Meeting Minutes

ASERL Spring 2005 Membership Meeting

Monday, March 14, 2005
Coconut Grove, Florida
Present:

Auburn University	Sheri Downer
Clemson University	Joe Boykin
College of William & Mary	Connie McCarthy
Duke University	Deborah Jakubs
Emory University	Linda Matthews
Florida International University	Laurence Miller
Florida State University	Maryhelen Jones
George Mason	John Zenelis
Georgia State University	Charlene Hurt
Louisiana State University	Jennifer Cargill
Mississippi State University	Frances Coleman
North Carolina State University	Susan Nutter
Tulane University	Lance Query
University of Alabama	Lou Pitschmann
University of Alabama, Birmingham	Jerry Stephen
University of Central Florida	Barry Baker
University of Florida	Dale B. Canelas
University of Kentucky	Carol Diedrichs
University of Memphis	Sylverna Ford
University of Miami	Bill Walker
University of Mississippi	Julia Rholes
University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill	Sarah Michalak
University of North Carolina – Charlotte	Michael Winecoff
University of North Carolina Greensboro	Dana Sally
University of South Florida	Derrie Perez
University of Tennessee	Barbara Dewey
University of Virginia	Karin Wittenborg
Vanderbilt University	Marshall Breeding
Vanderbilt University	Paul Gherman
Virginia Commonwealth University	John Ulmschneider
Wake Forest University	Lynn Sutton
ASERL/SOLINET	John Burger
SOLINET	Tim Cherubini
SOLINET	Kate Nevins

1. Welcome & Introductions
   ASERL President Barbara Dewey began the meeting by introducing Sarah Michalak from UNC-Chapel
   Hill and Deborah Jakubs from Duke University, both attending their first ASERL meeting. Guests: Dana
   Sally representing UNC-Greensboro; Michael Winecoff representing UNC-Charlotte; Maryhelen Jones
   representing Florida State University were also introduced. Barbara congratulated Susan Nutter on
   being named Librarian of the year. She announced that the University of Virginia will receive this year's
   ACRL award for excellence among Academic libraries. Larry Miller (FIU) will be retiring later this year;
   congratulations were extended to him by the group.

2. Discussion: "Preview of New Technology"
   Barbara Dewey introduced Marshall Breeding our guest speaker. Marshall is the Library Technology
   Officer at Vanderbilt University. He gave an overview of technological change and its impact on
   libraries. His talk evolved into a discussion of developing technologies in ASERL libraries.

3. Round-Robin Discussion: Upcoming Technologies at ASERL Libraries
   Some of the newest technological developments were discussed as a follow-up to Marshall Breeding
   presentation.

4. ASERL Program Updates
   A. ASERL Overlap Study/Virtual Storage Project - Paul Gherman
       Results of the overlap study have come back. Looks like OCLC's new product for collection analysis
       will include the storage analysis component so that other libraries will be able to take advantage of
       this to evaluate collections in storage. There seems to be a lot of interest from LC in being a part of
       this. A nationwide agreement is a possibility for the 50 research libraries with large remote storage
       facilities.

       Kate Nevins interjected that the OCLC collection analysis product will be available later this spring
       and ASERL libraries interested in using the product to identify unique titles might be able to begin
       moving in that direction. OCLC has not yet developed consortial pricing but single library pricing is
       available.

   B. ASERL Virtual Reference Service – John Burger
       The group is not impressed with the new Question Point software and will begin to look for another
       software package to support the service. In the meantime we will continue to use the earlier version
       of the Question Point software. OCLC will not support this version of Question Point much longer
       so switching will be necessary.
   Action Item: We need to study this further to determine the level of commitment to a collaborative
       virtual reference service as well as potential software to be adopted.

   C. ASERL Training for Professionals - Charlene Hurt
       Our program of training for non-MLS professionals who work in libraries does not fit into IMLS
       funding priorities right now, but there is interest and they urge continued contact. The HBCU
       Alliance is interested in partnering with us on this program. The Mellon Foundation has also
       expressed interest in receiving a summary that can be circulated internally for feedback.
       Charlene proposed a survey to gauge interest in going forward with this effort.
   Action Item: The consensus of the group was that we should move forward with developing this
       program. John will draft online surveys to determine interest levels among directors and
       potential participants.

D. ASERL-CRL Consortial Membership Proposal – John Burger
ASERL was not able to reach an agreement that is to the liking of both sides. This seems to be going no-where. CRL's President Bernie Reilly has been given names of the potential member institutions and he might be contacting those institutions with some kind of advantageous pricing.
Action Item: This effort is being closed.

E. ASERL Membership Committee Update - Barbara Dewey
The specific issue on the table is how branch campuses of an ASERL member might participate in ASERL activities. These are libraries that will not meet ASERL membership criteria but might want to participate in some ASERL projects. Should this be through the main campus library or some other mechanism?
Action Item: Consensus was that for now working with and through the   ASERL member library seems to be the best solution.
Action Item: Kate Nevins indicated that SOLINET would consider establishing some type of organization for the mid-level academic libraries to determine their needs and facilitate their working together.

F. E-Resources Update – Tim Cherubini
The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy is seeking memberships that will support the publication in perpetuity. More information will be provided on this in the coming week. Tim is negotiating with CQ Press to work out a special deal for ASERL members. Negotiations are underway with the Copyright Clearance Center to get a pricing agreement that would reduce the cost to participating libraries. SOLINET is working on a deal with Ebrary to provide access to its collection of electronic books.

Barbara Dewey switched the order of the agenda so we could handle key business items before we started losing members.

5. ASERL Administrative Updates
A. Nominees for 2005 Board Elections – Jerry Stephens
Jerry Stephens – presented the slate of officers running for election this year. The vote will be taken in the May meeting. The nominating committee is recommending a move away from a competitive ballot to a consensus ballot because of the difficulty of getting people to agree to run for offices.
Action Item: After a discussion the matter was referred to the ASERL executive board for resolution.

B. ASERL FY 2006 Budget & Vote on Proposed Dues – Barbara Dewey
Barbara Dewey introduced the topic of the dues increase giving a brief statement of background. It was moved by John Ulmschneider and seconded by Jennifer Cargill that the dues increase (to $3000.00/year/library) be adopted as recommended by the task force. It was approved unanimously.
Paul Gherman moved to create the Finance Committee Task Force. The motion was seconded by Susan Nutter. The motion was approved unanimously.
Action Item: Anyone interested in serving on the task force should inform John Burger.

C. Round–Robin Discussion: Campus/State Budget Expectations

We did a quick round-robin survey of the funding picture in the states where ASERL members are located.

Virginia - John Ulmschneider reported funding for higher education in Virginia is as a result of a study conducted by the legislature that showed that funding for higher education has fallen below the level needed to support their institutions. There is also legislation that has been approved to give the institutions more autonomy beginning in 2006.

Georgia - The governor opposes tuition increase so it is unlikely that there will be increases for institutions in the state.

NC – More funds were put into NC Live so more funds are available to buy   resources for that.

TN – Tennessee is struggling to find a solution to problems associated   with funding TennCare, the state funded health care program. Until that is solved, funding for higher education is uncertain.

D. Capital Campaigns - Added Topic

Lou Pitschmann noted that in his university's capital campaigns, the library is charged with raising approximately 3% of the campaign. Is this common? The consensus was that it is not appreciably harder for libraries to raise funds, but it is different. Derrie Perez gave a brief update on the ALADN conference indicating there is interest in developing a white paper on academic library funding.

The meeting was recessed at 12:30 to be reconvened on Monday, March 14, 2005.

Monday, March 14, 2005

1. Re-Convene/Review of Agenda/Q&A
   Barbara Dewey reconvened the meeting at 8:30 a.m. and introduced Chip Nilges from OCLC. No further changes to the agenda were noted.

2. A Google World – What Does It Mean for Research Libraries?
   Chip Nilges talked about Open WorldCat, a partnership between OCLC and Google in beta testing. Library holdings in WorldCat will automatically display in Google search results. Libraries that can opt out if they wish. As of July 1, libraries that subscribe to WorldCat through First Search will be included. It would be helpful if libraries provide links to open URL Resolvers to allow direct access to content for affiliated users. Components required to make the OCLC/Google partnership work:
   • A global knowledge base
   • Holdings information on the digital periodicals
   • Open URL Resolver
   As collections become increasingly digital, there's a need to be able to compare print and electronic resources and do gap analysis. Need to integrate article-level information with the libraries' print collections. OCLC is seeking a group of pilot libraries that will provide holdings data for some time period as part of this project.

3. Current State of Library Portals
   Sarah Michalak led a presentation on library portals and the role they are playing in academic libraries. Many libraries are creating portals. Creating the ability to bring a lot of information access together at one place.

4. New ASERL Projects
   a) Update on ASERL Digital Projects Website: John Burger gave a demo of the website that was created from the data supplied through the digital collections survey. The website is designed to be able to be edited by member institutions. Now that the format is developed, ASERL libraries are encouraged to add additional digital collections to develop a comprehensive directory.
   b) New Digitization Grants/Projects at ASERL Libraries: Linda Matthews provided an overview of several new digital projects in which Emory is currently involved. Several members provided a brief overview of the digital projects underway in their libraries. A question was asked whether the submissions to the directory should include finding aids as well as actual digital collections. It was suggested that guidelines be developed and provided prior to submissions beginning.
   Action Item: John will draft criteria for submitting a project to the ASERL directory of digital projects.
   c) Update on Mass De-Acidification Survey: The survey on deacidification results indicates there is interest in pursuing training and/or more information on deacidification. In light of the new emphasis on digitization/Google Print, there seems to be much less interest in pursuing mass deacidification.
   Action Item: Kate Nevins agreed to look at making arrangements for discounted pricing for those ASERL libraries that want to pursue this on their own rather than as an ASERL project.
   d) Interest in Cooperative IR Development: Kate Nevins sought input on how ASERL and SOLINET might help libraries to manage Institutional Repository (IR) efforts. She suggested that SOLINET might sponsor a one-day meeting focusing on the many issues related to repositories. The meeting would include directors and people on our campuses who are actually dealing with this. The consensus was that such a meeting would be very helpful.

Action Item: John will plan/implemented a one-day workshop for ASERL members in conjunction with the Fall 2005 Membership Meeting.

e) <u>Interest in Using LOCKSS to Preserve ETDs</u>: Paul Gherman suggested an ASERL project using LOCKSS to preserve ETDs. Paul agreed to take leadership in coordinating this project.

f) <u>Update of ASERL Collection Development Initiative</u>: Tim Cherubini has established a task force to develop some plans for how to proceed with developing this effort. They are beginning to consider the ongoing issues that an ASERL collection development effort might encompass.

<u>SOLINET Update</u> – Kate Nevins

- SOLINET is undergoing organizational change. They are examining effectiveness of current and future activities. Some of the changes being considered include:
  - o Creating an R&D unit that will explore innovation opportunities.
  - o Changing membership model so that member institutions can take more leadership in defining their SOLINET services.
  - o Revamping communication to member libraries.
- SOLINET just completed member survey on training and education. There is increased interest in web based training. SOLINET is moving toward 50% of training being web based. Most frequently requested topic was on new developments and innovations in the field.
- The Preservation Microfilming program is being discontinued. Current project ends in June 2006, new project funds will not be applied for.
- Recruiting new people into the profession is a key area that is of keen interest. Providing the opportunity to expose young people to the world of libraries is a new focus. SOLINET is planning to apply for a grant to fund a program focused on exposing high school students to the library as a potential career choice.
- OCLC pricing is changing from transaction-based to subscription-based, with a 4% Inflation factor. Cataloging subscription pricing will be implemented in July 2006 for all libraries. It will be optional this year.
- SOLINET's relationship with OCLC is changing. OCLC is doing more direct selling to libraries. SOLINET will be providing support, training, and implementation.
- SOLINET's annual meeting is May 5 & 6 in Atlanta, GA.

<u>Other Updates/Announcements</u>

Susan Nutter suggested we move away from scheduling our meeting on weekends. We took a show of hands vote and the majority favored this change. Suggestions for future meeting sites should be sent to John Burger.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

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Recorded by: Sylverna Ford
                    ASERL Secretary/Treasurer