

## Minutes of a meeting of the Lever Press Oversight Committee

November 27, 2017

Present: Roy, Geffert, Fishel, Brunner, Corkrum, Miller, Mulroy, Seiden

1. Review of minutes
  - a. The minutes of the September meeting were approved.
  - b. We discussed the work of the in-person October meeting to reflect on and articulate the values we seek to advance, and be guided by, in Lever Press. Notes of that meeting were shared with the Oversight Committee.
2. Operations Group Reports
  - a. Mark Edington reported on progress in organizing the [Peer Review Transparency Meeting](#).
  - b. Becky Welzenbach reported on the outcome of the Oversight Committee election. Those were Marta Brunner (Skidmore), Alexis Hudson-Ward (Oberlin), John Tombarge (Washington and Lee), and Jennifer Nutefall (Santa Clara). The winners will be notified, all candidates that offered themselves will be thanked, and Mike will then notify the entire membership of the outcome.
  - c. Becky reminded the group that our December meeting has been advanced a week, to the 18th, in view of end-of-term schedules.
  - d. Beth Bouloukos reported on her acquisitions work, and in particular on her attendance at American Studies Association (ASA) and the National Women's Studies Association (NWSA) meetings.
3. We discussed Mike Roy's proposal to engage a consultant to survey the membership on the questions of price and value. Mike explained that he saw this as a necessary first step in the process of shaping a second round of invitations to join the membership. Themes that emerged in discussion were (a) a sense that it is a bit too early to undertake such a survey; (b) that the budget as currently designed does not provide funds for consultancy services; and (c) a concern that our members might either be experiencing "consultant fatigue" or may look critically on the expense of such an exercise. After discussion, Mike proposed to take up the question with the Long-Range Planning Committee.
4. We then discussed whether we should accept new members to the consortium. Mark Edington indicated that he has received inquiries and expressions of interest from three institutions, two of which are Oberlin Group institutions. It was noted that the current moratorium on new membership was coming to an end. We decided that new members (a) could be invited to join (b) at the presently established rate (c) for a five-year commitment with a start date in 2018.
5. We discussed the draft [Lever Press Values Statement](#).
6. We discussed the practice of past Oversight Committee meetings of scheduling a "Deep Dive" on one of the channels in the Editorial Program. Mike asked whether this continued to be a useful investment of Oversight Committee time. The original purpose

was to make the Oversight Committee aware of efforts taking place in the various acquisition pathways, and to enable members of the Committee to assist in those efforts. Beth indicated that these conversations can be helpful, and shared as well that she has received communications from individual librarians in the Lever network pointing her to specific faculty with various projects.