

SUNYLA Council Meeting

September 15, 2023

Virtual

10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Attendees: Amanda Bailey, Joshua Beatty, Michelle Beechey, Morgan Bond, Michelle Bowers, Katherine Brent, Milo Cameron, Joan Cook, Maureen Clements, Justin Cronise, Jennifer DeVito, Lisa Errico, Carrie Fishner, Carol Anne Germain, Katie Ghidiu, Leah Marie Fitzgerald, Dawn Foland, Matthew Harrick, Dan Harms, Rebecca Hewitt, Amy Hillick, Aleshia Huber, Joycelyn Ireland, Kathryn Johns-Masten, Jill Kehoe, Caitlin Kenney, Tina Kiernan, Cynthia Koman, Dana Laird, Jean Linn, Jill Locascio, Dana Longley, Charles Lyons, Joe Malek, Alicia Marrese, Carrie Marten, Giovannine Matheron, Jaime Neudecker, Alana Nuth, Clare O'Dowd, Chrissy O'Grady, Sarah O'Shea, Susan Perry, Catherine Stollar Peters, Molly Poremski, Violet Price, Logan Rath, Yvonne Rode, Mechele Romanchock, John Santana, Adam Saunders, Christi Sommerfeldt, Heather Stalter, Kabel Nathan Stanwicks, Marcy Strong, Mark Sullivan, Katelynn Telford, Jane Verostek, Danielle Walkup, Lori Wienke, Erin Wilburn, Cori Wilhelm, and Anna Wong

Meeting Start Time: 10:02 AM

1. Approval of Minutes from June 14, 2023 meeting.

1.1. Motioned to approve, minutes approved

2. Report Recaps

2.1. Officers

2.1.1. President – Adam Saunders

2.1.1.1. Thank you to former President Jennifer DeVito for serving and thank you for help during the transition!

2.1.1.2. The Annual Conference was in June at SUNY Maritime. Amazing campus and venue! Thank you for hosting, Jill Kehoe. Looking forward to the 2024 Conference at Buffalo State College.

2.1.1.3. Council meetings will be virtual again this year. March and June meetings will have an in-person component at Buffalo State College.

2.1.1.4. Updates:

2.1.1.4.1. SUNYLA drafted a position statement regarding the elimination of funding for NovelNY. Thank you to Jennifer DeVito and Jill Locascio for help drafting the statement. The statement was distributed mid-summer to key stakeholders, including the NYS Division of Library Services, the State Librarian, Speaker Carl Heastie, Office of the Governor, and the SUNYLA blog. Lauren Moore, State Librarian, was the only person to respond with an acknowledgement of receipt. Adam met with the New York Alliance of Library Services in August, which was coordinated by Sheryl Knab, WNYLRC Council Chair. More information in Old Business.

2.1.1.4.2. The OLIS Advisory Board met on September 11 to talk about the new strategic plan and roadmap, updates to ELD courier service and the eBook ILL pilot, update to policies, and the NovelNY task force.

2.1.2. First Vice President – Jill Locascio

2.1.2.1. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as 1st VP.

2.1.2.2. First delegate meeting was on September 1 the agenda of which focused on delegate roles and responsibilities. Jill is updating the delegate list. If your campus has a new delegate or no delegate, let Jill know.

2.1.2.3. For the spring elections, the following positions will be elected: 1st VP, 2nd VP, and Secretary. The position descriptions for each of these roles is posted in Jill's report:

<https://sunyla.org/forums/index.php?topic=1283.0> If your campus is interested in hosting the 2025 annual conference (2nd VP position is conference chair), please contact Jill.

2.1.3. Second Vice President – Charles Lyons

2.1.3.1. Buffalo State is excited to host the 2024 conference!

2.1.3.2. Planning has just begun. Charles is working internally to reserve spaces. Residence Life is aware that the conference will need dorms. Renovation work is happening in the Library but should not interfere with the conference. Justin Crossfox is also helping with planning the conference as Justin was on the planning committee last year. Hotel on campus, the Hotel Richardson, would be an interesting and unique lodging option. Conference dates are June 12-14, 2024. Charles will send a save the date and a call for volunteers for the conference planning committee to the listserv.

2.1.4. Secretary – Alana Nuth

2.1.4.1. No report

2.1.5. Treasurer – Leah Fitzgerald

2.1.5.1. \$11,456.10 in the bank account and \$42,592.48 in PayPal. See Leah's attached report in the forum for more details. Finances are about the same as last year at this time.

2.2. Committees

2.2.1. Membership Development – Carol Anne Germain

2.2.1.1. Current members: 352

2.2.1.2. Lifetime members: 55

2.2.1.3. Student members: 96

2.2.1.4. Delegates: 58

2.2.1.5. Usually, membership jumps up right before the conference, but that did not happen this year. Delegates, it's helpful to make sure all your staff have current memberships.

2.2.1.6. The Student Subcommittee held New Librarians Day on April 21 with 62 registrants. Presentations will be posted to YouTube soon.

2.2.2. Personnel Policies – Heather Stalter

2.2.2.1. The committee is considering the following questions:

2.2.2.1.1. Should the Stay Survey stay within SUNYLA?

2.2.2.1.1.1. Yes

2.2.2.1.2. Will the survey require IRB approval?

2.2.2.1.2.1. No

2.2.2.1.3. Reviewers are still welcomed as the survey has a lot of questions. In the future, if someone wanted to publish this data externally, they may need IRB approval. It makes sense to keep the survey in SUNYLA because the idea is to gather data about SUNY librarians and library staff. Librarians outside SUNY may not be invested in completing the survey.

2.2.3. Professional Development – Logan Rath

2.2.3.1. The committee created a listserv for student training (based on feedback from the survey that Jennifer DeVito and Logan Rath distributed for professional (non-librarian) staff). The group will reconvene as another community of practice.

2.2.3.2. Excellence in Scholarship Awards were given out during the Annual Conference and will again be given at the 2024 Conference.

2.2.3.3. Promotion and Tenure Group is creating a repository to collect policies. Call for policies in the future.

2.2.4. Publications – April Davies

- 2.2.4.1. Submissions are due September 22 for the October SUNYLA Newsletter.
- 2.2.4.2. Upcoming themed issues for the Newsletter (as suggested by Delegate Meetings).
- 2.2.4.3. Plans to update the photo collage for the Facebook page.
- 2.2.4.4. Previous issues of the Newsletter can be found on the SUNYLA website.
- 2.2.4.5. Send social media content to Amanda Lowe for posting and cross-tag with SUNYLA social accounts.

2.2.5. TDG – Jill Locascio

- 2.2.5.1. Confirmation from the Midwinter Conference Planning Team that they will volunteer to plan the 2024 Midwinter conference. The first planning meeting will be in a few weeks. Typically, the Midwinter Conference is scheduled for the first Friday in February.
- 2.2.5.2. Jill will be stepping down as TDG Chair. Jill is looking for someone to volunteer to serve as chair. The main duties are listed in Jill's report:
<https://sunyla.org/forums/index.php?topic=1284.0>
- 2.2.5.3. Jill can serve as co-chair for the Midwinter Planning Team for the 2024 conference.

2.2.6. Web Development – William Jones

2.2.7. No report

2.2.8. SILC (SUNYLA Information Literacy Committee) – Megan Benson and Jocelyn Ireland

- 2.2.8.1. Next Community Conversation is October 19 from 2:00 to 3:00 PM: Building Community. Information will be distributed on the SILC listserv and you can also email Megan for access to the Zoom meeting.
- 2.2.8.2. Two new members: Lauren DeLaubell and Freya Gibbon.
- 2.2.8.3. Another Community Conversation is scheduled in November. The topic will likely be AI.

2.2.9. Archives (ad hoc) – Jennifer Collins

2.2.10. No report

2.2.11. Please send materials to Jenny from last year's conference for the archive.

2.2.12. IDEA Committee – Milo Cameron

- 2.2.12.1. The committee is focusing on individual initiatives and activities that are already happening on campuses.
- 2.2.12.2. Julie Setele is conducting a diversity audit of the collections at Buffalo State College. Looking to replicating the audit at other SUNY libraries. Bruce Seger at Suffolk Community College has been writing articles that the committee would like to distribute SUNY-wide (<https://fascc.org/jedi-introduction>).
- 2.2.12.3. Looking for strategies to share the load. Many diversity LibGuides across campuses. Looking to pool resources and to create a shared LibGuide space for content about diversity.
- 2.2.12.4. University of North Texas is conducting a survey of trans-gender library workers. Please direct anyone to the survey who may find the survey relevant:
https://unt.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5cFiua3L2mSetU2

2.3. Liaisons

2.3.1. FACT2 – Katie Ghidui

- 2.3.1.1. Faculty Advisory Council on Teaching in Technology
- 2.3.1.2. Katie is the SUNYLA representative. Every campus has two campus representatives (one teaching member and one professional staff member) to share information. Appointed by the Chief Academic Officer. If you are not sure who your campus representative is, contact Katie.
- 2.3.1.3. FACT2 establishes annual task groups with volunteers across SUNY to address different topics about technology and teaching.

2.3.1.3.1. The 2023/2024 task groups are Optimize AI for Teaching and Learning and as a continuation from last year: Leveraging the Digital Learning Environment (DLE), which is chaired by Katie and John Kane.

2.3.1.3.2. Volunteers always welcome!

2.3.2. LACUNY – Derek Stadler

2.3.2.1. No report

2.3.3. ESLN – Nate Hill

2.3.3.1. No report

2.3.4. IDS – Mark Sullivan

2.3.4.1. IDS Project held the 20th Anniversary Conference at Utica University with 84 attendees and many great presentations. Elijah Scott, Executive Director of Library Services at Florida Virtual Campus was the keynote speaker.

2.3.4.2. The IDS Project was awarded a \$230,000 IMLS grant to develop Cross-Share. Cross-Share is a system with resource sharing system interoperability.

2.3.4.3. Virtual User Groups will be happening in late October or early November.

2.3.4.4. New IDS Forums are happening. The first one had more than 30 people attend.

2.3.5. OLIS – Maureen Clements

2.3.5.1. New SUNY Provost will start in November: Dr. “Ram” See the press release for more details: <https://www.suny.edu/suny-news/press-releases/8-23/8-29-23/>

2.3.5.1.1. The next OLIS update is scheduled on Tuesday, September 19 at 2:00 PM. The update will be recorded.

2.3.5.1.2. The Scholarly Communication COP is meeting on 9/21

2.3.5.1.3. Research Data Management Series is happening this fall, it’s a six week series

2.3.5.1.4. Michele Eichelberger. and Nancy Babb are teaching Custom Linking in Primo VE – GES on September 28

2.3.5.1.5. Spotlight on SUNY: Mold is scheduled for October 3

2.3.5.1.6. Accessibility COP is meeting on October 5

2.3.5.1.7. NOVELNY:

2.3.5.1.7.1. The NovelNY Task Group includes the following members:

1 UC representative (Carol Anne Germain - UAlbany)

1 Comprehensive representative (Carrie Martin, Purchase)

1 Community College representative (Kerry Carlson, Suffolk CC)

1 Technical College (Lauren Bradley – Maritime)

Up to 2 at large members (Abigail Streeter – Stony Brook, Noah Roth SUNY Broome)

1-2 OLIS representatives – Maureen Clements, Esta Tovstiadi

2.3.5.1.7.2. The task group met with Gale and Encyclopedia Britannica. The group applied the quotes from both vendors to the rubric used by the SUNYConnect Task Group. The pricing is good but still a lot of money.

2.3.5.1.7.3. The task group is analyzing usage and how the products are used by users. Are faculty aware of the defunding? How are they using the resources in their teaching and research? Further communication across channels

2.3.5.1.7.4. There will be a survey out next week on cataloging support and the needs of cataloguers from the New Metadata Coordinator, Marcy Strong. Please complete the survey so OLIS can better understand and support cataloging needs across campuses.

- 2.3.6. UUP – Dan Harms
 - 2.3.6.1. New contract was ratified. Highlights:
 - 2.3.6.1.1. Across the board salary increases
 - 2.3.6.1.2. DSI flat distribution
 - 2.3.6.1.3. Contractual paid parenting leave for up to 4 weeks
 - 2.3.6.1.4. Joint Labor Management Committee Programs are back in effect
 - 2.3.6.2. IDA documentation has already been distributed to campus committees.
 - 2.3.6.3. UUP has formed an ad-hoc librarians group to talk about topics relevant to librarians. The group will be meeting at the delegate assembly. One topic to discuss is the decline of librarian positions across SUNY.
 - 2.3.6.3.1. Question: has there been any action on the A48 Protected Time Clause? Still in the formative stages. Because we are 12 month contract employees, we are treated like professional staff for telecommuting purposes.
- 2.3.7. METRO - Jill Locascio
 - 2.3.7.1. No report
 - 2.3.7.2. Seldom does Jill have a report. Perhaps it makes sense to sunset the METRO liaison as METRO falls under ESLN and we do have an ESLN liaison.
 - 2.3.7.3. Motion to dissolve the METRO liaison, motion approved.
- 2.3.8. NYLA – Caitlin Kenney
 - 2.3.8.1. Registration is open for the annual NYLA Conference to be held on November 1 – 4. Hotels are open and discounts are available. See the NYLA homepage. Caitlin will be doing a presentation on Ask 24/7.
 - 2.3.8.2. NYLA shared a statement in support of Emily Drabinski.
- 2.3.9. NYSLAA – Dawn Foland
 - 2.3.9.1. Planning 2024 conference is underway. The conference is scheduled for the first week in June, near SUNY Purchase (on campus or at a local hotel). Proposals for workshops is open.
 - 2.3.9.2. Hope to solidify the conference location and officers by the next meeting on September 25. Open positions for election, mentorship available: President, Treasurer, and Corresponding Secretary.

3. Old Business

- 3.1. Defunding of NovelNY – Adam Saunders
 - 3.1.1. Funding for NovelNY was not included in the new New York State budget. During the June Council meeting, the Council decide to draft and share a position statement.
 - 3.1.2. Sheryl Knab, WNYLRC Council Chair, contacted Adam to participate in a joint meeting with the NY Alliance of Library Services and constitutions in mid-August.
 - 3.1.3. The meeting was a general discussion of how the defunding would impact libraries: budgets, equity, loss of information access, disservice to our communities, patrons, and students.
 - 3.1.4. Discussed alternative funding options: some changes would require changes to NYS law. Also discussed a shared cost model (Split three ways: SUNY, BOCES, public libraries) based on individual usages by those three sectors. Push funding or refunding through the NYS Legislature (highly political which would require full support by all library sectors).
 - 3.1.5. Public libraries are not fully supportive in the same way that SUNY and BOCES are for fear that refunding NovelNY would redirect funds away from existing funding.
 - 3.1.6. The group is working on several action items and investigating these options.

- 3.1.7. For SUNYLA: We need to start the discussion with campuses and faculty about the impact of defunding. How will it impact their courses, assignments, etc? Will your library have to make cuts? Seek additional funding? We also need to collect data.
- 3.1.8. Discussion points:
 - 3.1.8.1. What about students coming to College (school libraries)? They won't have experience with these databases.
 - 3.1.8.2. Our campuses may use some or different resources so a SUNY-wide package is a challenge.
 - 3.1.8.3. School libraries do not use EZproxy and instead rely on a username and password for access. Could we share access to SUNYConnect with the school libraries? May not be fiscally feasible.
 - 3.1.8.4. Recruiting tool to make NovelNY available to all school libraries paid by SUNY. Make it known to student and their parents that access to the databases is coming from SUNY.
 - 3.1.8.5. Partner with local BOCES for access to SUNYConnect.
 - 3.1.8.6. How to prepare for a world without NovelNY? How to prepare for incoming classes that do not have access? Well-funded schools will have access and low-funded schools will not have access. Is there a way for OLIS negotiation to help school libraries?
 - 3.1.8.7. What would it cost to get access to NYS residents to a very select number of databases? Maybe from EBSCO? So students are familiar with the interfaces.
 - 3.1.8.8. No notice on the top of the NovelNY website about defunding.
 - 3.1.8.9. Need for vocal responses about the impact of defunding.
 - 3.1.8.10. Funding from a private donor? Tax write-off.
 - 3.1.8.11. NovelNY is especially important for rural libraries.
 - 3.1.8.12. As part of our service to the University and the community, should this be something that we advocate for? Partner with school and public libraries that lack the staff and training to campaign for funding. Create a toolkit for school and public libraries.
 - 3.1.8.13. Board of Trustees can advocate and be political in a way that we cannot as SUNY employees.
 - 3.1.8.14. Direct users to New York Public Library card access.
 - 3.1.8.15. Media coverage?

4. New business
 - 4.1. No new business.

Meeting adjourned at 12:24 PM