



**Upstate New York
& Ontario Chapter**
MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

**Annual Report to UNYOC Membership
October 27, 2023**

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UNYOC Slate of Nominees 2023-2024

Elected Positions	Name	Term
Executive Chair	Stephanie Sanger	2023-2024
Immediate Past Chair	Denise Smith	2023-2024
Vice Chair/Chair Elect	VACANT	2023 - 2024
Treasurer	Rachel Becker	2023-2026
Secretary	Susanna Galbraith	2023-2026
Member-At Large (East/West)	Jamia Williams	2023-2026
Member-at-Large (East/West)	Beth Merkle	2023 - 2026
Member-at-Large, Ontario	Amanda Ross-White	2021-2024
Nominee, MLA Nominating	Nell Aronoff	2022-2024
Chapter Council Representative	Abigail Smith	2021-2024
Chapter Council Representative Elect	Rebecca Kindon	2021-2024

Appointed Positions		
Archivist	Lisa Buda	2022-2025
Communications Coordinator	Jaimi McLean	2023-2026
Website Coordinator	Michael Labrecque	2022-2025
Continuing Education Chair	Sarah Lawler	2020-2026
Government Relations - New York	VACANT	2023-2026
Government Relations - Ontario	Angélique Roy	2021-2024
Membership Chair	Beth Mamo	2019-2024
MLA Credentialing	VACANT	2023 - 2026
Parliamentarian	Kim Nolan	2021-2024
UNYOC-L Coordinator	Nell Aronoff	2021-2024
Conference Planning Chair	Lorraine Porcello	2023-2024
Conference Planning Immediate Past Chair	Kim Nolan	2023-2024
Conference Planning Vice-Chair	VACANT	2023-2024

2023 UNYOC Executive Chair Report

Please review the attached reports detailing the accomplishments of all Executive Committee members of the chapter.

Additionally, a few updates from the Executive Chair that are worth sharing:

UNYOC Chair and Immediate Past Chair

The organization did not successfully recruit a Vice-Chair for 2021-2022. Consequently, Denise Smith and Olivia Tsistinas reprised their roles as Executive Chair and Immediate Past Chair, respectfully, for 2022-2023. Stephanie Sanger will step into the role of Executive Chair for 2023-2024. Please consider volunteering for the role of Vice-Chair.

Executive Chair Huddle

Past and present chairs as well as our conference planning chair, Denise Smith, Lorraine Porcello, Olivia Tsistinas and Stephanie Sanger continue to meet weekly, for a Monday Morning Huddle. This practice, introduced in April 2020 has promoted the sharing of institutional memory and knowledge with incoming executive leaders and has helped to keep the activities of the organization on track throughout the year. It has also been a wonderfully supportive environment where new leaders have an opportunity to lean on the experiences of previous leaders.

2023, 2024, and 2025 Annual Conference

Thank you to Conference Planning Chair, Kim Nolan, for your hard work organizing the 2023 Annual Meeting in Clayton, NY this year. Plans are already underway for our 2024 Annual Meeting, which will mark UNYOC's 60th Anniversary. Thank you to 2022-23 Conference Planning Vice-Chair for securing a contract well ahead of schedule! Our 60th Anniversary meeting will be in Chautauqua, NY. At the time of writing, a 2023-2024 Conference Planning Vice-Chair has not yet volunteered to be appointed, meaning we might not have a Conference Planning Chair for our 2025 Annual meeting. Please consider volunteering for this role.

Procedural Manual Update

The 8th edition of the UNYOC Procedure Manual has been finalized and approved by Executive. It will be presented to members for approval at the 2023 Annual Business Meeting.

Ursula Poland Scholarship and MLA

Due to critical loss of 2 of our members at large, the executive did not offer the Ursula Poland Scholarship in 2022-2023.

I would like to extend my gratitude to the members of the 2021-2022 UNYOC Executive Committee and the Conference Planning Committee for their commitment to growing and strengthening our organization.

Respectfully submitted by Denise Smith
Chair, UNYOC Executive Committee (2021-2023)

Treasurer's Report and Proposed Budget for 2024

2024 Budget Recommendation

After reviewing our past and present financial situation and in the interest of preserving our organization for the future, I recommend the following adjustments and/or changes for the 2024 budget year.

- Hold annual conference expenditures to \$20,000.
- Increase our annual membership revenues by \$200-400 to cover our fixed costs of @\$2,000 (we came close last year with \$1,880 in membership fees).
- Refrain from distributing scholarship funds for one year while we raise funds to replenish award \$\$.
- Establish a fundraising committee and set a campaign goal of \$10,000 for 2024.

These 2024 recommendations are accounted for in the report spreadsheet.

Analysis and Rationale

The financial health of UNYOC is a cause for concern. Our only asset is our cash account; and unfortunately, our cash in the bank has been steadily declining over time. The reason for this decline is straightforward: our yearly outflows exceed our inflows and have for several years. Last year, for example, we ran a deficit of \$9,000, which was high, but we lost more than \$12,000 in 2019. (See the attached sheet for historical trends). For 2022 we didn't have any income to balance the \$9,000 deficit. Indeed, we've run a deficit every year since 2017, with one exception--2021, when we made \$6,000. That year we held a virtual conference, didn't distribute scholarship money and had limited executive expenses. We finally raised our membership dues and switched to Wild Apricot. All these actions contributed to a positive bottom line.

A Closer Look at Expenses

Fixed Costs

Our basic fixed costs are modest—roughly \$1800-\$2000 every year for MLA fees (insurance, taxes) and our technology (Wild Apricot, Zoom, MLA hosting). On the bright side, since we raised our membership fees, we have come close to covering those costs with membership dues. Based on 2023's membership income, we were able to cover nearly \$1,900 of our total fixed costs with membership dollars.

Variable Costs

The Annual Conference

The annual conference is expensive, but our goal every year has been to at least break even, and we have occasionally succeeded. Historically, though, the event typically loses some money, but never more than \$5,000. We could probably close that gap and break even for the conference with a little more tweaking, for example adjusting or revising member registration, vendor, and CE fees, and creating additional revenue-generating opportunities with our membership. Efforts are being made this year to implement some of these changes. It is important to do what we can to make this meeting pay for itself.

Scholarship and Awards

The real elephant(s) in the room are the scholarship and professional award funds. We can't continue to pay out \$4,000-\$5,000 nearly every year without generating revenues to balance the outflows and replenish those funds. These annual distributions are the largest contributors to our costs. By running total deficits of \$7,000 to \$8,000 annually, we've lost more than \$32,000 since 2017. Our bank balance in 2016 was more than \$54,000. At the end of April this year it was \$19,600 (not including conference vendor prepayments of \$4,500).

Some Suggestions to Improve Financial Health

The depletion of the group's funds is discouraging but can be halted and even reversed. UNYOC can decide to make changes that will secure the future financial stability of the group, or it can continue operating in the same way and essentially go broke in four or five more years. The organization simply needs to raise money. Some members have balked at this suggestion, but UNYOC should not be afraid to ask for money in the same way that other successful non-profit professional, community, and religious organizations do as a matter of course every year. If our goal is truly to support our colleagues and develop future health science library professionals in our region, we should adopt a long-term strategy and commit to building up our resources to ensure that can happen. We should devote as much time and energy to fundraising as we do to our annual celebration every year.

Below is a list of suggestions to consider that would contribute to improved financial health:

- Set membership targets and total membership revenues of \$2,000 to cover annual fixed costs.
- Set an annual target *income* goal and implement actions to reach it.
- Continue to target breakeven for the conference.
- Consider offering a virtual conference on off-years.
- Establish a new fundraising committee.
- Implement an annual fundraising campaign with a minimum target of \$8,000 and a stretch goal of \$12,000.
- Offer more CE revenue opportunities throughout the year.
- Create a restricted fund for scholarship and awards donations. Keep separate from operating funds.
- Consider purchasing interest-bearing investments.

	A	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	TREASURER'S Midyear 2023 REPORT AND PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2024							
2	Submitted by Virginia Trow 04/31/23							
3		Actual 2019	Actual 2020	Actual 2021	Actual 2022	YTD 2023	Proposed 2024	Comments
4	Expenses							
5	MLA Website hosting		\$360.00	\$360.00	\$360.00	\$360.00	\$360.00	fixed cost
6	Liability insurance	\$550.00	\$550.00	\$550.00	\$549.00	\$549.00	\$549.00	fixed cost
7	Group federal tax exemption form 990	\$120.00		\$120.00		\$120.00	\$120.00	fixed cost
8	Executive committee expenses – meals, mileage	\$926.88		\$0.00			\$0.00	
9	Chairs gift							
10	Stipend for executive committee member to attend MLA - 4 @ \$500	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$340.00		\$0.00	
11	Reimburse for AHIP application fee	\$100.00		\$100.00	\$200.00		\$0.00	
12	Postage	\$11.00			\$38.00		\$0.00	
13	Zoom	\$161.89	\$149.90	\$149.90	\$149.90	\$149.90	\$149.90	fixed cost
14	Professional Development awards	\$5,055.00	\$2,075.00	\$200.00	\$3,915.00		\$0.00	Recommend no awards in 2023 year
15	Ursula Poland Scholarships		\$500.00		\$1,000.00		\$0.00	Recommend no awards in 2024 year
16	Digitization of chapter archival material						\$0.00	Are these still relevant fields?
17	External hard drive						\$0.00	Are these still relevant fields?
18	Technology (website)/Wild Apricot	\$5,160.00	\$150.00	\$300.00	\$720.00	\$648.00	\$648.00	fixed cost
19	Donations - other			\$0.00	\$100.00			
20	Conference 19 expenses	\$16,722.00						
21	Conference 20 expenses		\$2,498.76					
22	Conference 21 expenses			\$1,565.00				
23	Conference 22 expenses				\$21,848.22			
24	Conference 2023 expenses							
25	Conference 2024 expenses						\$20,000.00	This is a proposed total
26	Membership pins	\$600.00				\$570.00	\$0.00	
27	Bank checks	\$0.00	\$45.84				\$0.00	
28	Misc. Merchant Bank fees		\$146.90	\$280.00	\$400.00	\$280.00	\$400.00	This is an estimate
29	Total expenses:	\$31,906.77	\$6,476.40	\$3,624.90	\$29,620.12		\$22,226.90	This is a target total
30								
31	Income							
32	Membership	\$1,170.00	\$580.86	\$1,980.00	\$1,880.00	\$265.00	\$2,000.00	Proposed membership target for 2024
33	Scholarship raffle	\$400.00			\$320.00			
34	Misc. donations			\$250.00				
35	Fundraising (proposed new category)						\$10,000.00	Recommended target for 2024
36	Conference 19 income	\$18,164.00						
37	Conference 2020 income		\$4,425.28					
38	Conference 2021 income			\$7,525.00				
39	Conference 2022 income				\$17,735.00			
40	Conference 2023 income					\$25,125.00		Current estimate from Conference Planning
41	Conference 2024 Income						\$20,000.00	Proposed total for 2024
42	Total income:	\$19,734.00	\$5,005.96	\$9,755.00	\$19,935.00		\$32,000.00	
43								
44	Key Bank account balance on 4/28/23: \$24,115.97- includes conference rev YTD (\$4,500)							
45								
46	2022 total net (revenue minus expense) was (-\$9,685.12)							

Member-at-large Annual Report

The UNYOC Members-at-Large are responsible for reviewing applications for the UNYOC professional development award and the Ursula H. Poland scholarship. These awards have been paused as we reconsider our ability to financially commit to this longer term.

I hope to again recruit two new members-at-large to represent the Eastern and Western portions of New York State. For continuity, I will be delighted to stay as the Ontario representative in the upcoming year.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Ross-White, Queen's University, Kingston, ON

Report from the Conference Planning Chair

Building a 1000 Island Puzzle: Putting the Pieces into Place

The 2023 annual conference will be held in Clayton, NY, October 25-27th. We hope to surpass last year's registration numbers but are mindful that some regional institutions are still not supporting travel. The planning committee has frequently met over the last nine months and will meet weekly as we make the final push.

I want to extend a special thank you to all the planning committee members for their contributions and guidance. With their assistance, I'm confident that the UNYOC 2023 annual meeting will be a success.

- Lorraine Porcello – 2024 Incoming Chair- Program Facilitator
- Abigail Smith – Registration/ Keynote Speaker Liaison
- Sarah Lawler – Continuing Education/Speaker Liaison
- Amy Slutsky – Keynote Speaker Liaison
- Jennifer McKinnell – Vendor Relations/Exhibits
- Denise Smith - Program
- Ginger Trow – Treasurer/Expenses and Payment Coordinator
- Amanda Ross-White – Local Arrangements
- Mary Jo Russell – Raffle Coordinator/Speaker Liaison
- Rebecca Kindon - Registration
- Darcey Rodriguez – 2022 Past Chair
- Jamia Williams – Local Arrangements
- Jaime McLean - Communications
- Michael Labrecque - Web Coordinator

Lorraine Porcello will be stepping into the role of conference planning chair for 2023. The annual meeting will be in Chautauqua, NY. Please consider joining the conference planning committee to provide Lorraine with the support needed to put on a fantastic annual meeting. This is a great way to get to know your UNYOC colleagues and support our chapter.

Upstate New York/Ontario Chapter Medical Library Association

Continuing Education Chair Report – Fall 2023

On October 25th, 2023, at the UNYOC Annual Conference, Miranda Stefano will present the Continuing Education program. The session will take place from 1-4 PM. Miranda will be paid a honorarium of \$1,000 and UNYOC will cover one night at the conference hotel as well.

Program Details

Mis/Dis/Mal-information and How to Fight It

Mis/Dis/Mal information has been around since ancient Egyptian times. It's not new, but evolving technology has increased its spread exponentially. Similar to infectious diseases, we are all potential vectors in the spread of misinformation. Inoculate yourself to mis/dis/mal information by participating in this workshop focused on identifying and fighting mis/dis/mal information. During this workshop participants will:

- Learn about the modern misinformation landscape (including AI and deep fakes) by reviewing real-life examples pulled directly from social media.
- Learn about and practice utilizing professional fact checking tools and strategies.
- Discuss methods to assist our patrons in improving their own information consuming habits.

CE Approval:

3.0 MLA/CHLA contact hours

Maximum class size: **50**

Minimum class size: **10**

Details:

Date & time:

Wednesday, October 25th

Time: 1 PM – 4 PM

Location:

1000 Islands Harbor Hotel

200 Riverside Drive

Clayton, NY 13624

Respectfully submitted by Sarah Lawler, Continuing Education Chair, 9/22/23

2023 Government Relations Report

Ontario Updates

The following items to report for Ontario and Canada more broadly include possible amendments to existing legislation and bills that have been introduced or have yet to be introduced.

- [Library workers in the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury in Simcoe County](#) (GTA) are fighting for a wage increased of \$1.35 per hour but Mayor James Leduc says residents cannot afford it. These workers of CUPE 905 have been on strike since July. This is the second longest library workers' strike in Ontario's history. Now going into arbitration.
- School libraries in the Peel District School Board (PDSB) were found to have weeded upwards of 50% of some of their collections due to a new [policy that required books published prior to 2008 be removed for equity purposes](#).
 - o Ontario's Education Minister Stephen Lecce has since [asked the PDSB to cease this process](#).
- Implications for school libraries affected by mistrust and conflict arising from negotiations between the provincial government and education workers to improve living wages: After workers walked off the job for two days in November, the [Ford government passed legislation](#) ([Bill 28, Keeping Students in Class Act, 2022](#)) that banned CUPE education workers from striking and implemented the notwithstanding clause to override certain Charter rights. This hasty action was condemned by the Prime Minister and the Canadian Civil Liberties Association. This [legislation was later repealed](#) but contracts for all of Ontario's education unions expired at the end of August, so negotiations continue.
- The Ontario government failed to support rising costs for universities with the province's budget tabled on March 23rd. The budget includes [no additional operating funding for universities, nor an increase in per-student funding](#). Instead, the government announced additional seats for medical and nursing students, but without information on the allocation of those seats, how they are to be funded and no reassurance that instruction will not be privatized.
- **Update from 2022** – *Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations (OCUFA) President, Sue Wurtele, circulated the [online campaign to take action to amend the CCAA](#)*

[and BIA](#). This asks the Liberal government to amend the Companies' Creditors Agreement Act (CCAA) and Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act (BIA) so that they cannot apply to public institutions like universities. The CCAA was used to permit Laurentian University to circumvent its collective agreement with faculty and terminate roughly 100 faculty.

- o **2023:** The federal government announced that consultations will begin soon to reform bankruptcy legislation that led to the collapse of Laurentian University in 2021. The [Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations commend this progress](#) after years of working with Laurentian faculty and concerned community members to raise awareness of this issue.
- o [Canadian Parliament has enacted significant changes to federal insolvency legislation](#). [Bill C-228](#) will require insolvent employers to pay certain defined-benefit pension plan entitlements in priority to the claims of secured lenders. The Act would effectively operate to increase the current range of pension benefits that receive priority" compared to the claims of creditors.
- Ontario's libraries are asking the government to create a [provincewide digital public library](#), to create equal access to materials for rural communities and smaller municipalities as in larger centres as most public libraries are predominantly municipally funded.
- The [Toronto Public Library is reacting to the censorship of books](#) across North America and standing up for intellectual freedom by launching [The Book Sanctuary Collection](#) to ensure the publicly funded system remains a "safe space for all stories and ideas." The collection includes 50 adult, YA, and children's books that have been banned in other parts of North America.
 - o Related: [Op-Ed from the Director, Fundamental Freedoms Program of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association](#) about book banning and Freedom to Read Week.

Canada Updates (in the news)

- Leslie Weir has been reappointed as [Librarian and Archivist of Canada](#), effective August 30, 2023.
- **Update from 2022:** *The Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL) warns of the mass removal of content should the [Liberal government's proposed online harms bill](#) be introduced. This could have serious implications for the freedom of speech and censorship. The proposed online harms legislation was not introduced as promised within 100 days of Parliament's first session which began in November 2021.*

Consultations resulted in negative reactions A panel of specialists who were openly critical of the initial proposal met over the course of eight sessions concluding in June with suggestions provided to the government with a particular concern for the spread of disinformation and misinformation.

- o **2023:** [Bill C-18](#) became law in June 2023.
- o [Canadian news is now blocked from Google and Meta.](#)
- o [Government of Canada outlines proposed regulations for the Online News Act](#) to account for exemptions
- o [Bill C-18, An Act respecting online communications platforms that make news content available to persons in Canada](#), would force large Internet media companies to pay Canadian media companies for content they include on their platforms.
- o Related: [The Bill C-18 Reality: Everyone Loses When the Government Mandates Payments for Links](#) (Michael Geist); [What is Bill C-18, and how do I know if Google is blocking my news content?](#) (CTV); Media, [Bill C-18, and Indigenous inclusion](#) (The Hill Times)

Copyright

- As of December 30, 2022, [Canada extends copyright protection for an additional 20 years](#) making copyright applied to literary, musical, dramatic and artistic works outside of the public domain for the life of the author plus 70 years.
 - o Related: Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL), [Addressing the Impacts of Copyright Term Extension in Canada](#)
 - o Related: Law Bytes Podcast on the [Harm Caused by Canada's Copyright Term Extension](#) with Mark Swartz, Scholarly Publishing Librarian at Queen's University
- [Canadian Association of University Teachers calls on the federal government to expand provisions of Fair Dealing](#) in the Copyright Act to balance the needs of creators and users during Fair Dealing Week from Feb 20-24. A balanced approach to copyright is critical, but recent developments are skewing rules in favour of copyright owners.
- The [Fair Dealing Works campaign](#) is a collaborative effort to reform copyright law in favour of educational fair dealing and brings together Universities Canada, Colleges and Institutes Canada (CICan), Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL/ABRC), Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA/ACAE), Canadian Federation of Students (CFS/FCÉE), Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT/ACPPU), and the Canadian Internet Policy and Public Interest Clinic (CIPPIC).

2022-2023 Objectives

- Collaborate more closely and effectively with the Government Relations – NYS representative to communicate legislative changes and calls to action as they occur and seek out partnerships with library organizations across New York State and Ontario.
- Continue to monitor legislation and bills listed using Google news alerts and by monitoring changes through [LEGISinfo](#) for federal updates and [e-Laws](#) and the [Legislative Assembly of Ontario Current Bills](#) for provincial updates.

UNYOC MEMBERSHIP REPORT OCTOBER 2022

MEMBERS	2022	2023
Regular - US	61	48
Regular - CA	11	16
Student/Retiree- US	3	3
Student/Retiree - CA	0	1
Fellows/Emeritus - US	6	8
Fellows/Emeritus - CA	3	3
Award Recipient – US	1	0
Award Recipient - CA	3	2
TOTAL	88	81

Notes:

- A membership report can be exported from Wild Apricot at any time. Members who have dropped off and not renewed their annual membership within 12 months are automatically archived in Wild Apricot.
- An email reminder to renew for 2024 will come in December
- Please update any status changes or notify me and I will do it for you

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Mamo, Membership Chair

Webmaster Report

In November 2022, the donation page of the website went live, allowing members easily to donate to UNYOC's professional development awards and scholarship funds. "Donate" button links were also added to several pages throughout the site in order to encourage visibility.

Noting that there were two redundant news blogs on the site, one of these was hidden to consolidate all news into the Home page blog. While hidden from public view, the other blog still exists for historical purposes if it is decided to archive any of its material.

Information about the 2023 conference was updated throughout the year as it became available, and both Vendor and Member registration events were created in Wild Apricot.

Michael Labrecque

Communications Chair Report

In April 2023 Eldiflor Felipe stepped down as the Communications Chair and Jaimi McLean volunteered to be the interim chair until the end of his term in October 2023. In anticipation of fall elections Jaimi has agreed to stay on at the Communications Chair for the next term.

Transitioning information between Communications Chairs went smoothly and efficiently with the LinkedIn and Gmail accounts and the final social media accounts will be transitioned into her management by the end of the year.

Jaimi has continued Eldiflor's efforts in sharing relevant information on the UNYOC LinkedIn. The page has gained two new followers in the last 30 days. Analytics show regular waves of activity around conference periods in May during MLA's national conference and the fall season in anticipation of our regional conference.

Highlights

Data for 10/11/2022 - 10/10/2023

1

Reactions

0

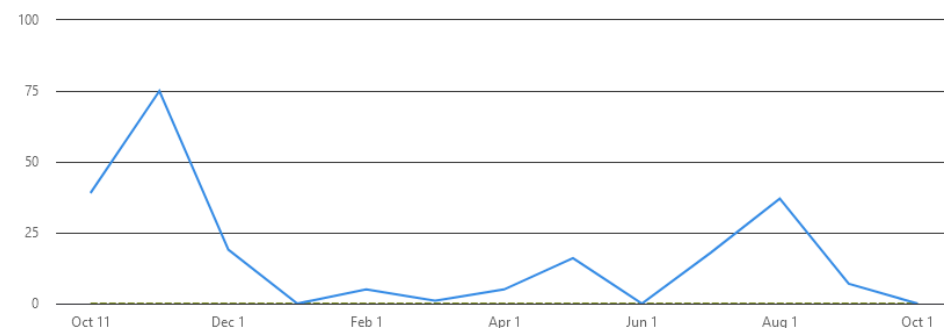
Comments

0

Reposts

Metrics

Impressions ▾



Jaimi has attended conference committee meetings and shared updates encouragements for presentation proposals via the new monthly newsletter. Since July, a monthly newsletter has been distributed sharing conference updates, continuing education opportunities, and regional news and acknowledgements. The upcoming term will be concentrated on regional acknowledgements, continued online publicity, and continuing Eldiflor's efforts of reaching out to academic and health institutions in the region to further increase our online presence and encourage conference participation.

Submitted by,

Jaimi McLean, Communications Chair

UNYOC-L Year End Report 2023

Archived messages

The link to search/view archived messages changed. It is now:

<https://listserv.buffalo.edu/scripts/wa.exe?A0=UNYOC-L>

Number of subscribers by year (past 5 years):

2019 – 141

2020 – 133

2021 – 128

2022 – 133

2023 – 130

Note: On July 10, 2019 I sent an email to the list to notify people that anyone that had not been a member in the last 5 years would be removed. They were encouraged to re-join. 47 email addresses were removed at that time.

Messages sent over UNYOC-L by year:

1993 – 7

1994 – 23

1995 – 77

1996 – 83

1997 – 112

1998 – 106

1999 – 135

2000 – 125

2001 – 124

2002 – 190

2003 – 219

2004 – 236
2005 – 206
2006 – 163
2007 – 126
2008 – 163
2009 – 123
2010 – 94
2011 – 147
2012 – 141
2013 – 155
2014 – 191
2015 – 159
2016 – 136
2017 – 129
2018 – 114
2019 – 145
2020 – 139
2021 – 153
2022 – 124
January – September 18, 2023 – 75

2023 monthly totals:

January 2023 – 7

February 2023 – 5

March 2023 – 9

April 2023 – 6

May 2023 – 5

June 2023 – 9

July 2023 – 13

August 2023 – 10

September 2023 – 11 (up until September 18)

Respectfully submitted,

Nell Aronoff

UNYOC-L Coordinator

email: naronoff@buffalo.edu

September 18, 2023

Chapter Council Report 2022-23

Chapter Council Business meetings took place on November 10, 2022, and May 1, 2023. The November meeting focused solely on outstanding Chapter Council business. The May meeting included Chapter Council business and Chapter reports. Most chapters noted that their 2023-2024 meetings will be held in person. It was also reported the establishment of the Liberty Chapter resulting from the dissolution and merger of the NY/NJ chapter and the Philadelphia Chapter is legally official, as of March 2023.

Chapter Council convened an MLA Chapter Project of the Year Awards Jury and an Elections Committee. The Chapter Project of the Year Award was presented to the South-Central Chapter for its Early Career Librarian Initiative Group which pairs students and new members with more experienced members. The Elections Committee oversaw a special election for the Chair of Chapter Council to fill the remaining term (2023-2025) of PJ Grier, who retired in December 2022. Keith Pickett of the Southern Chapter was elected and assumed the role of Chair in January 2023. The Elections Committee also oversaw the Chapter Council election for nominees to the Nominating Committee. The following six candidates for the nominating committee were elected:

- Elisa Cortez, AHIP— Medical Library Group of Southern California & Arizona
- Heather Martin, AHIP—Pacific Northwest Chapter
- Christina Seeger, AHIP—South Central Chapter
- Nell Aronoff—UNYOC
- Melissa Kahili-Heede—Hawaii-Pacific Chapter
- Nicole Theis-Mahon, AHIP—Midwest Chapter

Chapter Council passed a resolution to require Chapters to provide conference-related statistics including total membership at the time of the conference, total registrants for the conference (excluding vendors), conference format (i.e.: virtual, hybrid, in person), and whether the conference is free.

A workgroup was convened to update the Chapter Council Procedures Manual, which was last updated in 2009.

There was discussion about formalizing a Chair-Elect position into the normal Elections Committee workflow, so the election cycle runs the year before the Chair's term expires. This would allow for a year's worth of overlap for the Chair and Chair-Elect to ensure continuity and a smooth transition. Answers about eligibility for the position regarding representative and alternate term lengths are being determined.

Chapter Council recommended an amendment to the MLA Bylaws to no longer require MLA membership for Chapter Chairs/Chair-Elects/Past Chairs, Secretaries, and Treasurers. The recommendation was presented to the MLA Bylaws Committee in December 2022 and approved by the MLA Board of Directors at their meeting in May 2023.

Respectfully Submitted,

Abigail Smith

UNYOC Chapter Council Representative