

VALE Executive Committee

Minutes of the November 12, 2001 Meeting

Present: J. Avrin, Bro. P. Chervenie, Judy Cohn, John Cohn, M. Gaunt, J. Getaz, A. Scrimgeour, R. Sweeney

1. Marianne convened the meeting with a report on the strategic planning project. The survey instrument went live on November 2nd with an announcement to the Corrado listserv. There are 69 responses to date. It will remain up until November 20th. Marianne will post a reminder to members that this allows them an opportunity to provide input and express their priorities into the future of VALE. That will allow sufficient time to compile the information in time for the Users' Conference in January.

Planning for meetings with academic administrators from all higher education sectors, the next step in the project, is underway. Letters were sent and interviewing teams have been established. The questions will be general and open-ended.

Meetings with George Laskaris of NJEdge and Norma Blake, the State Librarian, are also being planned.

2. Joan Getaz reported on plans for the Users' Conference and distributed the preliminary agenda. The committee is trying to finalize a keynote speaker and several suggestions were made. The conference will be held at Busch Campus Center at Rutgers University. Registration and the poster sessions will be held in the International Student's Lounge. The day's schedule was discussed and the decision was made to have the afternoon breakout sessions follow a session on future directions for VALE. The results of the survey and focus groups will be discussed.

The registration form and agenda will be available to members through links in an email to be posted to the listserv. The registration forms will be submitted electronically to Judy Avrin's email. A parking permit in pdf format will be on the registration form.

3. Marianne reported on the sale of the server. Rutgers University was the sole bidder at \$27,000.

4. Anne presented the October budget and reported that all invoices received to date from the vendors have been processed for payment. Payments from several libraries are still outstanding and reminder emails have been sent.

5. The NJALN Bibliographic Control Committee has asked to become a VALE-sponsored group known as the VALE Bibliographic Control Working Group. The group has existed for several years under the auspices of NJALN, a now defunct subset of the academic libraries in New Jersey. Following discussion in which it was recognized that bibliographic accessibility would assist in resource sharing and that there is significant value in the collaborations of this type, the group agreed to recommend to the Council that such a committee be organized under the VALE umbrella. Marianne will suggest to the group that its charge be more generalized in line with other VALE sub-committees, that the collaborative nature of the work be emphasized and that

they consider the adoption of a more future-looking name. The group will exist as a VALE sub-committee.

6. As chair of the Electronic Resources Subcommittee, Judy Cohn is often approached by vendors interested in marketing their products to VALE. Marianne agreed that we are probably at the limit of the number of databases that can be handled at the current level of VALE's manpower resources. The Executive Committee was asked to consider for discussion at next month's meeting various options for handling additional databases. The possibility of increasing member fees to support additional staffing was raised. A decision was made to defer any vendors until results from the long range strategic planning are evaluated.

7. There will be a NJEdge Conference on May 2 - 3rd at the Merrill Lynch Conference Center near Princeton. Topics are still being gathered.

8. The agenda for next month's meeting will include consideration of next steps for the Electronic Resources Committee and the future of the Training Committee. The next meeting of the VALE Executive Committee will be December 17th at 2:00

Minutes prepared by [Judy Avrin](#).