American Society for Indexing

COMMITTEE REPORT

## Please return this report electronically no later than Tues., May 11, 2021.

email: gwen@asindexing.org

Name of Committee: **Webinars and Online Learning**  Date: **5/6/2021**

Name of Chair**: Jen Weers** Email: **jenweers@gmail.com**

Name of Board Liaison: **Jen Weers** Email: **jenweers@gmail.com**

Other Committee Members (names and email addresses). Add second sheet if necessary.

 **None**.

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT OF ACTIVITY SINCE: **February 1, 2021**

(Use as much space as desired)

**Webinars**: On March 31st, Diana Witt presented a webinar entitled “Trends in Publishing and the Future of Indexing.” The webinar seemed to be well received with a good amount of discussion and questions in the chat.

I continue to work on the remainder of the calendar year with the hope of webinars in June, September, and November. I have contacted 16 people (both indexers and editors) regarding topics such as:

* + The indexer’s role in book sales
	+ E-books for Dummies
	+ Efficiencies in indexing (no longer pursuing b/c of Connie’s presentation at conference)
	+ The use of tablets in indexing
	+ Equality, diversity, and inclusion in publishing (Avoiding biased language in indexing)
	+ Abstracting
	+ Taking advantages of work slow downs
	+ Reliable vs unreliable sources

Other ideas that have yet to be explored in detail include:

* + A panel discussion on breaking the “rules.” Use of conjunctions, punctuation in entries, etc. – how and why indexers make decisions on every day issues and why that is okay. Or, maybe it isn’t.
	+ Strategies for collaboration among indexers (I’d love to have a less-experienced indexer I can collaborate with and mentor; I’d also love to have a more-experienced indexer I can collaborate with and learn from).
	+ TExtract demonstration
	+ Quoting rates
	+ How to compete for an indexing award (tips as well as logistics on the process)
	+ Editing the index
	+ Using non-indexing software for different indexing tasks (suggested by Michele)

I have Joan Shapiro penciled in for November on marking on tablets, and Jan Wright for September on E-Books for Dummies. However, I need to talk to her to see if there is an angle of this topic that would be different from the presentation done at the conference.

**On-Line Learning**: I spoke to Do Mi Stober regarding a series on facing the text. She politely declined. I emailed Fred regarding a structured indexes part 2 type of presentation. He is currently determining if there would be enough material for this multi-part presentation.

REQUESTED BOARD ACTION:

 I’m asking fellow Board members to give me any suggestions for names of people I could contact regarding the topics above.

Unfortunately, I do not know a lot of indexers and have utilized Indexer Locator bios, previous presenters, and articles in publications to determine who to contact. I am also using outside associations and organizations in the instances of indexers and book sales and EDI. I am happy to continue this method, but I worry that I am shooting in the dark a bit and ignoring those who would be a natural fit. My most pressing issue for webinars at this point is the June webinar, as it is nearest and I have no leads for it.