

- I. Report Date: October 12, 2026
- II. Name of Committee/Special Officer/Editor: President
- III. Committee Members (if relevant): N/A
- IV. Board Action Required: None
- V. Brief Summary of Activities:

*Capitol Hill Management Services/MLA Office:* Continued weekly check-ins with MLA Administrator Brian Buff, and added President-Elect Holling Smith-Borne to meetings on September 4<sup>th</sup>. Revised contract: Based on the discussion and feedback from the Alignment & Aspiration session at the Spring Board Meeting, CHMS put together a revised contract with a clarified Scope of Services. Negotiations with CHMS President John Graziano are ongoing. Attended many different meetings, variously with Brian, special officers, Board members, and other CHMS folks on many different topics.

*Weekly check-ins with President-Elect:* Weekly check-in meetings with Holling Smith-Borne are ongoing.

*MLA Board Executive Team:* At the advice of Office Administrator Brian Buff, a proposal put together by President-Elect Holling Smith-Borne, and then subsequent discussion with the Board on precise membership, the Board Executive Team was formed to include the President, President-Elect, Recording Secretary, and Office Administrator. The CFOs will serve as consultants to the group on financial matters. The group's first meeting was September 29<sup>th</sup>.

*MLA 2027 Modality Decision:* On June 5, I announced via MLA-L and a post Spring Board Meeting e-blast the Board's decision that MLA 2027 will be in-person only. A month later, the CFOs, Program Chair, Web Managers, and Convention Managers submitted a whitepaper advocating different options for the conference's business meeting modality. After discussing that with the group shortly thereafter, we decided that 1) Remembrances, awards, and officer transitions (including the Presidential gavel pass) will be announced in Detroit, and 2) the full business meeting will be held virtually during Committee and Interest Group week that will follow the annual meeting, with content presented in Detroit repeated.

*Suspension of Monthly Virtual Meetings:* In conjunction with the formation of the MLA Board Executive Team, the Board decided to suspend monthly virtual meetings after the September Meeting.

*Regular meetings with Sarah Ward:* Meetings with Appointments Coordinator Sarah Ward (and now Assistant Appointments Coordinator Karen Olson) on appointments matters are ongoing, and transitioned to a lesser frequency after June.

*Convention Manager Transition:* On August 28<sup>th</sup>, the process began to transition Convention Manager duties from Emily Vickers to Patrick Quinn. A search for a new Assistant Convention Manager will happen sometime after the conclusion of the 2027 Annual Meeting.

*IAML:* Attended IAML Congress in Thessaloniki, Greece, June 28-July 3 as the U.S. representative. Prior to that, submitted national chapter report, with President-Elect Smith-Borne doing a lot of the information gathering. I submitted a review of my time there for MLA News.

*Task Forces:*

Commissioned the Professional Development Task Force with the following charge: Explore what professional development goals MLA needs, what opportunities we can provide to members and beyond MLA, survey what members want, and figure out how to make those opportunities happen (including philanthropic channels).

Commissioned the Listserv Task Force with the following charge: Investigate options for hosting of MLA's Discussion List (MLA-L) that are not hosted by institutions. Options could include Google Groups, Knowledge Commons, etc. This includes a plan for migrating the list from Indiana University to whatever is chosen.

Based on feedback from the Board, I revised the charge for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Task Force. Prospective TF chair Matt Ertz recommended additional content to the charge. Once I incorporate that into the charge, I will send it by the Board for final approval and commissioning of the task force.

*Search Committees:*

Formed and commissioned: Monographs Series Editor positions (2) (Basic Manual Series and Technical Reports and Monographs Series)

Being formed: 1) Advertising Manager, 2) Assistant Development Officer, 3) Assistant Web Manager, 4) \*MLA News Editor

The Archivist position has a separate proposal for consideration by the Board for the Fall Board Meeting.

\*Regarding the MLA News Editor position, I failed to report in my Spring Board Meeting Report that I worked with the Board to appoint Laura Gayle Green as the interim MLA News Editor, whose service in the role ends at the conclusion of MLA 2027. She has done a superlative job in that role!

Miscellaneous regular duties, such as working with Nominating Committee, awards, monthly virtual meetings (through September), and Fall Board Meeting preparation.

## VI. Alignment with the MLA 2022-2030 Strategic Plan Objectives

The President's actions cross many of the Strategic Plan Objectives.