



UNYOC Executive Committee Meeting January 22, 2026

Present: Abigail Smith, Beth Merkle, Rachel Becker, Susanna Galbraith, Olivia Tsistinas, Rebecca Kindon, Liz Irish, Stephen Weiter, Jamia Williams, Erin Keenan, Jessica Hollister, Stephanie Helsher, Kim Nolan, Logan Rath, Mary Jo Russell

Regrets: Laura Riggs, Jaimi McLean, Sarah Lawler, Angelique Roy, Nell Aronoff

Meeting called to order at 1:02pm

Agenda:

1. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda

MOTIONED by: Kim / **Seconded by** Olivia

MOTION APPROVED

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve Oct 9 minutes

MOTIONED by: Beth / **Seconded by** Rebecca

MOTION APPROVED

3. Updates from Elected and Appointed Positions

a. Treasurer (Rachel B.) - no updates

b. Members-at-large (Jessica H.)

i. Professional development award, 2 applicants

ii. Katy Nesbitt award - postponed. Confirmation that these awardees receive a plaque and complimentary conference attendance to the next conference. There is no formal code for the conference.

iii. Ursula Poland award - postponed. How do we define health sciences courses, difficult time getting applicants.

c. Membership (Erin K.)

i. Membership renewal time.

- ii. Updated the email to make it more noticeable. Added some benefits to membership to the email. 52 active, 18 lapsed, 35 pending.
 - iii. Another reminder will go out on Jan 30.
 - iv. Erin will help promote the awards and scholarships to members.
 - d. Chapter Council Rep (Rebecca K.)
 - i. Business as usual
 - e. Government Relations (Angelique R.) - no update
 - i. Stephanie (H.)
 1. IMLS will keep paying for grants, none got cancelled.
 2. At end of Jan end of stop gap approval for federal budget, still the NIH funding in balance, it's being funded at last year's level.
 3. Feb 3 NYLA advocacy day - new e-book bill, looking for civil service reform in libraries, looking to send something to members on advocacy day. Should it be an email, or a blog post.
 - f. Communications (Jaimi M.) - none
- 4. Update from MLA regarding future of UNYOC
 - a. MLA recommend merger with [NAHSL](#) before dissolution
 - i. Dissolution Considerations
 1. Dissolution has been an issue with restricted funds reverting to the state when others have tried to dissolve
 2. MLA governs affiliation and not legal status, so we would need to handle that
 3. All debts and liabilities need to be settled, our remaining assets can be sent to seed organizations, within 6 months of notifying MLA or all will go to MLA
 4. Funds cannot benefit individual members
 5. Locate charter in the archives and return to MLA
 - ii. Merger Considerations/Steps
 1. Approach NASHL to see if they're interested
 2. We as individual chapters can come up with our own terms (eg name changes, fund transfers)
 3. Majority of members in each chapter needs to approve the merger
 4. Approach MLA to propose name changes, etc, voting results, reasons, transition plan of funds and officer roles would transition
 5. Merger needs to be reviewed and approved by the board
 6. Newly formed chapter would need to make any changes to their bylaws
 - b. Discussion:

- i. Reminder of reason for dissolution or merger - those being involved in UNYOC have noticed participation has dwindled, the work is being done by the same people
 - ii. Timeline expectation - About 3 years has been past practice when forming a new chapter. This situation would be faster, it's more of an adoption rather than building a new chapter
 - iii. Archival material would go to MLA, or NAHSL
 - iv. NAHSL have no restriction based on where you live, Canadians can join.
 - v. Decision: Moving forward with asking NAHSL about a merger is agreed as a good next step, before pursuing dissolution. **ACTION:** Abigail will proceed with asking NAHSL.
5. Conference Update Planning and Discussion (Logan R.)
 - a. NYLA partnership for in-person 2026 conference fell through.
 - b. Discussion about options: Online one day conference, series of events throughout the year.
 - c. Always the member content that's most valuable - suggestion to have a UNYOC day when we have a day of UNYOC presentations only, no vendors.
 - d. Decision and agreement:
 - i. a series of workshops, member presentation day or combination of either
 - e. Membership hasn't yet been notified of cancellation of 2026 conference. A formal communication will go out when more decisions have been made.
 - f. In the meantime, update membership renewal emails to remove conference 2026 info.
6. Business from the floor
 - a. none
7. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn

MOTIONED by: Rebecca / **Seconded by** Kim

MOTION APPROVED

Meeting adjourned at 1:51pm