

CLA Literacy Section  
Conference Call April 17, 2006

*Participants: Lynne Price, Carla Lehn, Susan Lynn, Carey Gross, Jacquie Brinkley, Valerie Reinke and Shanti Bhaskaran*

**1. Section membership update:** The section currently has 94 members. Susan reported that the CLA Membership Committee is developing a packet for new CLA members with a description of all sections, including the Literacy Section. There are about 65 Literacy Program Coordinators who are not CLA members. It was decided that the Section's Board of Directors would be expanded to include Liaisons from the regional networks. The liaisons will help expand the reach of the Section and can individually talk to network members about the benefits of joining CLA as well as report Section updates at their network meetings. (The greater visibility and closer coordination with the regional networks may also help get more nominees for office and more literacy workshop proposals.) To recruit new members, Carla suggested that the welcome message CLLS sends to new literacy program directors will be copied both to the Chair of their regional networks and the network Lit Section liaisons. Lynne will create a position description for Network Liaisons and talk to the Chair of the networks that are not currently represented on the Board in the coming weeks.

A flyer will be developed that lists the benefits of membership. It was also decided to explore the cost of a webcast that could be offered in between conferences to offer more professional development opportunities to members, even if they are not able to attend the CLA conference in November.

**2. Update on Nominations (Lynne):** There are two nominees for the position of Vice President and Lynne is getting in touch with potential nominees for Secretary. It was decided that next year, a Membership Nomination Committee could be constituted so that the process would go through smoothly

**3. CLA Planning Committee Meeting Update:** Frances Houser was on the planning committee and would be requested to share the list of accepted literacy workshops for the conference.

**4. Lit Section Financial report (we currently have \$1435.39 available):** The following budget items were discussed:

1. \$237 was paid for printing fliers for the Legislative Day packets, which enhances the visibility of literacy programs
2. Writer to Writer award: Valerie will check with Sue Negreen if the amount of \$250 for the Writer to Writer award prize could come from the CLA (general pool) as had been done in the past.
3. Webcast: Carla will talk to Dan Theobald to find out how much it would cost.
4. OLSL award- As in the past, the Section will sponsor two tickets to the Friday night annual awards dinner at CLA for the winner of the Outstanding Librarian In Support of

Literacy (OLSL) award as well as a plaque and gift certificates from Barnes and Noble. (Rosie Manela will make the arrangements.)

5. Kazoos with a literacy message will be handed out at the State Librarian's Breakfast (Carey is in charge!)

6. We will provide lunch at the Lit Section meeting (on Saturday morning). Attendance may be lower as it is a long weekend and there is no CLLS annual meeting on Friday.

**5. Legislative Day Update:** Lynne will forward Carey's flyer on the Legislative Day to Laura Fisher to post on the website. Those who are going to Sacramento on Legislative Day (Lynne, Susan and others) would share their insight into the process and develop a document (listing talking points) to guide newcomers on Legislative Day as well as Day in the District. Valerie suggested including adult learners in the contingent (perhaps Henry Huffman Leadership Institute graduates could be part of the group next year) who can share their stories with the legislators. The idea will be discussed at the Adult Learners on Staff Network meeting in June. It is an opportunity not just to request support on specific legislation but to create awareness among legislators of literacy and library services. It was felt that next year, the Section could post a how-to guide for Legislative Day (and for Day in the District) on the website and support coalitions where literacy programs within a region could send representatives as a group to Legislative Day instead of each of them having to figuring out the process by themselves.

**6. Website:** Shanti will send an email to the committee on the ideas listed for the website for feedback and to request volunteers to work on different sections of the website.

*Next conference call: Lynne will schedule in six weeks (either the first or third Monday in June)*