

The International Literacy Association Board of Directors met via the virtual platform Zoom on April 21, 2021. President of the Board Stephen Peters called the meeting to order at 1:02 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT). In addition to the President, in attendance were Rob Tierney, Vice President, Kathy Headley, Immediate Past President, and Members-at-Large Laurie Sharp, Kenneth Kunz, Wendy Carss, Juli-Anne Benjamin, Helen Perkins, Kia Brown-Dudley, Rachael Gabriel, and Annette Kiberu along with Executive Director Marcie Craig Post and Director of Finance Debbie Harris. Danielle Dennis entered the meeting late.

W. Carss presented a request to the Board to consider additional funding of \$2,000 for the global regions. The budgeted allocation is \$15,000 and the additional funding is needed to fulfill commitments to the regions. She noted that the process for securing the funding had been revised this year.

The motion made by W. Carss and seconded by K. Kunz was unanimously passed.

Resolved: The International Literacy Association Board of Directors approves additional funding of \$2,000 to be drawn from the International Fund for FY20-21.

W. Carrs also mentioned that Board members are invited to the May 11, 3:00 P.M. EDT virtual meeting being held with the regions.

D. Harris provided the Board with information related to early termination of the current lease of office space and lease of new space in the same office complex. Harris noted that the management company has identified a party interested in leasing ILA's current space and has offered ILA to get out of the current lease and move into the smaller space. The current lease costs \$10,000 per month and the new space would cost \$850.00 per month. In addition, ILA would end the lease in the current space, saving one full month of rent (\$10,000), and the new lease would be only for a period of one year, with a possibility to renew.

Discussion of the space offer included questions related to the costs of working fully remotely versus maintaining space.

It was requested that a summary of costs of fully remote versus maintaining leased space be provided to the Board along with a written consent resolution.

R. Gabriel reported on revision strategies for the Literacy Research Panel (LRP) and noted that the LRP has in past years gone through other revisions. She reported that the LRP has grown in size, but not in productivity, and that as we approached the point where we are now, work of the LRP was slowed. Gabriel reported that the focus of the revision of the LRP is to create the foundation for action and engagement of a community of literacy scholars and that to achieve that, we will need to think differently about how that group operates and how it's concerned with literacy research.

The primary goal of the proposal is to reformulate the panel as a participatory collaborative which is international on purpose, selectively recruited to represent all important demographics, and is diverse in all ways. This new design will have an opportunity to collaborate and have work facilitated across international boundaries.

The process of assignment/membership to the panel will be different in that we will employ a rigorous application process to be in this collaborative. Applicants would present a project and

the project proposal would be selected rather than the person. Those within the collaborative would work together to support each other's projects.

The committee will continue to provide rapid response to outside questions. Sub-committees will be developed to advise and support ILA on issues related to research and help the Board in selection duties in relationship to research awards. The panel will work to conduct its work with minimal support from staff as needed.

Overall, the panel would shift its work to facilitating, hosting, and gathering people, but not publishing work.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:08 P.M.