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Letter to Oscar Miller regarding SWAALL resolutions, September 23, 1969

William Stern

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Thank you for your letter. The enclosure deals with the problems involved in the "Resolution."
Dear Oscar:

Thank you indeed for sending me a copy of the June 13 Resolutions of the Southwestern Chapter. These Resolutions were submitted by me to the Executive Board in its July 3 Meeting in Houston, and immediately thereafter, I got in touch with William E. Johnson, Chairman of the President's Advisory Committee on Committee Structure and explained my views concerning your First Resolution. I believe that your sub-sections (a) to (c) were substantially complied with by me, and I explained this in summary form in my first President's Newsletter. This President's Advisory Committee had submitted a draft report which Bill Johnson stated his Committee wanted to revise in view of my remarks. In my opinion, it is essential that his Committee precedes any recommendations by an analysis of our present Committee structure, particularly as I suspect that there is less fault with the Committee structure than with Committee accomplishments. Last year's work of the President's Advisory Committee on Library Standards was uneven as there was no definition of library standards. The work must start anew, and Ed Schroeder, with whom I discussed the matter at length, wrote a thorough letter which is scheduled for early publication in the President's Newsletter.

Literal compliance with Resolution (2) would have enlarged the Placement Committee to more than 25 members. Instead, the Executive Board directed, upon my request, all Chapters to appoint Placement officers each year before October 1, starting this year, who will work in close harmony with the Placement Committee.

Resolution (3) has not been acted upon. We are rather overorganized than underorganized, and we do not lack ideas. What we lack, is facilities for effectuating programs: willing volunteers with plenty of time, an Executive Director or Secretary, etc.

Resolution (4) deals with the question of an Executive Director, and this question is first of all subject to the findings of the Committee on Financial Development and Growth. This first report of this Committee is likely
to be complex but is in preparation. The part of the Resolution which deals with membership dues according to scheduled salaries of fulltime library staffs, requires that these salary schedules are available. The Committee on Statistics is working in this area and we are pretty hopeful that we will finally have some success.

No doubt, you have heard that the Southeastern Chapter has adopted the Resolutions of the Southwestern Chapter.

This is roughly the present state of affairs. We are working hard on a lot of interconnected problems. Your admonitions are most helpful and I hope you have more patience than I have.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

SIGNED: William B. Stern

William B. Stern
President

WBS:1a

cc: Mrs. Pearl W. Van Allmen
    Mr. William E. Johnson