

VALE Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, Sep. 28 | 1 pm - 3 pm | Virtual via Zoom

[Zoom Link](#) | [Meeting Document Folder](#)

In Attendance: Ali Cole (VALE), Caitlin Kaplan (NJEDGE), Isabel Gray (CCC), Leigh Keller (Ramapo), Kurt Wagner (Monmouth), Donna Rosinski-Kauz (OCC), Ralph Bingham (LLNJ), Brett Bonfield (NJLA), Ann Hoang (NJIT), Marilyn Ochoa (Middlesex), Muhammad Hassan (Kean), Darianne Mizzy (MSU), Janet Hauge (ACCC), Taras Pavlovsky (TCNJ), Consuella Askew (Rutgers)

Guests: Gary Marks (WPUNJ)

Absent: Ana Fontoura (FDU), Rob Hilliker (Rowan), Maria Baratta (NJSL)

- I. **Call To Order** (Hoang)
 - A. Hoang called to order at 1:01 pm
- II. **Approval of [July, 2023 Meeting Minutes](#)** (Cole)
 - A. Wagner moved to approve the minutes; Keller seconded. No Discussion. Approved as is.
- III. **Old Business** (30 mins)
 - A. **NJAL Conference Planning** (Marks)
 1. The Planning Committee is currently in the process of collecting proposals – 20 proposals have been received so far, the deadline is Monday, Oct 2. The theme, keynote, and venue selection are done.
 2. The schedule plan is to hold 7 concurrent sessions during 3 different time slots – specifics will be finalized once proposals are closed. Registration is expected to open at the end of Oct.
 3. Marks proposed to extend the invitation to attend to non-VALE members if feasible to continue – as it was done during the virtual conferences.
 - a) Discussion: non-VALE members could be charged an amount to cover the cost of food per person. Marks proposed a staggered registration, with VALE members first, so that no VALE members would be pushed out due to non-VALE attendees. Marks noted that the capacity of the main area of the venue (Middlesex: Cafeterias A, B,&C) is 224 – we can extend the space a bit, though this might reduce the number of posters available to display since it is in the same space.
 - b) Ochoa wondered if the sessions would be of interest to school librarians. Marks added that it would be a small population and would encourage collaboration. School staff don't get off for conferences typically.
 - c) Pavlovsky added that we have not had staggered registration in the past – we would need to flood publicity to spread awareness that this year is

different. Also noted that there is precedent for turning people away if needed.

- d) Motion moved by Hoang to allow non-VALE members to attend NJALC which passed with 11/12 in favor and 1/12 abstain by a zoom poll vote.
 - e) Bonfield noted that if needed, NJLA can help accept paid registration for non-VALE members and promote the conference to the NJLA membership. Kaplan added that if non-VALE attendees are charged, there may be reasons why they would want a refund – make sure to include that in the registration information for them.
4. Hauge brought up that this conference marks the end of the 25th year of VALE – should we celebrate/have a cake? Group consensus that cake is good.
- a) Mizzy noted in the chat that gluten free options should be available, Hassan agreed.
 - b) Ochoa noted that it is common for attendees to leave after the final session to travel and not stay for the dessert reception. Mizzy added that this could be done during a break or lunch, and a short ceremony could be held.
 - c) Hoang agreed that a cake/celebration during lunch would be better – maybe a sponsor can assist with a lanyard/tote bag promo for the celebration.
 - d) Hauge inquired with Ochoa if Middlesex catering could bake a cake. Ochoa will investigate it, and noted that the new chef is very good.
 - e) Marks added that years ago a VALE archive project was done, maybe a conference history slideshow or something similar can be put together.
5. Hauge inquired about an inclement weather plan and suggested that whatever Middlesex decides will decide what we do. Asked if we need a backup plan or a delayed opening program prepared.
- a) Marks noted that Rutgers Busch campus stayed open when there was bad weather on a conference day, it was played by ear the week of due to the forecast and the sessions were not delayed until the morning of. Should we have a fully virtual conference pivot scheduled? Easier than moving to a new day.
 - b) Hoang instructed the Planning Committee to discuss what is viable and to bring more information to the next EC meeting to make a decision then. The Planning Committee is scheduled to meet at the end of Oct.

B. 2024-2026 Strategic Plan (Ochoa/Cole)

- 1. Ochoa thanked those who provided input and thanked Gray for joining the Strategic Planning efforts. Since only half of EC participated, it is unlikely we will meet the original deadline that was laid out. Ochoa proposed a Strategic Planning taskforce, with deliverables that include a retreat in summer 2025 and working with a consultant.
- 2. This will be discussed further by Hoang in item E.

- C. **PD Program for Library Middle Managers** (Askew/Hilliker/Bingham)
 - 1. Mizzy deferred to Bingham to summarize the most recent discussion.
 - 2. Bingham stated the bottom line is that to revamp “super library supervisors” is beyond LLNJ capacity. VALE needs to decide, what do we want in the training that is different from what is already provided?
 - 3. Hoang will go into this further in the task force charge section. Agreed we don’t need to reinvent the wheel. The basic training helps, there could be an additional section for academic activities.
- D. **Edge and VALE MOU** (Hoang/Kaplan)
 - 1. Hoang had a conversation with Sam Conn - he said that business activity wise, EDGE supporting VALE is moving along well and EDGE did not realize there was a sense of urgency to getting the MOU finalized. They are working with their legal team to look at all MOUs of all associated members to create and develop a consistent MOU that would work across all members. Hoang will meet with Conn monthly starting in October (Oct 25th first meeting).
 - 2. VALE Report to Edge BoT is in the folder.
- E. **Revision of [Committee Charge and Set Expectations](#)** (Hoang)
 - 1. Hoang reviewed the current and proposed charges for each committee. See full document in the shared folder and linked above.
 - 2. Two task forces were proposed:
 - a) Professional Development Task Force
 - (1) Proposed timeline: FY24 through completion of deliverables.
 - (2) Mizzy and Askew will co-chair.
 - b) Strategic Planning Task Force
 - (1) Proposed timeline: FY24 through strategic planning completion.
 - (2) Ochoa and Gray will co-chair.
 - 3. Mizzy asked, what are the terms for the chairs/co-chairs? Hoang responded that they would serve annual terms. Voting or reaffirmation of the chair/co-chair positions at the July meeting.
 - 4. Motion moved by Wagner to accept committee charge changes and proposed task forces which passed with 11/11 in favor.
- IV. **New Business** (5 mins)
 - A. **Invited Speaker, Clarivate E-Books** at the 10/26 MC Meeting (Ochoa)
 - 1. Web of Science and eBooks collection – Doug Gaudieri and his Clarivate team will present.
- V. **Program Manager’s Business Report and Update** (Cole; 10 mins)
 - A. PM Report and Updates PPT in the meeting folder. Cole reviewed slides covering the topics below:
 - 1. Shared Drive & Website Overview
 - 2. SIG Updates (OER SIG updates & SLAC SIG proposal)

3. WALDO-Lyrasis Transition
 - a) Five of nine former WALDO vendors have fully executed agreements.
4. Electronic Resources Subscriptions Data for FY24 and pending new vendors for FY25 reviewed.
5. Statement against censorship and in support of NJ school and public librarians has been posted to the VALE website and will continue to accept endorsements.
6. Endorsement [ICOLC Statement on the Metadata Rights of Libraries](#)
 - a) Motion for VALE to endorse the ICOLC Metadata Rights Statement passed with 12/12 in favor.
7. Conference Updates
 - a) Discussion regarding providing an honorarium for the emergency speaker as well as donating to the Merrit Fund on behalf of the keynote – who cannot accept honorarium during ALA presidency. Ochoa – we will be setting a precedent for paying for emergency speakers, we have not had one in the past. Hauge – this amount can change, depending on what we can afford in the future. Pavlovsky asked about the sustainability of paying the emergency speaker each year. Both motions were re-written to specify dollar amounts. Two motions moved by Hoang:
 - (1) Motion to donate \$750 to the Merrit Fund for displaced library workers on behalf of Emily Drabinski in lieu of Keynote Honorarium passed with 12/12 in favor.
 - (2) Motion to pay up to \$750 to the emergency speaker to speak at the NJAL conference or at a following MC meeting for 2024 passed with 11/12 in favor; 1/12 against.

VI. Standing Reports (20 mins)

- A. Treasurer's Report (Pavlovsky)
 1. Pavlovsky reviewed the August reports.
- B. Purchasing & Licensing Report (Keller/Hilliker)
 1. Keller introduced Hilliker as the new P&L co-chair, Cole covered licensing agreement updates in the PM report.
- C. Planning & Assessment Report (Fontoura/Rosinski-Kauz)
 1. Nothing to report.
- D. Outreach Report (Hauge/Hassan)
 1. Hauge welcomed Hassan as new Outreach co-chair and thanked Cole for the website updates. Report is in the folder.

VII. Standing Updates (15 mins)

- A. LibraryLinkNJ (Bingham)
 1. Bingham shared highlights from the LLNJ report – in the meeting folder.

2. Bingham expressed the need for a location host for an in person meeting in June for 150-175 people. Contact him if you can help/host. for locations for in person June meeting – 150-175 people, can anyone help? Host?
- B. NJLA (Bonfield)
 1. Membership and revenue have doubled in the past year, NJLA will be adding an Associate Director as well as liaisons to committees to improve current and future member experience.
 2. The largest growth in membership has been among non-MLS library staff.
 - C. NJ State Library (Baratta)
 1. State Librarian's Update – September 2023 is in the meeting folder.
- VIII. **Adjournment and Future Topics** (Hoang)
- A. Hoang adjourned meeting at 3:01 pm
 - B. Upcoming meetings - Thursday, October 26, 2023, via Zoom
 1. MC: 9 am - 12 pm; EC: 1 pm - 3 pm
 - C. VALE Decennial Report, 2012 - 2022 and VALE Annual Report, 2023?