



UNYOC Post-Conference Executive Committee Meeting

Date: October 9, 2025

Location: Virtual - Zoom

Minutes prepared by Susanna Galbraith, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 3:03 by Executive Chair, Abigail Smith

Present:

- Abigail Smith: *Incoming Executive Chair*
- Beth Merkle: *Immediate Past Chair*
- Rachel Becker: *Treasurer*
- Susanna Galbraith: *Secretary*
- Olivia Tsistinas: *Nominee to the MLA Nominating Committee*
- Rebecca Kindon: *Chapter Council Representative*
- Stephen Weiter: *Website Coordinator*
- Sarah Lawler: *Continuing Education Chair*
- Stephanie Helsher: *Government Relations, NYS*
- Angelique Roy: *Government Relations, ON*
- Erin Kennan: *Membership Coordinator*
- Kim Nolan: *Parliamentarian, Conference Planning Immediate Past Chair*
- Mary Jo Russell: *Conference Planning Immediate Past Chair*

Regrets:

- Liz Irish: *Chapter Council Representative Alternate*

- Jamia Williams: *Member-at-Large*
- Jessica Hollister: *Member-at-Large*
- Laura Riggs: *Member-at-Large*
- Jaimi McLean: *Communications Coordinator*
- Logan Rath: *Conference Planning Chair*
- Nell Aronoff: *UNYOC-L*

Agenda:

1. Approval of Minutes from October 6, 2025

Motion: To approve the minuted from October 6, 2025 Pre-Conference Executive Meeting Minutes.

Moved by: Kim Nolan

Seconded by: Angelique Roy

Discussion: None

Vote: 12 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained

Result: Motion carried

2. Introductions

A request was made for everyone to share their email addresses and record in the minutes to facilitate communication.

Name	Email
Abigail Smith	smithab@upstate.edu
Beth Merkle	Elizabeth_merkle@urmc.rochester.edu
Rachel Becker	Rachel_becker@urmc.rochester.edu
Susanna Galbraith	galbrai@mcmaster.ca

Olivia Tsistinas	tsistijo@upstate.edu
Rebecca Kindon	kindonr@upstate.edu
Stephen Weiter	weilters@upstate.edu
Sarah Lawler	lawlersa@upstate.edu
Stephanie Helsher	helshers@upstate.edu
Angelique Roy	angelique.roy@queensu.ca
Erin Kennan	eekeenan@visualdx.com
Kim Nolan	nolanki@upstate.edu
Mary Jo Russell	vbmclibrary@gmail.com
Logan Rath	lrath@brockport.edu

3. Conference Debrief (Mary Jo)

- Thank you to Lorraine and all the Conference Planning Team
- Grateful to have mixed participation from professionals and students
- Conference planning beginning in November 2024, before the current conference is done, resulted in a successful timeline for announcing information in a timely fashion.

4. Future Conferences

- **UNYOC 2026:** Joint with New York Library Association (NYLA), Saratoga Springs, NY (November 4-7, 2026) UNYOC will be present some of those days but not all
- **UNYOC 2027:** No meeting

- **UNYOC 2028:** Joint with North Atlantic Health Sciences Libraries (NAHSL)

5. Chapter Viability Discussion

- Since 2018 this is the 3rd time a chair is serving for 2 years
- Continue to struggle to recruit new members to the board
- Financially stable for now, but it has been tenuous at times
- Suggestions have been made for either a merger or dissolution of the chapter
- Cost of conference travel is an issue when competing with MLA conferences
- The Hawaii Chapter has recently dissolved
- Decision to have a discussion with MLA - make them aware, exploring dissolution or merger
- Dissolution is easier than merging. Approach another chapter and they see a large increase in membership. NAHSL is raised most often that we would join with.
- Where does the budget go? Parlay our budget into member benefit before we go
- Dissolution and merger will be expensive, we need to hire a lawyer.
- Canadian colleagues should be considered - travel considerations for conferences - NAHSL has virtual and in-person
- Visual DX Product testing funds as a sponsor for UNYOC
- Membership at large - what would the overall reaction be? This is a three-year plan - we have plans until 2028.
- Chapter revitalization task force was attempted a couple of years ago
- Soliciting feedback should be done after information is gathered on the logistics, cost, timelines, etc.
- **Action:** Abigail will email the Chair of Chapter Council (former MLA President) and report back to the Executive at the January meeting. Will

be in touch with the executive prior if more discussion needs to happen via email.

Motion: To take the first step in discovery of dissolution of the chapter

Motioned by: *(Name was not recorded)*

Seconded by: *(Name was not recorded)*

Vote: 12 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained

Result: Motion carried

6. New Business

- None

7. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn

Motioned by: Kim Nolan

Seconded by: Olivia Tsistinas

Vote: 12 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained

Result: Motion carried

Meeting is adjourned at 3:52pm.