

VALE Members Council Meeting Minutes
Friday, June 9, 2022 | 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Virtual meeting via Zoom

Attending: Linda Beninghove (Stevens), Ralph Bingham (LLNJ), Annie Chatterjee (Essex), Stephanie Cooper (Sussex), Heather Craven (CCM), Jane Crocker (RCSJ), Maria Deptula (Berkeley), Guy Dobson (Drew), Jeffrey Donnelly (GCU), Evelyn Frangakis (Princeton Theological), Christy Goodnight (Stockton), Isabel Gray (Camden), Muhammad Hassan (Kean), Janet Hauge (Atlantic Cape), John Hernandez (Hudson), Ann Hoang (NJIT), Leigh Keller (Ramapo), Melissa Lena (VALE), David Marks (Bergen), Marilyn Ochoa (Middlesex), Taras Pavlovsky (TCNJ), Dave Peterson (RCBC), Nicole Potdevin (ACRL-NJ/NJLA-CUS), Pam Price (Mercer), Donna Rosinski-Kauz (Ocean), Patti Schmid (RCSJ), Jodi Shelly (Felician), Alyssa Valenti (RVCC), Kurt Wagner (Monmouth)

Coffee and conversation: 9:00 to 9:30 a.m.

Business Meeting - Introduction. (Marilyn Ochoa)

- Marilyn Ochoa, serving as moderator on behalf of Edward Owusu-Ansah, opened the Business Meeting at 9:33 a.m.

Updates & Reports.

VALE Report. (Kurt Wagner)

- Kurt Wagner shared the VALE Report, thanked Marilyn Ochoa and Melissa Lena for their organization and preparation for this meeting, and introduced several new members of the VALE Members Council:
 - John Hernandez, Hudson County Community College
 - Susan Van Alstyne, Centenary College
 - William McNelis, Brookdale Community College
 - Leigh Keller, Ramapo College of New Jersey
- Kurt thanked the VALE Executive Committee for a recent discussion of the FY2023 proposed VALE budget and VALE's finances, and he shared that they plan to shape the trajectory towards sustainability.
- The VALE-Edge Partnership Review Committee will meet during the summer with the goal of revising the MOU, and the PRC aims to provide an update on the committee's progress at the September Members Council meeting.
- Kurt expressed thanks to the Members Council and shared that this will be his last meeting serving as VALE Executive Committee chair.

VALE Budget Report. (Taras Pavlovsky)

- Taras shared that VALE has been operating at a deficit budget for a few years and that VALE has been subsidizing the Members fee partially through the reserves.

- The New Jersey Academic Libraries Conference was virtual, not in-person, therefore the event came in under budget. Not as much OER ambassador travel occurred during this year, and funding was already in place for OpenNJ. Related to these factors, the budget will end up “in the black” approximately \$34,000.
- The reserves end-of-year balance should be approximately \$268,000. Therefore, \$2,000 was taken from reserves, instead of \$36,000.
- Taras discussed the FY23 proposed budget, database licensing revenue, and expenses. He explained that some funds will be brought in from reserves to balance the budget. The service fee for Members should increase by approximately 7%.
- The New Jersey Academic Libraries Conference will be virtual in 2023. There are plans to eventually return the conference to an in-person format.
- A review of Edge fees will take place.

ACRL-NJ, NJLA-CUS Report. (Nicole Potdevin)

- Planning is underway for the January 2023 New Jersey Academic Libraries Conference.
- Nicole shared highlights from recent events, workshops, wellness Wednesdays, and collaborations, including a new electronic resources committee and NJASL partnership to support high school students.
- A by-law review is in progress, and a name change is being discussed.

LibraryLinkNJ. (Ralph Bingham)

- Ralph shared highlights from his written report and encouraged attendees to register for the June 21 membership meeting.
- Ralph discussed the statewide delivery contract and professional development opportunities offered by LLNJ.
- Kurt Wagner congratulated Ralph Bingham for receiving the Librarian of the Year award for NJLA.

New Jersey State Library Report. (Melissa Lena)

- Melissa Lena stated that the State Librarian’s report is included in today’s meeting materials.
- Margaret Nizolek is retiring from the NJSL as of June 30 and State Librarian Jennifer Nelson will represent NJSL at VALE Members Council meetings in the future.

OER update. (Marilyn Ochoa)

- Marilyn Ochoa and Muhammad Hassan discussed the recent work of the OER ambassadors and Marilyn shared OpenNJ updates.
- VALE Members are encouraged to contact Marilyn Ochoa or Rob Hilliker to schedule meetings to discuss OER initiatives.
- Marilyn discussed the open textbook collaborative project for which they are offering open office hours on Thursdays at noon. More information may be found here: <https://middlesex.libguides.com/OTCProject/home>

VALE Elections. (Melissa Lena)

- Melissa Lena shared the candidate slate and voting ballot via Google Forms.
- Leigh Keller of Ramapo College of New Jersey was elected for the one public / state college/university seat (2-year term).
- Kurt Wagner of Monmouth University was elected for the one independent seat (2-year term).
- Janet Hauge of Atlantic Cape Community College and Donna Rosinski-Kauz were elected for the two community college seats (2-year terms).
- Linda Beninghove of Stevens Institute of Technology will continue as Recorder for VALE Members Council meetings.
- The proposed FY23 VALE Budget passed.

Conclusion**Old business** (Kurt Wagner)**New business** (Kurt Wagner)

There was neither old business nor new business shared.

Good of the Order

- Melissa Lena shared that Dr. Ed Chapel has retired from Edge.
- Kurt Wagner shared that Judy Cohn of Rutgers University plans to retire in September.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

Next meeting

The date for the next meeting is TBD.