



VALE Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 25 | 1 pm - 3 pm | [Meeting Folder](#)

In attendance: Ali Cole (VALE), Robert Wolf (FDU), Ann Hoang (NJIT), Taras Pavlovsky (TCNJ), David Marks (Bergen), Janet Hauge (Atlantic Cape), Marilyn Ochoa (Middlesex), Ralph Bingham (LLNJ), Isabel Gray (Camden), Maria Baratta (NJSL), Robert Hilliker (Rowan), Muhammad Hassan (Kean), Evelyn Frangaskis (PTSEM)

Absent: Jane Jiang (UCNJ), Brett Bonfield (NJLA), Consuella Askew (Rutgers), Caitlin Kaplan (Edge), Dorianne Mizzy (Montclair)

I. Call To Order (Ochoa)

A. Ochoa called the meeting to order at: 1:03 pm

1. Thanked Hoang and Pavlovsky for their leadership this past year.
2. Introduced new EC members: Davis Marks (Bergen, MC Moderator), Rob Wolf (FDU, Independent).

B. Adoption of the agenda.

II. Approve of [June 13, 2024 Meeting Minutes](#)

A. Pavlovsky moved to approve; Wolf seconded. Minutes approved as is.

III. New Business

A. NJAL Conference (Cole)

1. Cole presented three themes proposed by the NJALC Planning Committee
 - a) Ochoa and Hoang requested more information about each of the themes.
 - b) Cole will send out information and descriptions to the EC members along with a form to vote via email.
2. Theme needs to be chosen before the speaker is selected.
3. Hoang noted that Ruha spoke at TCNJ and will be speaking at ACRL – she’s a good speaker, but unsure how it would fit with our themes.

B. FY25 Meeting Schedule

1. Cole presented the dates (see draft schedule in folder).
2. Rob motioned to approve the draft; Evelyn seconded. A zoom poll was used: 11 yes – 0 no – 0 abstain.

C. Officers Election

1. Bylaws changed last year – we now have a Vice Chair/Chair Elect, a Chair, and a Past Chair.

2. Rob Hilliker has been nominated to serve as Vice – Chair / Chair Elect. Muhammad Hassan withdrew nomination.
 - a) Ochoa calls motion – unanimously elected to Vice Chair / Chair Elect position.
3. Taras Pavlovsky will be stepping down as Treasurer
 - a) Pavlovsky will be available to consult the new Officer
 - b) No one was nominated or self-nominated.
 - c) The Officers will meet and come up with a plan to replace the Treasurer.

D. Standing Committee Chairs

1. Outreach – Janet and Muhammad Co-chairs re-confirmed.
2. Purchasing & Licensing – Keller stepped down and Hilliker is now Vice Chair. Evelyn Frangakis and David Marks volunteered to co-chair. Hoang suggested that Rich Kearny be invited to co-chair.
3. Planning & Assessment – Ana Fontoura and Donna Rosinski-Kauz both have stepped down. Rob Wolf volunteered to co-chair. Jane Jiang (absent) was selected to co-chair.

IV. **Open Discussion** – None

V. **Break** – Skipped

VI. **Standing Reports**

A. Strategic Planning Task Force (Ochoa/Gray/Cole)

1. The consultant could not make it but we were able to zoom her in for a few hours – it was a great experience. Planning to work with the consultant to analyze the data that was collected during the retreat.
2. We are hoping to have it ready in advance of the November MC meeting, we are expecting one or two comment periods before plan is finalized.
3. Hauge congratulated the TF on a job well done – the pivot was done seamlessly. Gray shared that the table discussions were incredibly hopeful and there was great synergy.
4. Marks added a thank you to Hassan – the room was great. Frangakis concurred and noted the great comradery.

B. Treasurer's Report (Pavlovsky)

1. Technically this is the end of June report – maybe the EOY – there might be a few changes. Cole will investigate the \$12k loose end where we billed a member but did not pay out to a vendor.
 - a) Update: There was a vendor bill (Association for Computing Machinery; ACM) that was not fully approved in NetSuite - it has been corrected.

C. Purchasing & Licensing Report (Hilliker)

1. ACM Open Agreement amendment adding new participants has been executed. Springer Nature and Elsevier also have proposed transformative agreements.
2. Hoang added that Rich Kearney should be asked to be co-chair, in the past, meetings were scheduled ahead of time, this was very helpful.
3. A transition meeting needs to be scheduled with new co-chairs.

D. VALE/EDGE Update (Hoang)

1. Met with Sam Conn in June. VALE may opt not to attend the quarterly BoT meeting and provide a quarterly report. In place of attending the BoT meetings, VALE could schedule a monthly management meeting to include Sam Conn, Caitlin Kaplan, VALE Chair, and VALE Officers if desired. There is value to sitting on the BoT – facetime with Presidents, Provosts, and CIOs.
2. Edge is working to finalize the Professional Services Agreement (PSA) for five organizations, including VALE. Conn indicated that a draft was ready – we need to make sure we get a copy to review.
3. Conn stated that the VALE reserves are most likely part of the Edge's Cash Flow Reserves. Therefore, they are not being invested. Conn will make sure that the VALE Reserves are clarified in the new PSA.
4. Conn pitched Illumeria to me as a revenue-sharing opportunity if VALE can help them increase subscribers to this product.
5. Ochoa has a meeting next week with Amy and Caitlin of Edge. Wants to look at the PSA before deciding to stay on BoT or not. Will attend Sept. BoT for continuity.

E. Planning & Assessment Report

1. None

F. Professional Development Task Force (Askew/Mizzy)

1. None

G. Outreach Report (Hauge/Hassan)

1. Outreach met last week – discussed moving website to Springshare, there are compelling reasons to do it. There is some outdated information – the platform is difficult. Cole will do some digging.
2. Outreach agreed that not all the VALE social media accounts are necessary – Instagram and Threads will be deactivated. Hilliker added that LinkedIn has been great for the library at Rowan.
3. The committee has begun discussing a Quarterly Newsletter for VALE.

H. Program Manager's Report (Cole)

1. See slides in the meeting folder.

2. The Chronicle add-on only provides access to the reports for the duration of the subscription – you do not keep the reports. If a new report comes out that you want, you must wait until renewal to swap them out.
3. The last time a VALE membership MOU was signed was 2006 – we should have these all re-signed and updated. The MOU template was recently updated in preparation for onboarding Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine.

VII. Standing Updates

A. [LibraryLinkNJ](#) (Bingham)

1. Budget came through - a little bit more than flat – thank you for all who advocated. There was an excess from the pandemic period – worked on spending that down. Now back to being more conservative.
2. LLNJ will no longer provide Professional Development Subsidies. The State Library has asked that there be no sub-granting. Will be exploring new ways to frame it and will still offer the directory.
3. New Member Information Session – Friday, September 20 at 11 am

B. NJLA (Bonfield) – Absent

C. [NJ State Library](#) (Baratta)

1. The State Library Information Center was closed for onsite access most of the month of June due to facilities issues. Reopened for staff and public access on June 26th.
2. The New Jersey Department of Labor decommissioned their library in 2023. Much of their collection will be added to our holdings.
3. Music service materials from the national library service – excellent resources for reading braille music.
4. ALA and the Sustainable Libraries Initiative (SLI) just released the National Climate Action Strategy and Implementation Guide for Libraries, designed to help libraries create action plans for our rapidly changing climate. [Read more here.](#)

VIII. Adjournment and Future Topics (Ochoa)

A. [PALCI/ALPA OER Statewide Project Survey](#) (Mizzy)

B. Upcoming meetings

1. Next EC Meeting - Thursday, September 19, 2024, at 1pm via Zoom.
2. Ochoa adjourned the meeting at: 2:33 pm.

Minutes approved by EC on 9/19/24.