VALE Executive Committee

Minutes of the March 20, 2001 Meeting

Present: J. Avrin, P Chervenie, A. Ciliberti, John Cohn, Judy Cohn, J. Crocker, C. Daze, J. Gaboury, M. Gaunt, J. Getaz, M. Martin, R. Sweeney, P. Tumulty
Guest: Gary Golden

1. Marianne Gaunt opened the meeting by calling on Judy Cohn to report on the Electronic Resources Committee's evaluation of the four general full-text products and two major business databases. The vendors, who had been provided in advance with a set of questions compiled by the committee, conducted presentations and demonstrations over a two-day period. As vendors had been given a short time frame to respond to the questions, any that were not answered during the presentations were submitted in writing in the week following. Documents explaining the committee's evaluation process and recommendations were distributed to the committee. Gary Golden joined the meeting to contribute his detailed knowledge and observations about the databases. There was consensus by the Electronic Resources Committee that no one general database will fill the needs of all member institutions, but that a decision will be made by the Executive Committee to meet the needs of the majority. Judy Cohn proposed recognizing the extraordinary amount of time and effort on the part of the committee. There was also the suggestion to add a breakout session at next year's Users' Conference on the database selection process.

2. John Gaboury distributed a spreadsheet providing renewal pricing information as well as pricing on 8 - 10 databases that scored favorably on the user survey conducted by the Electronic Resources Committee earlier this year. It was noted that negotiations are still continuing with several vendors. Recommendations will be sent to the membership as soon as possible and a straw vote will be conducted.

3. Pat Tumulty reported on efforts to continue lobbying for state presence with the NJ Virtual Library. Budget allocations will not be announced until June 30 when the legislature approves the final budget. Funding for our single statewide database depends on this appropriation. If additional funding is provided by the state, additional databases would be subsidized for all member institutions.

4. Brother Paul Chervenie reported on the progress of Dr. Marie Radford's Vale user survey. Three focus groups have been conducted to aid in development of the survey to be submitted to Vale membership. He reported that there is close to 100% participation with that being the goal. The survey should be ready for distribution by the end of March and the survey period has been extended and will run from April 7 - 28. Paul Rigby will continue as project manager and will work with Dr. Radford on distribution of the survey.

5. Marianne Gaunt reported on a meeting with Normal Blake, the new State Librarian. Among other things, the possibility of adding new statewide database licenses was discussed.

6. Rich Sweeney reported the Elsevier Science group will meet on April 2nd to examine journal title overlap and strategies for reducing overlap and increasing content.

7. Anne Ciliberti presented the March budget report and noted that all remaining vendor invoices for FY01 have been received and paid. A suggestion was made that it may be necessary to add a fee to cover administrative costs. There was a discussion on the basis of the fee.

8. The next Executive Committee Meeting will be on Tuesday April 16th at 10:00 at Alexander Library.

Minutes prepared by [Anne Ciliberti](#)