

American Library Association
Committee Information Update

Report for Midwinter 2018

Name of Committee: Scholarships & Study Grants Committee

Committee Chair: Sarah LeMire

Committee Members Present: Sarah LeMire (chair), Kimberly Redd (ALA staff liaison), Lorelle Swader (ALA staff liaison), Lessa Kanani'opua Pelayo-Lozada (ALA Executive Board Liaison), Caitlin Moen, Annemarie Roscello, Carl Antonucci, Angela Barnes

Committee Members Absent: Regina M. Beard, Dr. Hong Huang, Teralee Elizabeth ElBasri (Intern), Mrs. Ayaba Logan (Intern)

Accomplishments at this Meeting

- Jury members for all five ALA general scholarships have been seated, and juries include five SSGC members.
- Since ALA Midwinter 2018, SSGC has received three new scholarship proposals. Two of these proposals have completed the review process and been approved, including the Lois Ann Gregory Wood Fellows Program proposal which was approved by ALA Council vote at Midwinter 2018.

Planned Activities

- At Midwinter 2017, Lorelle Swader brought forward an idea for improving long-term engagement of ALA general scholarship recipients. A task force was convened to explore alternatives and reported their findings at ALA Annual 2017. With SSGC feedback, Lorelle has outlined this program as ALA Scholars. Through this program, division and general scholarship recipients would be able to come to ALA Annual and participate in ongoing professional development. A virtual meeting is planned for spring 2018 to continue discussions on the ALA Scholars program.

Issues that affect the committee's work and their implications for the future

- SSGC's role as an advisor on division and round table scholarships and study grants does not seem to be well known, and therefore SSGC is not always included in the process of developing or revising scholarships and study grants.

Interactions with other units within ALA

- Through the SSGC staff liaisons, Lorelle Swader and Kimberly Redd, SSGC has interacted with units and divisions proposing new scholarships, including LHRT and YALSA. SSGC has also interacted with divisions with existing scholarship programs, including LITA, ALSC, and VRT.

Relationship of the committee's work to the ALA strategic plan

- SSGC's work connects with the ALA strategic plan in a variety of ways. One of the strategic plan's key action areas is "Education and Lifelong Learning," a goal that SSGC supports through its

work reviewing study grants, travel grants, and professional development grants. SSGC's mission also connects with the strategic direction of "Professional and Leadership Development." SSGC oversees the five ALA general scholarship juries and also provides advisory support for many of the other division and round table scholarships that help reduce barriers to degree achievement and professional development for librarians.

Current level of committee members' involvement

- Attendance at SSGC meetings was strong at Midwinter 2018, where the committee was able to achieve a quorum for the first time in over a year. Committee members who are in attendance have been actively engaged and have taken active roles in developing strategies for improving student engagement. One avenue of active committee participation has been as members of scholarship juries; five SSGC members volunteered to serve on ALA general scholarship juries in 2017-2018.

Committee self-check on its value and viability

- SSGC has the potential to be an active committee that contributes much of value to ALA. Increased committee participation and more engagement with scholarship recipients in support of the ALA Scholars program may increase the viability of the committee.

Other issues of each committee's own devising

No other issues at this time.

Submitted by: Sarah LeMire

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