified school librarian.” Mary Katherine will contact the committee chair regarding wording changes.
- We need to get a teacher librarian on the awards committee. Susan Gilbert would be a good representative. Patty Clark would also be a good representative. Susan has been on the committee before. Mary Katherine will contact Susan to see if she is willing to serve.
- Is there an upcoming leadership award? That would be a good way to recognize people and get them involved in leadership activities.
- Glenda would be a good candidate to be nominated. There are others. No one seems to have time to write nominations. Su made a motion to have **all board members to look at awards and find someone to write a nomination for** various awards. Mary Katherine seconded the motion.

- Nance/Jody will find someone to recommend/write a nomination for school administrator of the year and career achievement award. Mary Katherine will be nominating a project of the year (remove CAL-CEMA merger)

Conference programs

- Jody/Nance have been working on an LSTA project patterned after the Texas Library Association and what they do. They have run into a snag. Everything is planned/written, but the timeline is a problem. Want Alison Zamuda and Keith Lance to be speakers. RFP goes out April 30, but it isn't due until August. They can't hold open the date past May. \$2500 is Alison's fee. If we can't get someone to commit the fees in case this is not funded, then this will have to wait until 2008. Possible Options:
 - We obtain funds this year from LSTA
 - An organization commits funds "in case" (CASL?)
 - Ask Gene to make funds available earlier (won't help us much)
 - CAL will pay for pre-conference speakers. Jen Cotton is the school librarian co-chair.
 - This board endorses and supports this as a preconference.
 - We can also ask CoSLL to be an endorsement agency as well.
 - Outcomes and evaluation—Nicole Steffan, new director of LRS—talked with Nance. One way to evaluate would be to send out a survey afterwards. If CASL is the sponsor of the event, we could streamline the process for getting the survey approved.
 - Should this be CAL/CASL? We believe it is ok for it to be CASL alone. Jody will follow up.

May 20 deadline for CAL conference program proposals. CASL could endorse some to increase the likelihood that they will be accepted. The conference will not meet on Sunday next year. This will reduce the number of sessions. Other organizations endorse sessions. We don't have time to do this. We could just get information on the blog encouraging school librarians to submit proposals.

Heidi will check to see if the program committee has any school library representatives, and see if people can still sign up.

ALA mid-winter report – Sherry's report was distributed.

CASL mission, goals, and measures for 2006-07

Advocate for School Libraries

Improve communications to constituencies: Need to also increase listings on listserv

Continuing Education

Workshop Wrap-Up

- Comments were distributed; discussion tabled until retreat.
- In the future, the workshop needs to be planned beginning in October.
- Certificates of professional development—Heidi can do full sized ones next time.

CAL at CLiC

- Mary Katherine attended Western Slope workshop
- Nancy will present at Pueblo. She will bring CASL brochures to distribute.

Advocacy & PR

Task Force on Certification Requirements

- Nance and Jody gave out survey at ALA midwinter that the board reviewed previously. Data collected from all but 16 states. Jody and Nance will disaggregate the data and look for commonalities. They will have data ready to share with us at the summer retreat.

Advocacy

- Legislative committee – Jody will post an overview on the blog. The board agreed that Jody would be the official rep with Dave Sanger as a substitute. Mary Katherine and Su will confirm and reply to the committee.

Other conferences

- Nance & Deb Lebitov from Nebraska are presenting a preconference at ALA on advocacy.
- Nancy is running as a representative of school libraries on BCR Board of Trustees.
- Julie Walker, AASL, is seeking a CASL rep to attend Colorado's P21 meeting; hopefully both Nancy and Nance will be permitted to attend.
- Gwen – CASE and CASB presentation proposals. We ran out of time to put in a new proposal. We will discuss this in the summer retreat. We need to get a principal on board with us to co-present. The administrator needs to be the “headliner.”

Discussion of the growing trend of eliminating district level school library directors and endorsed librarians

- District coordinator positions are vanishing. There are state standards that call for this position. What can CASL do about this issue?
 - A step in the right direction is the survey that Nance and Jody did at Midwinter.
 - Nance receives calls from principals and superintendents “do I need to have a school librarian?” By law, she can't just say 'yes.'
 - Need access to superintendents. We need to let them know if they want to know where 21st century learning is occurring in their schools, it is where they have certified library media specialists collaborating and orchestrating this for their schools
 - Becky created a rubric for an exemplary program. Could this be shared? The state won't enforce with districts.
 - On Colorado public radio, a researcher made a great comment – the future about living in the 21st century is centered around school librarians! Heidi will research this.
 - A university teacher ed. Program is now requiring all students to attend a class being taught by a school librarian.
 - Could we come up with quantitative standards as an organization?
 - **“Crisis in school libraries”** –set aside a day to blog, email, list ideas to combat problem. When? On **April 18 – School library day!**
 - April 18–Information on how “not” to preach to the choir.
 - Are school libraries in district facing a crisis? If so –what should we do about it?
 - What are strategies and solutions? **Crisis in school libraries. Join us for a virtual rally**
 - Gene is co-chair of SIERS committee – a CAL committee that addresses big issues in libraries. Jody will contact him about this.

Discussion of possible candidates for CAL president

- Gwen Giddens, Dave Sanger, Nancy White, Glenda Hawkinson were recommended.
- We need to build leadership capacity in our ranks
- School librarians need to get respect as a leader in their school in curricular areas.
- We need to promote how CAL lobbyists support schools through influence over legislation such as 'the 65% solution.'
- Nominations are due June 1. Su is the CASL delegate to the CAL nominations committee.

Next meeting:

27 & 28 July – CAL summer retreat in Frisco. Best Western Lake Inn Lodge in Frisco.

CASL should meet Thursday afternoon & Friday morning. Heidi will arrange accommodations. The CAL meeting will take place Friday afternoon and Saturday morning.