VALE Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, Feb. 22 | 1 pm - 3 pm |Virtual via Zoom | Meeting Document Folder

Attendees: Consuella Askew, Maria Baratta, Ralph Bingham, Muhammad Hassan, Robert Hilliker, Ann D. Hoang, Isabel Gray, Caitlin Kaplan, Leigh Keller, Danianne Mizzy, Marilyn Ochoa, Taras Pavlovsky, Donna Rosinski-Kauz, Kurt Wagner. **Guests:** Gary Marks. **Absent:** Ali Cole, Ana E. Fontoura, Janet Hauge, Brett Bonfield, Jen Nelson.

I. Call To Order (Hoang)
   A. AH: AC is out, MNO will take notes

II. Approval of Minutes (Ochoa)
   A. December 14, 2023 Minutes (DRK, KW approved)
   B. January 25, 2024 Budget Meeting Minutes (RH, MNO approved)

III. Old Business (20 mins)
   A. NJAL Conference Summary (Marks)
      1. Report is in the folder, which will be shared with the Members Council in March. Overall assessment that it was a successful conference with positive feedback focused on the online conference program, keynote, and location. Recommendations are in the report as well.
   B. ~~Open Scholarship Publishing Project Task Force Proposal (Hassan/Askew)~~ - WITHDRAWN
      1. Proposers will work on this project separately and may recommend it as a VALE initiative once a proof of concept is available to consider.

IV. New Business (30 mins)
   A. FY25 Budget Approval (Pavlovsky)
      1. While Scenario 3 was approved which included a steady sponsorship amount ($1,000) and approval of $2,600 for professional development, the original Scenario 3 with a 3.866% service fee increased to 4.1139% with those added assumptions. However, a new scenario/contingency was raised for consideration that includes a $10,000 contingency in budget, increasing the service fee to 5.75%.
      2. The rationale for the new scenario was to help balance the budget. This surplus would be added as an emergency contingency line that we can continue forward in future years, and we can later pull from this for new initiatives if we are in the red instead of going through the reserves. However, the EC can propose a strategic expenditure to be paid from the reserves. Several members are not in favor of an increased service fee resulting from the $10,000 contingency.
      3. Motion to approve the motion for scenario 4 (3A and contingency to the budget) instead of 3A. Vote: Agree to Scenario 4A: 4/12, Do not agree to Scenario 4A: 9/12, Abstain: 0/12. Motion fails and Scenario 3A for FY25 budget will be introduced to the Membership Council for a vote.
   B. PALCI/ALPA OER Statewide Project Survey (Mizzy)
      1. The PALCI Statewide survey administered by Bay View Analytics on the impact of lack of affordability of textbooks to students was discussed. The folder has details of the presentation and data for Pennsylvania. While there is interest in

gathering the data since the state has not updated their requirements for OER, inclusive access is predatory, and IHEs in the state apply uneven implementation, question remains on how VALE would use the data if collected. VALE cannot lobby as a 501c3. This topic is moved to March for continuing discussion.

V.   5 Min Break

VI.   Standing Reports (30 mins)

A.   *Strategic Planning Task Force (Ochoa/Gray/Cole).* Several consultants submitted and the team will make a recommendation soon. The FY25 budget approved is in the appropriate range.

B.   *Treasurer's Report (Pavlovsky)*. As of January 31, 60% of the year's annual expenses are spent. It is expected that Q3 will show the actual surplus, which is the result of differences in expected program manager costs as well as higher than expected conference sponsorships. While no database or reserves information is available, the next report will show accurate accounting. Only one institution is delayed in payment; Edge is working with them.

C.   *Edge and VALE Update (Hoang/Kaplan).* Edge is standardizing MOU for all members and will provide guidance when that process is complete.

D.   *Purchasing & Licensing Report (Keller/Hilliker).* The Program Manager's report offers the review of activity of the committee. Renewal season is coming up in March. A survey will soon be sent to members for demo, etc.

E.   *Planning & Assessment Report (Fontoura/Rosinski-Kauz).* The committee worked on the e-resources survey for distribution.

F.   *Outreach Report (Hauge/Hassan).* The Program Manager's report is reflective of the work. A new committee member is participating, and they will soon determine workflow to update the site, including collecting photographs of libraries. Considerations of transitioning the current website include mobile accessibility, cost effectiveness, familiarity, and ease of use.

G.   *Professional Development Task Force (Askew/Mizzy).* The committee will meet 2/23.

H.   *Program Manager's Report (Cole).* EdgeCon in spring TCNJ on April 18, feel free to connect with AC there. Report is in the meeting folder.

VII.   Standing Updates (10 mins)

A.   *LibraryLinkNJ (Bingham):* Review the report in the folder. The Users Conference was a worthwhile time. Upcoming activities include the summer book bash supervisor training (virtual in spring), membership meeting at Middlesex College on June 20, and the tech summit on May 9.

B.   *NJ State Library (Baratta):* The library is participating in a multistate AI initiative and encourages libraries to send withdrawn local history and NJ documents collections to them to add or digitize. A Thursday 2/29 program is on adult learners and the NARA grant funded digitization studio is available. The NJ Palace project has an app available for patrons to access the freely available information including NJ bios, inventions, etc.

VIII.   Adjournment and Future Topics (Hoang)

A.   Future Topics

1.   VALE Impact Report (Hoang/Cole)

B.   Upcoming meetings

1.   Thursday 3/28 MC 9 am – 12 pm, EC 1 pm – 3 pm, **Rebecca Reynolds**, Chair & Assoc. Prof. of Library and Information Science, Rutgers University, guest speaker

2.   June Meetings in Person - Mercer County College MC's Speaker - TBD

Minutes prepared by Marilyn Ochoa, EC Vice Chair. Approved at 3/28/24 EC Meeting.