

MPLA Past-Presidents Advisory Council (PACK) Proposal

Overview:

- PACK membership consists of all past-presidents of MPLA, including the current Past-President.
- The PACK acts in an advisory capacity to the current Administration Committee, providing guidance and service at their behest.
- The Advisory Council would not expand the existing Executive Board; the current Past-President will serve as liaison to the PACK and provide transparency on guidance sought and recommendations given.
- PACK members attending the joint conference will meet over a meal arranged by the current Past-President. This off-site meeting would not impact conference planning (it doesn't need a non-conflict slot, inclusion in the program, or accommodation at the conference site).
- The PACK makes an annual benevolent contribution on to a library-related cause in the twelve-state Mountain Plain region. The suggested annual donation is \$50 per member, collected by the current Past-President during the joint conference meeting. The cause will be selected annually by the current Past-President. The recipient and amount donated will be reported to the Board and Newsletter Editor.

Benefits:

- Creates an administrative resource steeped in institutional history.
- Issues arise during a presidency that have come up previously, though not necessarily during the tenure of the current Past-President. The PACK provides a resource for tackling these through the context and experience of past endeavors.
- There are intractable issues which carry over from administration to administration, such as declining membership, the need for mentorship (both broadly and of new Committee Chairs), etc. The PACK could assist in these areas.
- This is an opportunity to tap into under-utilized seasoned MPLA members.
- The annual benevolence donation would benefit the region and potentially expand name recognition of the association.
- It's an oft-expressed sentiment that you only truly have an understanding of how things work at the end of your presidency—this would leverage that knowledge to the benefit of future administrations.

Costs:

- Any necessary changes to the MOP (3.8 and 5.1?) and Bylaws (4.1.3?) would need to be drafted in consultation with the Bylaws Chair and voted on by the Executive Board (MOP) and membership (Bylaws).
- Setting up a mailing list that includes all past-presidents of MPLA.

Risks:

- May seem like a clique or Star Chamber, which is both a reality and appearance we must endeavor to avoid.