Spring 2013 Membership Meeting & Annual Meeting
Meeting Minutes
April 23 – 24, 2013
Westin Memphis Beale Street Hotel
170 Lt. George W. Lee Avenue
Memphis, Tennessee 38103

Participants
Auburn University: Bonnie MacEwan
Clemson University: Kay Wall
College of William & Mary: Carrie Cooper
East Carolina University: Jan Lewis
Emory University: Chuck Spornick
Florida State University: Julia Zimmerman
George Mason University: John Zenelis
Georgia Tech: Catherine Murray-Rust
Georgia State University: Nan Seamans
Johns Hopkins University: Margaret Burri
Louisiana State University: Elaine Smyth
Mississippi State University: Stephen Cunetto
Tulane University: Lance Query
University of Alabama: Lou Pitschmann
UAB: Fred Olive
University of Central Florida: Barry Baker
University of Florida: Judith Russell
University of Georgia: Toby Graham
University of Kentucky: Mary Beth Thomson
University of Louisville: Bob Fox
University of Memphis: Sylvanna Ford
University of Miami: Bill Walker
University of Mississippi: Julia Rholes
UNC Chapel Hill: Sarah Michalak
UNC Charlotte: Stanley Wilder
UNC Greensboro: Kathy Crowe
University of South Carolina: Beki Gettys
University of South Florida: Bill Garrison
University of Tennessee: Steven Smith
University of Virginia: Judy Thomas
Vanderbilt University: Connie Vinita Dowell
Virginia Tech: Julie Speer
Wake Forest University: Lynn Sutton

Staff & Guests
ARL: Elliott Shore
ASERL: John Burger, Cheryle Cole-Bennett
Ithaka S+R: Roger Schonfeld
NILOA: Natasha Jankowski
Texas A&M / SEC-AC: David Carlson

Tuesday, April 23, 2013
1) Welcome and Introductions
ASERL President Judy Russell called the meeting to order at 1:06pm. Participants introduced themselves. Judy welcomed David Carlson from the SEC-AC group and other guests. She also offered congratulations to Bill Walker on his upcoming retirement. He will be retiring as Dean of Libraries at U-Miami at the end of May, but will take on special projects for the university following some personal time off.

2) Update on Scholarly Communication and Copyright Issues
John Burger introduced Christine Fruin from the University of Florida who connected to the meeting via web-video link. Christine is ASERL’s Visiting Program Officer for Scholarly Communications for the coming year, and provided an update on recent developments in IP/copyright issues including the Kirtsaeng and
ReDigi decisions from the US Supreme Court, and the ongoing GSU e-reserves lawsuit. Christine’s PowerPoint slides are available on the ASERL website.

Other notes:
- ASERL’s survey of e-reserves practices showed that GSU was not an outlier in their e-reserve practices. This is a key finding in ASERL’s amicus brief to the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals in support of GSU, which will be submitted this week.
- White House OSTP Directive on Open Access/Open Data: WH directive requires research findings from federally-supported research to be made freely available after a 12-month embargo – a change from the 6-month embargo used by NIH and in the proposed FASTR legislation. ASERL supports the increased access in the FASTR proposal, and invites individual members to do the same via local channels.
- Copyright and MOOCs – Can e-content licensed by a university be made available to participants in Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) sponsored by that university? This would be a significant redefinition of “affiliated users.”

3) ASERL Statistics Update
John Burger reported that the ASERL Board has reviewed and approved the proposal from Counting Opinions to create an online portal to gather the annual stats from member libraries. This will be a 3-year pilot program. ASERL will cover the one-time set-up cost ($3000) but members will have an annual subscription charge of $179 if they don’t already subscribe to a Counting Opinions product. This fee will also provide access to standard reporting tools available from Counting Opinions. Another byproduct of this new system: data submitted for ASERL will also populate the ACRL database, saving staff time for data re-entry.

It was asked if ASERL could bill members for these fees rather than an invoice from Counting Opinions – John agreed to include a line in the next round of invoices.

4) Panel Presentation: Research Libraries and Moocs.
Carrie Cooper introduced the session with “Ted Talk” video of Daphne Koller. Catherine Murray-Rust and Lynn Sutton described their experiences with MOOCs, both as library directors and as MOOC students. See PPT on ASERL’s website. Discussion focused on the rapidly changing educational environment, how libraries can serve MOOC users, licensing issues for non-affiliated users, and how MOOCs can be used as new channels of outreach (see WFU’s mini-MOOC targeting on alumni and parents of current students).

5) Ithaka Faculty Survey
Roger Schonfeld, David Carlson (Texas A&M) and Judy Russell. PowerPoint slides from each are available on the ASERL website.
ASERL 2013 Annual Meeting. ASERL’s bylaws require an annual meeting that includes (at a minimum) Board elections and a financial update.

Board Elections
Judy Russell thanked the Nominating Committee (Jerry Stephens, Kay Wall, Julia Rholes) for assembling the slate.

Slate of Candidates
- Tom McNally (University of South Carolina) – nominated as President-Elect
- Carrie Cooper (College of William & Mary) – nominated for member at-large
- Steve Smith (University of Tennessee) – nominated for member at-large

Judy Russell invited other nominations from the floor -- none given. Motion to accept the slate of officers was made by Bonnie McEwan, seconded by Kay Wall. Unanimous vote for the slate.

Judy Russell also thanked outgoing Board members: Sarah Michalak (UNC Chapel Hill), Catherine Murray-Rust (Georgia Tech), and John Zenelis (George Mason) whose terms expired at the conclusion of this meeting.

Annual Financial Report
ASERL’s Secretary-Treasurer Bob Fox provided an overview of the March 31, 2013 Balance Sheet (in meeting packet). He noted that since the report was generated staff had identified a $74,000 increase in ASERL’s Net Worth due to an accounting change.

Bob also noted two libraries are dropping their membership as of June 30: U-Maryland (now part of CIC) and Air University (due to temporary funding constraints resulting from federal sequestration). Air University hopes to return to ASERL once the funding issues are resolved. In the meantime, ASERL will reduce its operating expenses to reflect the reduced revenues from the loss of these members. No significant change in the dues forecast is expected.

Modifying Bylaws
Judy Russell noted that changes discussed at the previous meeting have now been finalized in a proposal sent to members on March 12th and also included in the meeting packet. This change will modify the process for libraries that fail to meet the expenditure threshold for ASERL membership, including a formal probation process. John Burger noted that a 2/3 majority (27 votes) is needed to modify the bylaws. There was no discussion. Julia Rholes made a motion to approve the changes as written, Sylverna Ford seconded. Unanimous vote in favor, no abstentions.

Updating Strategic Plan.
The current mission/vision statement provided in meeting packet. John Burger noted this will likely be an iterative review and update, not an overhaul of the strategic plan. Judy Russell called for volunteers to review the document over the summer, with proposed changes to be presented at the Fall 2013 meeting. Tom McNally by virtue of his position as President-Elect will lead the effort, no other volunteers at this time. Recruitment efforts will continue.


ASERL Office Location
Judy Russell reported that the Board has approved a request from John Burger to relocate to Atlanta at his expense for personal reasons, with ASERL continuing to be located in a member library. Discussions are underway with Georgia Tech as a possible office site, and the Board will also explore options with Emory and Georgia State. Duke will continue to employ John Burger and Cheryle Cole-Bennett as remote employees and provide back-office support functions for ASERL for the foreseeable future. Estimated timeline for the move is June/July 2014. John noted that the request was strictly for personal reasons. There was a brief discussion of the value of ASERL being embedded in a library, and members affirmed the importance of being housed in a member library.

Adjournment: The Annual Meeting adjourned at 5:01pm. The membership meeting recessed until the following morning.

7) Member’s Reception – at McWherter Library, University of Memphis.
The reception included a toast to honor Nan Seamans and Georgia State University for their ongoing legal fight to preserve standard library e-reserve practices. ASERL hopes its amicus brief in support of GSU proves useful in this struggle.

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8) Overview from the National Institute of Learning Outcomes Assessment.
Natasha Jankowski. PowerPoint slides available on the ASERL website. Presentation included a review of selected ASERL members’ websites and their presentation of their assessment activities, as well as services/reports available from NILOA

9) Elliott Shore – ARL
Judy Russell welcomed Elliott Shore, the recently-appointed Executive Director of ARL. He is currently in his 3rd month in the position and is engaged in a ‘listening tour’ with member libraries to learn about their interests and concerns. Elliott asked what would be useful ways to think of the relationship between ARL and ASERL? There was discussion of the different-but-complementary agendas between the two organizations. It was also noted that ARL’s primary focus is with their library deans/directors; where ASERL has broadened its contacts to include other leaders within ASERL libraries. There was also discussion of ASERL serving as a test bed for ideas, such as the potential to test new questions for the ARL survey (regarding special collections, facilities).

It was noted both organizations are looking for deeper/richer collaborative projects – ASERL print archiving program – sharing tools and resources. At some point these things need to come together under a larger umbrella. Need a place to develop regional concepts toward a national program.

It was suggested that ARL can help with “influence” – ARL can add extra weight to concepts developed at the regional level – regarding MOOCs or licensing terms, for example. ARL works at the federal level but not much at the state level.
ARL’s leadership with copyright and Open Access issues were highlighted – this has been very valuable nationally and internationally. Elliott continued this conversation with ARL members during lunch, after the ASERL meeting concluded.

10) Late Breaking News/Project Announcements, etc.

a) CHARM Digital Collection. Stephen Cunetto (Mississippi State Univ) showed a promotional video and website highlighting their digital collection of materials focusing on the agricultural and rural history of the state. Program started in 2002 with on-campus partners, now includes many community-based partners across the state. MSU has proposed ASERL create a similar project across the southeast region based on this model (and similar to ASERL’s Civil War digital collection). There was discussion that this is an opportunity to promote libraries’ collections. Land Grant institutions have agricultural development as a key part of their missions, but many other ASERL libraries also have related content they could contribute. Clemson, UGA, LSU also expressed interest. Many others were interested via a show of hands. John Burger was tasked with creating a project team to implement this project as ASERL’s next collaborative digital collection.

b) Summertime Summit – Changing Roles for Liaison Librarians with Data Management and Open Access. John Burger noted that the summertime summit will be August 6th at Georgia Tech. Each ASERL library is invited to send up to 3 people. The daylong workshop will focus on the expanding the role of liaison libraries to work with faculty on issues of data management and open access.

c) Update on the ARL Position Description Job Bank – Judy Russell noted that this database is nearing the end of its test phase. Discussions are ongoing with ARL to allow non-ARL libraries to have access to the database. UF plans to host “lightning talks” in the coming months to get additional input on the database’s design, content, and access. The database will be an ARL asset but valuable to the larger community as well.

d) Identifying Brittle Books that can be Supplemented by HathiTrust Content – Judy Russell described UF’s participation in this project from HathiTrust and Internet Archive. UF has started to move brittle content to non-circulating storage and providing user access to electronic surrogates via HT or IA, regardless of copyright status of the item. UF is also digitizing brittle content and supplying it to HT and IA if it has not already been digitized.

There was some discussion about an ASERL-wide membership in HathiTrust to allow other members to have access to similar content for their users. Toby Graham noted that HT currently requires Shibboleth-based authentication of users for remote access to content. This may change, as it has been an access barrier for some HT members.

e) Updates on the ASERL Gov-Docs and Journal Retention Programs – Judy Russell/John Burger (updates in meeting packet).

- Recruitment efforts to get more COEs – need additional agencies covered. Many, many more still available.
- ASERL has signed agreement with WRLC to share collections for the Journal Retention program; this also includes reciprocal ILL services with ARLC libraries. John indicated that this may be the largest print archive in the US. The Committee is currently looking to create brand identity.
- Beyond journals, the program is initiating shared collections of some print indexes, particularly those that consume a lot of shelf space. Bonnie MacEwan suggested that ASERL consider a “reciprocal
reference agreement” akin to the ILL agreement. This would provide a higher level of reference service to support the shared collection. Reaction to the idea was mixed. John Burger will investigate further.

- There was brief discussion of the costs to the University of Florida for maintaining the databases that support these two programs. The Board is considering establishing a fund to underwrite these expenses in the future, balanced against concerns about “cost creep” for ASERL members.

**f) Launch of the ASERL Guide to Southern BBQ** – John Burger announced the ASERL Guide to Southern Barbecue is now live, hosted on servers at the University of Alabama. Copies of the bookmark are included in the meeting packets and will be posted on the website as well for libraries to download/print as desired. A press release will be distributed soon. There is some discussion about creating a similar guide to brewpubs near ASERL campuses – interest was strong in the room for this concept.

**g) Other announcements / Wrap-Up**

- The ASERL Board is considering a day-long retreat to discuss budget planning, strategic planning, etc.
- Toby Graham highlighted the recent launch of the Digital Library of America, including content from many ASERL libraries as part of their participation in ASERL’s Civil War collaborative digital collection.
- John Burger reminded members about the Summertime Summit on August 6th at Georgia Tech. More info to follow via the aserl-deans listserv.
- No further announcements.
- The Fall Membership Meeting will take place on **November 19-20**. Location to be announced. Tampa and Charlotte are under consideration. Other ideas are welcome – please submit the evaluation form.

11) **Adjournment.**

Judy Russell ended her term as President by thanking the outgoing Board members and welcoming Lynn Sutton as the incoming President. Meeting adjourned at 11:42am.