proposals depend on the capabilities of ALA's new content management software. The task force will also look at having a resource page for cataloging, and may coordinate with the Cataloging Committee to add state and local information to the toolbox suite.

John Stevenson, GODORT Past Chair

Councilor's Report

2006 Midwinter Meeting—San Antonio

Discussions of a dues increase and several important resolutions dominated Council sessions at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Antonio. The proposed dues increase garnered the most interest and included support from the ALA Executive Board, BARC, and many Council members, who believe it is critical to ALA’s financial future. The new strategic plan, ALA Ahead to 2010, outlines new advocacy and service initiatives that require additional funding for implementation. The amount of the dues increase would range from $8 to $30, depending on the type of membership, as indicated in the chart below.

Because dues rates are set in the ALA bylaws, this issue must go to the membership for approval.

GODORT members discussed the dues increase at length in the membership meeting in San Antonio and instructed me to vote to support the Council resolution that will send this to the members for a vote. I was also instructed to express our concerns that the additional funds be used as stated by the ALA leadership—to support additional advocacy for libraries and for member services. I expressed GODORT’s concerns in Council Session III and noted that we will ask for accountability on the expenditure of these funds. Expect this issue to appear on the ALA ballot this spring. I encourage you to vote for it. It has been ten years since ALA’s base dues have increased.

Resolutions approved by Council and of special interest to GODORT include:

- Resolution on the USA PATRIOT Act Reauthorization—This resolution asks Congress to amend Sections 215 and 505 to ensure that the rights of our library users are protected and to allow a recipient of a National Security Letter to challenge the request in the courts. This resolution passed, and Council participated in a national “call in” day on Wednesday, January 25, to pass this message on to our Congressional representatives.
- OMB’s Guidance to Agencies Pertaining to the Implementation of Section 207(d) of the E-Government Act of 2002—This resolution calls for Congress to hold hearings on the manner in which the Office of Management and Budget is implementing Section 207(d) of the E-Government Act of 2002 and to require the OMB director to withdraw Memorandum M-06-02 and consult further with stakeholders.
- Resolution on Protecting the Toxics Release Inventory Program—GODORT Legislative Committee drafted this resolution that opposes the EPA’s proposal to reduce the frequency and threshold requirements for Toxics Release Inventory reporting.
- Resolution on the Changes to the IRS Tax Forms Outlet Program—In another GODORT Legislative Committee-drafted resolution, we asked that the IRS work with ALA and libraries the reconfigure the Tax Forms Outlet Program to meet the needs of participating libraries and the public they serve.
- Resolution to Change the Representation of Round Table councilors—With the growth of other round tables, GODORT would lose their councilor in 2007 without this resolution. It asks that the ALA bylaws be changed to give Council representation to all round tables with personal membership totals that exceed 1 percent of the total number of ALA personal members. This bylaws change will appear on the upcoming ballot. GODORT members are encouraged to vote for this change so that we can keep our representation on Council.

Final registration for the Midwinter Meeting in San Antonio was 11,084 members and vendors, in comparison to 13,232 in 2005 and 10,788 in 2004. Other announcements made at Council sessions included the dates of ALA balloting this spring (March 15–April 21),
the launch of a non-MLS salary survey in libraries to complement the librarian salary survey, and the launch of ALA’s first electronic newsletter—American Libraries Direct. Further information on the resolutions or other council business can be found on the ALA Council’s web site (www.ala.org/ala/ourassociation/governanceb/council/council.htm).

GODORT Membership: Membership in ALA is a requisite for joining GODORT.

Basic personal membership in ALA begins at $50 for first-year members, $25 for student members, and $35 for library support staff (for other categories see www.ala.org/Membership).

Personal and institutional members are invited to select membership in GODORT for additional fees of $20 for regular members, $10 for student members, and $35 for corporate members.

For information about ALA membership contact ALA Membership Services, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611; 1-800-545-2433, ext. 5; e-mail: membership@ala.org.