

## **ICL Advisory Board Meeting April 9, 2007**

The meeting was called to order promptly by President Bob Allen at 1 PM in Room 317.

Present: Bob Allen, David Sullivan, Betty Morley, Joe Maladra, Tom Dooley, Mary Crisanti, Sue Harty, Terri Collins, Peter Marron, Ken Bobbe, Marilyn Lind, Marge Olszewski, Dorothy Murphy, Mike Thompson, Don Carlson, Karl Gabby, Lois Nissen,

Not Present: John Wiese, Margo Temple, Cathy Jensen.

### **General Remarks**

Bob Allen has received a request from an ICL member asking that publicity for an event sponsored by a musical group in which several ICL members are active be distributed in an ICL mailing. The musical group would pay to cover costs. Discussion revealed the board is split into two points of view: one that this publicity would set a dangerous precedent for ICL, the second that perhaps publicity could be granted in a limited way, perhaps by allowing study group leaders to circulate the publicity for members to read as they wish or that a posting on the bulletin board be allowed. Tom Dooley moved to table this discussion until the May board meeting. The board agreed.

The question of study group announcements came up. Some members feel the announcements are too repetitious. By Thursday, many ICL members had heard the same announcements several times. Another view is that some ICL members only take one or two classes, and for that reason announcements need to be read at every study group. No conclusion was reached.

The piano topic has come up again. A person has offered to donate a piano (not electric) to ICL and would like to take a tax deduction for his donation. This raises issues of storage, maintenance, ownership and ICL responsibility. Steve Wolf and a group of friends will evaluate the piano to determine its condition. Joe Maladra will report later to the board.

**Minutes** Mike Thompson moved with a second by Terri Collins to approve minutes from the March meeting. The board voted to approve.

### **Committees**

**Field Trips** Marilyn Lind reported a trip planned for Friday May 18 to a wind farm and the Elwood House in DeKalb with lunch in Sycamore for a cost of \$50 per person. Publicity will be out soon. Plans are underway for a trip on Monday, July 23, to the Field Museum – Darwin Exhibit in Chicago for a cost of around \$30. A possible overnight trip is being considered for September, either Sept. 6 – 7, or Sept. 13 – 14.

**ICL Calendar of Events** Bob Allen distributed copies of the 2007 calendar and asked for additions or corrections. It was agreed that committee meetings not be posted on the calendar, but that mailing dates and deadlines be clearly posted. At the present time there are two forms of the ICL calendar on the web site, a spreadsheet and this calendar of events which looks more like a familiar calendar format. The board agreed that there be only one and that the spreadsheet format be eliminated. Mike Thompson will update the calendar on the web site.

**Service** There will be a mailing this Friday, April 13, with a deadline Wednesday. Board members are strongly urged to make their own copies (450), after checking with Mary Fioretti about whether folding is needed.

**Program Development** This committee will be undergoing transition in June with Chair Ken Bobbe stepping down to be replaced with Sue Harty as chair, and Sully and Bob assisting. Ken distributed the results of a Fall 2006 member survey regarding study group preferences. The summary comparing member preferences versus spring 2007 offerings indicated that ICL programs generally fulfilled member preferences in most subject areas.

**Nominating Committee** Lois Nissen reported that her committee is meeting tomorrow.

**June, 2008, ICL London Trip** Bob Allen reported his committee's next meeting will be April 23 at which time members are to report on possible trip plans. The goal is an announcement in August with sign up in September of 2007.

**Member Services** Peter Marron had nothing to add to the report he submitted prior to the meeting. He will present feedback from focus groups at the May meeting.

**Finance/ICL Fund** Don Carlson presented detailed reports on both topics prior to the meeting. Several issues were discussed.

- Don assured the board that what appeared to be a negative report balance was really not, as the money exists in special accounts which cannot be transferred to the ICL operating fund according to RU accounting rules. However, future expenses can be charged to the special accounts.
- Some members who have contributed to the ICL Fund have now been solicited by the RU fundraising system for additional contributions to Roosevelt – not the ICL fund. Bob and Don will meet with Dr. Potenza for the purpose of stopping this inappropriate practice. Board members want contributions by ICL members to the ICL Fund to be given through Mary and the ICL office. This will give us an accurate log of contributions and an opportunity to quickly send out a “thank you”.
- Copy room charges to ICL are down from previous levels, due in large part to study group coordinators using email to distribute reports and documents plus the need to check-out the card at Mary's desk.

**Marketing/Shirts/ICL Regional Conference** John Weise was not present due to a study group responsibility. He submitted a report via email prior to the meeting, generating board discussion on these points.

- Polo shirt sales are slow, but may improve after distribution of a flyer.
- Sign up for ICL Regional Conference is slow. An initial “Go Ahead Decision” will be made on June 1; and a final decision will be made on July 1. Board members were encouraged to submit proposals for presentations at the conference.
- Joe Maladra, seconded by Terri Collins, moved to go ahead with the 2007 ICL Member survey, believing it would generate useful information. After discussion mainly centered around costs of mailing and tabulating results, Joe withdrew his motion. The board agreed to table this decision until the next board meeting and to ask John to both attend and give a detailed explanation of costs, purpose, etc.
- The board expressed concern on progress being made on the ICL Procedures Manual and training of ICL members to enter data/use the data base. The consensus expressed was that this be given top priority by John.

**Special Events** Margo Temple could not be present and indicated in her report that her committee is working on the annual meeting, Jane Austen Day and the Humanities Seminar.

- Dorothy Murphy raised the question of who was in charge of the golf outing, scheduled for August 10. Bob Allen will name a Chair by the next Board Meeting. Dorothy agreed to handle the “food portion” of the event.

**Website** Mike Thompson had nothing new to report. He will update the site as new information is sent to him.

**Humanities Seminar/ Jane Austen** Cathy Jensen was not present but indicated in her report that both events are in good shape with over thirty attendees signed up for Jane and all speakers for the two events in place.

**Sharing Our Talents** Karl reported plans in place for New Deal Service Day at Friendship Village this coming Saturday. Tom Dooley is official ICL liaison for FV.

**Lecture Series** Tom Dooley reported two items being considered by his committee.

- June 6 is the date for the summer lecture being planned to make up for the one winter lecture cancelled due to weather. The committee has three possibilities for a speaker. Decision will be announced at the May board meeting.
- The committee is evaluating the 2007 lecture series and raised several items where improvement could be made: sound system, roving mike for audience questions, audience questions needing to be repeated by the speaker, and congestion at the doorway registration table. Action is being planned on these items.

**Plato’s Place** This event on Wednesdays at lunch time continues to be well attended and has topics listed on the ICL website until the end of the year.

**The Lighter Side** This event on Thursdays at lunch has a smaller attendance, but is reported to be great fun. ICL members should be encouraged to attend.

**New Business** In an effort to shorten the time needed to read announcements at study groups, Sully will work on several improvements.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:48pm by President Bob Allen.

Respectfully submitted: Betty Morley, Secretary