

MISSOURI UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES STAFF ASSOCIATION

**Executive Board Meeting
April 10, 2001
2:30 – 4:00 p.m.
Reference Conference Room, Ellis Library**

Meeting Minutes

Present: Nicole Brown, Rachel Brekhus, Karen Eubanks, Mary Hainen, Jacinda Johnson, Jessica Longaker (after 3:00 only), Ruthe Morse, Dyanna Pursell, Michaelle Dorsey

Not Present: Kathy Peters Sheila Voss, Troy Gordon

President Nicole Brown opened the meeting at 2:30.

Previous Minutes

Minutes from the March 13, 2001 meeting were not read. Secretary Rachel Brekhus promised to send out minutes by email as soon as possible.

Reports

Social

The shelter at Cosmo Park has been reserved for the annual picnic June 22.

Book Sale

No report.

Treasurer

See accompanying report.

Courtesy

No report.

Muse

The “Spring Fancy” Muse was launched Friday, March 16.

Community Service

No report.

Staff Lounge

The candy machine has not been broken into lately, though it was not working the day of the meeting. A call has been put in.

Old Business

MULSA Web Page Nicole gave our webmaster dates for upcoming MULSA events, and told her that the ratified minutes will be forthcoming.

MULSA Officers for 2001-2002

Ruthe Morse expressed her willingness to fill the vacancy left by Mark Ellis' resignation from the MULSA board. The consensus of the board members present was that she and Rachel could present members with a choice by running against each other, but also running for a second board office, reflecting both board member's willingness to serve in whatever capacity desired by MULSA membership.

New Business

Special Report: Mark Ellis' Report on the Library Council's discussion of MULSA

Council reaffirmed that since MULSA is viewed by them as a social organization, library employees must work out time to be allowed for MULSA activities with their supervisors. The Council is in favor of allowing "a reasonable amount" of time for MULSA activities, as long as such activities do not "compromise the department mission."

Council is concerned that recent MULSA discussions may be contributing to a "divisive atmosphere" in the libraries. It is hoped that MULSA will try to see itself in the context of the larger MU Libraries mission of providing excellent service to library users, and that mission's goals and objectives.

Various suggestions were made by MULSA members in Council on ways MULSA can reevaluate its direction. These included:

- Comparing MULSA to any similar organizations in existence at peer institutions
- Finding a neutral party to facilitate discussions of MULSA's mission and goals

Mark Ellis emphasized that comments that some might take as interfering were meant as constructive suggestions made by MULSA members who wish to help.

The assembled board members were open to the idea of discussing MULSA's mission and finding peer organizations for comparison. However, the assembled board members' general feeling was that MULSA does not have money to hire a facilitator. Board members took issue with the idea that MULSA is responsible for library employees' dissatisfactions with the way some supervisors have handled MULSA and other any other personnel matters within the MU Libraries

Preparations for Annual Meeting

Officers were urged to continue encouraging co-workers to run for MULSA offices. Officers were reminded to prepare annual reports for the meeting.

Next Meeting

The Annual MULSA Meeting will be on May 23. Nicole will speak with Troy about running the election in place of Mark Ellis.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Brekhus

ADDENDUM: After the conclusion of the meeting recorded above, membership pointed out that MULSA's constitution and bylaws require that vacancies on the Executive Board be filled by the President. Accordingly, a special meeting of the MULSA Executive Board was held on Tuesday, April 26 2001 at 2:00. President Nicole Brown polled the assembled quorum of nine Executive Board members on their preference that either Ruthe Morse or Rachel Brekhus fill the vacancy at Vice President/President-Elect. Both Ruthe and Rachel expressed willingness to run for at least one other office if not appointed to the Vice-Presidency. Nicole abstained from the secret-ballot poll. By a margin of five members to four, the poll came out in favor of appointing Rachel Brekhus. Rachel Brekhus was appointed Vice President for the remainder of the 2000-2001 year, and President for 2001-2002. The special meeting was then adjourned.