



**Members' Council Meeting**  
Rider University  
January 23, 2015

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**Attending:** Judy Avrin (VALE); Amy Beth (Bergen CC); Linda Beninghove (Stevens Inst. Of Technology); Jeane Boyle (Rutgers U.); John Buschman (Seton Hall University); Ed Christenson (Monmouth); Judy Cohn (Rutgers U.); Linda Connors (Drew U.); Janet Marler (Atlantic Cape CC); Heather Craven (CCM); Jane Crocker (Gloucester CC); Colleen Dazé (NJSL); Paul Glassman (William Paterson U.); David Hardgrove (St. Peter's U.); Barbara Laynor (Camden CC); Mary Marks (FDU); Michelle Martin (Burlington CC); Kathleen Melilli (TESC); Scott P. Muir (Rowan); Cheryl O'Connor (LibraryLinkNJ); Taras Pavlovsky (TCNJ); Pamela Price (Mercer CCC); Gary Schmidt (FDU); Fran Scott (Georgian Court U.); Richard Sweeney (NJIT); Mark Thompson (Middlesex CC); Joe Toth (Richard Stockton College); Amira Ünver (College of St. Elizabeth); Carol VanHouten (Hudson CCC); Nancy Weiner (William Paterson U.)

**1. Introduction (Amy Beth)**

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Amy welcomed Council members to the January 23 meeting and especially welcomed new members and thanked the host of this meeting.

**2. VALE Updates (Taras Pavlovsky)**

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- Since NJEdge.net is the fiduciary agent, each institution must provide certification of tax exempt status. Please provide the appropriate documentation as soon as possible to Pam Hersh (pjherhsh@njascu.org)

**3. LibraryLinkNJ (Cheryl O'Connor)**

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- Please see Attachment A for updates.

**4. State Library Update (Colleen Dazé)**

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- Please see Attachment B for updates.

**5. NJLA-CUS/ACRL-NJ (Nancy Weiner)**

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- Please see Attachment C for updates.

**6. VALE (Judy Avrin)**

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- The VALE Users' Conference had over 270 attendees; rolling registration for community colleges worked very well.
- Discussion regarding sending non-MLS professionals to attend the conference, however,

there are capacity issues. Where does VALE go with this? Suggestions included using a larger venue which had been explored in the past, but cost was an issue. NJALA has an event, however, it is probably not applicable to this audience; next year this event will be held around the same time as the Users' Conference.

## **7. Summaries from Breakout Groups Regarding VALE Future Direction**

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Three groups considered seven questions regarding VALE future directions (Questions Attachment D.) Below is a summary of each group's feedback.

- Group 1: Joe Toth
  - Structures/Committees, Q1-3: Creating three major areas of VALE: shared services, users' conference (aggressive with regionality), emerging technologies.
  - Executive Committee members included in each group:
  - What can we offload to other organizations?
  - We are serving libraries, not librarians.
  - Simplify and communicate (VALE website more like a portal;)
  - What cuts across boundaries?
  - What is new and exciting that other people are doing?
  - Need a written strategic plan
- Group 2: Scott Muir
  - Have committees lost their mission? Unedited minutes need to be sent from the Executive Committee.
  - Shared reciprocal borrowing; shared technical support
  - Open ed. resources; pilot projects
  - Purchase and share software, i.e., language
  - Needs of library schools
  - How else can we reach out to legislators?
  - Can we reach out to other organizations and learn from them?
  - Quarterly Executive Committee summaries
  - Use of podcasts.
  - VALE mentor/toolkits
  - Are we sharing what we are facing?
  - Use lunch and learns via teleconference on special topics.
- Group 3: Taras Pavlovsky
  - View through the lens of is it a service that VALE can offer to your institutions?
  - Keep electronic resources, digital media, and website as crucial to the organization. All others? Cut loose?
  - Communication: South Jersey feels like a stepchild. Use of videoconferencing, distributed sessions, PR annually with administration, new VALE members orientation.
  - Need education about NJEDge.net. It is obvious they are spread too thin. CIO's meet regularly. Be clear and deliberate in expectations in agreements.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathleen A. Melilli  
Recorder