

**SCRLC Advisory Committee on Information Technologies and Services
Monday, 20 April 2009
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
SCRLC
Ithaca, NY**

Minutes

Present: Rich Entlich, Erin Rushton, Ann Voorhees, Susan Deer, Anne McFarland, Mary-Carol Lindbloom, Matthew Hogan, Ellen Bahr, Mark Smith, Sue Tanner

Excused: Dave Lewis, Bill Drew

Reviewed 2009 Committee Roles, Roster, and Activities. Sue Bretscher resigned from the Committee; public library representative is also needed. Mary-Carol will check with Nora and Sue for suggestions on a hospital representative replacement; the public library representative is expected to come from 4CLS, Broome County PL, or STLS. Bill Drew has joined ACITS and needs to be added to the 2009 roster.

Rich suggested that ACITS take a more active role between meetings and perhaps take on a research project. Some potential projects: trends analysis/adaptability of various innovations to SCRLC, database analysis. Erin and Mark also expressed interest in joining Rich in such an endeavor.

RBDB Program/Budget 2009. The budget is expected to be reduced by 8%. ACITS recommended reducing the grants to member libraries by the same percentage. Databases are very worrisome. Despite vendors holding the line on database increases, there is still a difference to make up in the budget (minimally \$23,000) that will haunt us this next cycle. For several years, we had been able to pay ahead such items as databases. With other costs going up and the cuts over the last couple of years, that hasn't been possible. Databases will be an ongoing discussion with the committee.

As our discussion ensued, Rich identified three emerging tiers of decision-making: Short term (i.e., the 8% cut); long-term structural component (i.e., continual database increases in a stagnant budget); larger issues (SCRLC database fees, structure, identifying what the membership wants/needs from SCRLC, etc). Mary-Carol indicated that this was a good time to begin getting our heads around this as the Council would be entering the long-range planning process to develop the next Plan of Service--also an area to work on between meetings.

Database Survey Results. Mary-Carol will send a link to results for Committee members to view, filter, download, browse, or see comments. (Note: it doesn't seem possible to organize the results cross-tabulated by library type, so I captured the screen and have attached a copy. The comments didn't print out, so those associated with several of the questions are in a separate document (back to 20th century style!). There were 43 responses.

Although WilsonSelect looks like an easy target if one database had to be eliminated, it is purchased consortially with two other 3Rs councils and grandfathered in under a less expensive simultaneous-user model that is no longer available, i.e., if WS were dropped, it could not be reinstated under this arrangement in the future. Negotiating directly with WS is a future possibility and it is also hoped that NYSL will negotiate database contracts statewide for the best possible rates. NewsBank, though there is duplication with NOVELny, is very friendly for younger students. While there is access to newspapers within NOVELny, resource discovery is not as intuitive. The conversation will continue.

AskUs 24/7 Update. Participating libraries to date: SUNY Cortland, SUNY Delhi, SUNY Oneonta, TC3, Elmira College, Wells College, NY Chiropractic, Finger Lakes, and Cornell. Libraries are still welcome to join the program. Matthew Hogan and Nora Hardy are going to train new participants. The program will be demonstrated at the 2.0 tech fair on 22 May. There will be a major publicity blitz in September when the students return and librarians are more comfortable using the service.

InfoQuest (SMS reference). SCRLC is one of the partners. Mary-Carol is working on this while Nora and Matt develop AskUs24/7. Responsibilities: co-managing the GoogleGroups list and serving on the advisory committee (all meetings are virtual). She also expects to spend a bit of time on the desk as a learning. Participating libraries to date: Contra Costa Public Library (CA), Illinois Central College, Bloomington Public Library (IL), University of Nebraska-Omaha, University of South Florida, Broome County Public Library (NY), Alliance Library System (IL), Olney Central College (IL), University of Illinois Library of the Health Sciences-Peoria, Bradley University (IL), Presque Isle Maine Public Library, and South Central Regional Library Council(NY). The pilot is free and will yield interesting data on collaboration in this environment.

Digitization and Resource Sharing Update. Matthew Hogan provided information on the Tools of History website, ContentDM version 5, June workshops, TofH collection development, TofH grant requests (still time to apply—few have been received), digitization boot camp, and program promotion. He would like to particularly focus on the collection development aspect of the program. Resource sharing: June resource sharing users group meeting, CampusShip, EFTS, and BARC are his foci. Matt serves on the NOVELny steering committee and discussed the aggregation of database purchases. He also developed a new discussion list for system administrators—email him at mhogan@scrlc.org if you would like to be added.

Horizon Report 2009, NMC/Educause. Mark Smith served on the Horizon Report committee and has agreed to lead a discussion via OPAL regarding his experience and information about the report, e.g., over the course of six years, looking at three horizons (one year out, 2-3 years out, 4-5 years out), how many of the items 4-5 years out progress to 2-3 and eventually one towards widespread adoption).

Subsequently, Mark Smith emailed the following, as per Committee discussion:

ACITS Folk,

As promised .. Horizon Links

The Horizon Process .. including the raw data and commentary that we collected.

<http://www.nmc.org/horizon/wiki> Note: .. in addition to links and commentary .. contributors were encouraged/invited to discuss or extend on one another's comments .. which was very helpful

The Horizon BookMarks at Delicious

<http://delicious.com/search?p=hz09> Note: .. The Research Questions -- how we collected and ranked the data, Where Are They Now? -- A review of past Horizon Reports

As Potential Model for ACITS ... NMC set up the 5 research questions .. all invited to comment .. and link directly to resources directly or those gathered at hz09 tagged links at Delicious.

If someone wants to set up a wiki, and we develop 3 to 5 research questions tailored to SCRLC & Innovation Opportunities .. set a deadline .. then we would simply invite all to comment .. (typically followed with a few nudges). At that point we could meet to review and discuss the input and see what we've got.

- Mark

Note: Matt and Mary-Carol are going to work on the wiki!

Other.

NYS State Librarian Bernie Margolis will be visiting May 5-6 (see www.lakenet.org for details and to register).

SCRLC will dedicate its learning center on May 22 and hold a 2.0 tech fair in conjunction with that (1-4pm). To be featured : SMARTBOARD, OPAL, Kindle2, Podcasting, InfoQuest & AskUs 24/7 demos, new website, Tools of History, Second Life.

SCRLC was offered Renaissance Island in Second Life, which Mary-Carol co-manages as a volunteer. The sim is a collaboration among librarians, educators (esp. literature), aficionados, and students. Alliance Library System had 40 islands/sims and they are retaining three. SCRLC's ownership would let the sim continue its non-profit status-- SCRLC would not contribute to it financially (i.e., no money, no staff time). Benefits to SCRLC: SCRLC librarians/educators can explore SL in an established sim (including free classroom space); opportunities for library students; collaborative opportunities with librarians, educators, and organizations from around the world; no staff time or money needed to develop—it is already there. The sim raises its own money (\$1800/yr under non-profit status; \$3600 without n-p status). If the island doesn't raise the money, it would become defunct (i.e., like ALS, SCRLC would not renew the contract without the money in hand!). The Committee felt this was a win-win situation, in that they want SCRLC to be involved in innovative areas and projects.

Mary-Carol Lindbloom
23 April 2009