



ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEASTERN RESEARCH LIBRARIES

ASERL Fall 2006 Membership Meeting
Meeting Minutes
December 12 - 13, 2006
Atlanta, Georgia

Present:

Air University	Terry Hawkins
Auburn University	Bonnie MacEwan
Clemson University	Kay Wall
College of William & Mary	Connie McCarthy
Duke University	Deborah Jakubs
East Carolina University	Larry Boyer
Emory University	Rick Luce
Florida International University	Sherry Carillo
Florida State University	Bill Summers
Georgia State University	Charlene Hurt/Laura Burtle
Georgia Tech	Rich Meyer
Louisiana State University	Jennifer Cargill
Tulane University	Lance Query
University of Alabama	Lou Pitschmann
University of Alabama at Birmingham	Jerry Stephens
University of Central Florida	Meg Scharf
University of Kentucky	Carol Pitts Diedrichs
University of Louisville	Hannelore Rader
University of Memphis	Sylverna Ford
University of Miami	Bill Walker
University of Mississippi	Julia Rholes
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Rich Szary
University of North Carolina at Charlotte	Chruck Hamaker
University of North Carolina at Greensboro	Rosann Bazirjian
University of South Florida	Derrie Perez
University of Virginia	Diane Walker
Vanderbilt University	Paul Gherman
Virginia Commonwealth University	John Ulmschneider
Virginia Tech	Eileen Hitchingham
Wake Forest University	Lynn Sutton

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SOLINET Staff

John Burger
Tim Cherubini
Kate Nevins

Guests

Lillian Lewis (HBCU Library Alliance)
Judy Ruttenberg (TRLN)
Cheryl Gowing (U-Miami)
Roberta Winjum (Vanderbilt)

Tuesday, March 14, 2006

1. **Welcome and Introduction** – *Lance Query, ASERL President*

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. and began with an introduction of those in attendance.

2. **Overview of ASERL Future Planning** – *Lance Query, John Burger*

Lance Query and John Burger summarized the future planning for ASERL briefly touching on changes in membership as well as changing library needs, and determining future directions for ASERL.

3. **Reports from HBCU – ASERL Librarian Exchange Pilot Projects**

We connected via telephone to HBCU Librarians who participated in the mentoring project. Teams reported on their experiences in the exchange. All had positive reports on the experience feeling each team gained a lot from the exchange. Additional notes:

- Lillian Lewis (program coordinator) cautioned against these librarians being “raided” by the ASERL libraries who are trying to address their own leadership and diversity needs.
- John Ulmschneider indicated that not knowing who and what institutions were participating created a barrier for participating in the program.

There was strong support for continuing the exchanges.

4. **Panel Presentation: Collection Analysis Activities at ASERL Libraries – Who is Doing What?**

Judy Ruttenberg presented on TRLN’s use of the WorldCat Collection Analysis software.

1981 overlap study (record duplication) found 89% uniqueness

1988 overlap study showed 76% uniqueness

1992 overlap study showed 76% uniqueness

A handout was provided that gave more details. Ongoing collection analysis projects are being undertaken in several libraries. Data relevant to accreditation, program review, and new program development are gathered using this tool. Major drawback to this is the lack of data on non-monographic resources.

5. **Developing a National Cooperative Storage Trust- What’s Next?** – *Paul Gherman*

OCLC has agreed to work on the virtual storage project. The collection analysis software will be modified to accommodate this. Participants in the virtual storage will agree to keep certain books, to bind the titles, and to enter the data into the OCLC database. Program guidelines must be developed and refined, but the effort is moving forward and appears to be becoming a reality.

6. **Options for Reducing Duplication in Gov Docs** - *Carol Diedrichs*

Carol Diedrichs reviewed a proposal from government document librarians to collaborate in several ways to reduce the amount of duplication in the region. John Ulmschneider moved and Paul Gherman seconded extending an invitation for Auburn and Louisiana to join the project outlined in the proposal. Paul Gherman moved and Connie McCarthy seconded adoption of the proposal presented by Carol Diedrichs. The Gov Doc librarians from Kentucky and from South Carolina will be asked to identify a group of librarians to serve as the steering Committee outlined in the proposal. ASERL will set up the list serves included in the proposal.

7. **ASERL Participation in Open Content Alliance: What are the Possibilities?** - *Paul Gherman, Deborah Jakubs*

There was discussion about the Open Content Alliance (OCA) may or may not be a good business model - long term sustainability is not yet known. Before moving forward we would want more information. TRLN is exploring OCA options now; a wise move might be to have UNC to report back to us on their efforts to explore the opportunities related to OCA. At one time OCA quoted a price of \$100,000 to use one of their scanning (included use of equipment and training of personnel). There was a lengthy discussion of whether we should pursue doing something with OCA. A small working group agreed to explore the pros and cons and the possibilities.

Questions to be explored might include:

- What's in it for our libraries?
- What approach would be workable if we move forward?
- How do we proceed without duplicating the Google effort?
- How might a regional project work?

A report from the working group is anticipated for the spring meeting.

Volunteers who agreed to work on the exploratory task force:

Paul Gherman
Eileen Hitchingham
Rick Luce
Carol Diedrichs
Lou Pitschmann

8. **Report from ARL/ACRL Scholarly Communication Institute** - *Lynn Sutton*

Lynn Sutton indicated the Scholarly Communication Institute is a very worthwhile meeting. It was an active learning experience. Two large assignments had to be completed before the institute, and every session meal, etc. included a work session or interactive activity. Focus of the conference is to engage faculty in changing the model for scholarly communication. Team participation seems to be a better model than a single participant from the institution. A third institute will likely occur because of the good response to the first two.

9. Lance asked the board to meet briefly for 5 minutes following the virtual reference meeting.

10. The day's session was recessed at 4:55 p.m.

Wednesday, December 13, 2006

1. **Continental Breakfast/Reconvene at 9am**

The meeting was called to order by Lance Query at 9:00 a.m.

2. **Rubber Meets Road: How the "Changing Nature of Cataloging" Affects the Work of ASERL Libraries, and What (if anything) Should We Do About It?** - Cheryl Gowing (University of Miami) & Roberta Winjum (Vanderbilt University)

Cheryl Gowing began the discussion by describing the LC decision to cease creating series authority records. PCC will continue to create series authority records. Individual libraries are making decisions on how to proceed. So far, neither University of Miami nor Vanderbilt has seen any problems from implementing the change.

Roberta Winjum summarized some of the other changes occurring for cataloging. Increased digitization is requiring catalogers to understand and assess which metadata scheme is the correct one to use for a particular project. In some cases they are being called on to create a totally new index. Conversion to electronic resources will significantly change the workflow in serial departments. New skill sets will be needed by library personnel. More and more third party solutions are providing much of the cataloging and processing that has heretofore eaten up so much staff time in cataloging.

What ASERL might do:

1. One year out assessment of impact of the change
2. Offer regional workshops to provide training on metadata schemes.

Group consensus was that a regional workshop on the future of cataloging would be an appropriate follow-up to this discussion. Kate Nevins and John Burger will work with Bonnie MacEwan, Rick Luce, and our two speakers from today to draft such a workshop. The audience for the workshop will be catalogers, metadata specialists, systems folks, and library directors should also attend.

3. **Getting What You Want from ASERL: Member Priorities for 2007-2009**

The group broke into small groups to review the draft strategic plan with the idea of adding to or subtracting from the list of priorities. Finally we were asked to identify our top 3 priorities.

New items:

- 1) Identify emerging trends and strategies for approaching them.
- 2) Future planning including paying attention to regional and societal issues.
- 3) Seek NIH funding for some collaborative digital data repository projects
- 4) Focus on how we might shape a regional response on the future of research initiatives.
- 5) Future of cataloging and discovery tools
- 6) Promote discussion and education on future trends for ASERL directors and staff in our library.
- 7) Assessment
- 8) Leadership training should be expanded to include succession planning

Drops

- 1) Disaster planning is being handled effectively by SOLINET so it does not need to be an ASERL priority.

4. **ASERL Business Issues**

• **Visitors at Future Meetings?** – *Lance Query*

Discussion of pros and cons of allowing invited guests to remain in meetings beyond the session in which they are participating. The board will consider the feedback from the group and make a decision about how guests should be handled.

There was a sentiment that vendor guests should be handled differently than guests who are staff from member libraries.

• **Long Term Financial Needs – Discussion and Possible Vote on Dues** – *Lance Query, Natalie Chase*

The withdrawal of the state libraries has created a \$15,000 loss in revenue for ASERL. The financial plan needs to be adjusted to cover this in future years and to also provide for an annual “automatic” increase without an annual vote.

We moved into executive session to discuss the financial matters. Several issues came out of the discussion:

- SOLINET is covering our shortfall this year. Jerry Stevens moved the approval of a dues increase to \$4,000 annually. Jennifer Cargill seconded the motion.
- We would annually review the budget and make adjustments if needed. Building up a reserve is a part of the financial plan.
- Terry Hawkins of Air University opposed the increase as it will affect that institution’s ability to remain in ASERL.

Executive session was ended; ASERL & SOLINET staff returned to the meeting room.

- Lance extended congratulations to Dale Canelas on her impending retirement. Dale wasn’t able to attend the meeting because of illness.

5. **Other Updates**

• **ASERL Education Committee Report – Future Activities** – *Julia Rholes*

- 1) Very good feedback on the workshop that was offered for Non-MLS professionals in libraries in May 2006.
- 2) Committee wants to do another workshop in conjunction with the SOLINET conference this year (May 2007).
- 3) Feedback from the participants will be used to help shape the new workshop.
- 4) Committee plans to work with John to help plan an educational component of future ASERL directors meetings.
- 5) Committee sought input on orientation for new ASERL directors.

• **SOLINET Update** – *Kate Nevins*

A. SOLINET’s role in the region

- Program diversification is a priority for SOLINET. ASERL-specific licensing is an increasingly important issue for SOLINET. Education and training is a growing area for SOLINET.
- Workshop on workplace redesign for libraries being developed under a Mellon grant specifically requested for the HBCUs and private colleges. It will be available to other libraries once its developed.
- Disaster preparedness and planning.

- Tech services reorganization.
 - State libraries and state library e-documents is a new area being explored by SOLINET
 - How can SOLINET support libraries in their needs for assessment?
 - Envisioning SOLINET's future is a board initiative to plan for the future.
- B. Providing capacity for Libraries when needed.
- Gates Foundation grant to provide library services in Gulf Coast areas - staffing and managing public libraries in the hurricane-affected areas for a 3 year period.
 - Mellon grant to provide hurricane relief grants to academic libraries in the gulf area.
- C. Convenor of Library Groups
- State Libraries group
 - HBCU Alliance
 - ASERL
 - Virtual libraries initiative in the region.
- D. SOLINET/OCLC Relationship
- Relationship is changing
 - SOLINET now serves as OCLC agent and is remunerated for that service
 - Networks and OCLC are working together to renegotiate the relationship and
 - OCLC has changed its model. Now doing some direct contracting with libraries.

Kate summarized the recent withdrawal of the BLC (Boston Library Consortium) from NELINET and contracting directly with OCLC. There followed a discussion of this issue and its implications. It was agreed that the ASERL Board will monitor this issue in the months ahead.

It was agreed that the ASERL libraries will support SOLINET's efforts to proceed with contract negotiations with OCLC. No libraries indicated a desire to go directly to OCLC for services. There was a consensus that if ASERL libraries are approached by OCLC they will inform the rest of us of these overtures. Consensus was that SOLINET needs the negotiating power of being able to have its membership intact as it negotiates a new contract with OCLC.

6. **Meeting Wrap-Up/Q&A/Review of Future Activities**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45pm. Updates on items not addressed during this meeting will be provided via email.