VALE Executive Committee

Minutes of the September 17, 2002 Meeting

Present: J. Avrin, Bro. P. Chervenie, A. Ciliberti, J. Crocker, M. Gaunt, J. Getaz, J. Lin Hunt, D. Murray, D. Pinto, R. Sweeney

1. Marianne convened the meeting with a suggestion raised by Andrew Scrimgeour that the previous meeting's minutes be approved each month. Copies of the July 8, 2002 meeting minutes were distributed. Moved by Rich Sweeney and seconded by Jane Crocker, the minutes passed unanimously.

2. Marianne presented the Chair's Report. She distributed a draft agenda for a workshop on metadata being coordinated by Rutgers staff. *Building Digital New Jersey: The Metadata Foundation*, is to be held on Monday, November 18th in the Scholarly Communication Center at Alexander Library. The program will be available via teleconference at the Dana Library in Newark and at Rutgers Camden. Facilitators will be available at all sites. The program is intended to be an introductory kickoff to an important statewide initiative and, depending on its success, subsets of the conference may be done at other times. An announcement will be posted on the Corrado listserv this week.

    NJ Edge's Faculty Development Committee has been established to provide a forum for the development of a web site of useful information for faculty/staff who run distance education programs and eventually to develop a database of shareable learning objects.

    Lewis Ostar will replace NJ Wolfe as a community college representative on the Executive Committee since NJ has left Bergen Community College for a new position in New York. Marianne will ask if he is also willing to fill Wolfe's vacancy on the Finance Committee.

3. Anne Ciliberti presented the financial report. The reports have been structured a little differently this year. There is a carryover from FY02 that will be used to pay for new disks for the VALE server; the remaining dollars will be allocated to the contingency budget line.

    Money from FY03 invoices has begun to be received from members. Vendor invoices are arriving and will be processed for payment.

    About $8,000 remains in the Grant account. Anne received approval to extend the grant period through November so that all grant funds can be expended.

    The William Paterson Board of Trustees approved all of the bid waivers required for the VALE database subscriptions in FY03.

The State Library is underwriting the cost of EBSCO's Academic Search Premier for all academic libraries in the state and a note to that effect was added on the VALE menu. Anne Ciliberti is seeking clarification of the ending date of the contract.

The Finance Committee has met twice and reviewed the FY03 budget layout and vendor license agreements. The committee felt it was important to have some basic conditions, such as permissibility of interlibrary loan in each of the contracts and they are working on developing a template to be added. They are also considering posting each of the contracts on the web in a password-protected site.

4. Marianne discussed the need to revise the Bylaws to include specifications for how unexpired terms on the Executive Committee shall be filled. After discussion, the group agreed to recommend to the Council that the paragraph below be inserted into the Bylaws. Marianne will present this recommendation at the Council meeting on September 27th.

   "If an elected member of the VALE Executive Committee is unable to complete his or her term, the President of the Council will appoint a replacement for the remainder of the unexpired term. Normally, the appointee will be the person who garnered the second highest number of votes in that sector based upon the most recent election. Absent a second candidate, the Council will appoint a member who represents the same sector."

5. The revised VALE goals were discussed and the need for a mechanism to easily update members about VALE committee activities was noted. The group agreed to recommend that the committees publish reports of their work on committee websites, in postings to the Corrado listserv and at the poster session at the Users' Conference.
6. Jane Crocker reported that an academic library queue is being developed for participants in the State Library's virtual reference project called Q and A NJ. She encouraged academic libraries to participate and noted that there will be a presentation on the project at the Users' Conference.
7. Marianne stated that although VALE goal statement #6 calls for the establishment of a Database Committee, it may be advisable to hold off on that action since the State Library has recently created a Digitization Task Force that includes Grace Agnew of Rutgers and David Murray. The nature of VALE's relationship to the digitization taskforce and whether a separate academic initiative should be established will need to be determined as the group gets underway.

8. Marianne reported that the ILL/Resource Sharing Committee has inquired about the feasibility and value of using VALE's SiteSearch software to create a Z39.50 "union catalog" for the academic libraries. The relationship of such a project to JerseyCat, the State Library's interlibrary loan project was discussed. Several members of the committee felt it might be beneficial for the academic library community to be able to search across only academic library catalogs. It was agreed that Marianne will consult with Dave Hoover about the feasibility and potential cost of developing such a distributed academic catalog. If appropriate, he may be willing to present a demo at the Users' Conference.

Judith Lin Hunt will relay this information to the October 9th ILL/Resource Sharing Committee meeting.

9. Marianne reported that Andrew Scrimgeour suggested the need to revisit the purpose and need for a Training Committee. After considerable discussion, the group agreed that the training committee should be asked to identify member libraries' training needs with the purpose of developing programs and workshops to address these needs. The Committee should work with Judy Avrin who will coordinate the details of such activities. David Murray will discuss these ideas with the current training committee.

10. Joan Getaz reported that preliminary plans are underway for the joint ACRL/VALE Users' Conference. Her committee is investigating several possibilities for a keynote speaker and the call has gone out for posters. She asked whether the Executive Committee would like to have a slot on the agenda or to have poster space.

11. Bro. Paul reported that he and Anne have agreed upon a revised charge for the Assessment, Evaluations, and Statistics Committee and a call for nominations to participate had been placed on the Directors' listserv. Since only a few replies have been received, the invitation to participate will also be posed on the Corrado listserv.

12. Rich Sweeney announced that September 18 is draft day for VALE/Elsevier participants to swap out duplicate titles for new content. All current subscribers and 11 new libraries have agreed to participate in the next three-year contract.

13. David Pinto, liaison to VALE's Bibliographic Control and Metadata Committee, announced that 16 VALE libraries are represented by 23 members on the committee. Their next meeting will be October 2.

Prepared by J. Avrin