

VALE Executive Committee

Minutes of the December 12, 2002 Meeting

Present: Chervenie, Cohn, Crocker, Daze, Gaunt, Getaz, Murray, Ostar, Pinto, Scrimgeour, Sweeney, Tumulty.

Guests: Mallory (Resource Sharing Committee, Young (Intern at Middlesex CC))

1. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved but Scrimgeour noted that the minutes were unclear about responsibility for follow-up on the recommendations to work with the State Library on a new budget proposal. Gaunt responded that the next agenda item would discuss what has since happened.
2. Sweeney discussed a proposal for high level science databases that was circulated via e-mail to the Committee. During the metadata conference at Rutgers, Sweeney, Gaunt, Blake, and Tumulty met to discuss an opportunity to incorporate some of VALE's needs into a State Library budget proposal that was going to be discussed with the governor's staff on December 2. Building on the governor's interest in science and technology, and the impact that full-text science databases would have on education and research in the State, it was determined that a proposal to address these needs was appropriate. Dividing the work to pull the data together among UMDNJ, Rutgers, and NJIT, a proposal was drafted that would provide all the public institutions, the State Library, and the 4 regional libraries with access to these databases. The meeting with the governor's staff went well, and VALE was asked to provide additional data comparing New Jersey libraries with other state consortia. The data is being gathered now. Due to the short time frame in developing the proposal, a full-fledged planning proposal process could not be implemented, but the basis for the proposal follows upon our previous discussions about science/technology databases being a priority.

There were questions about access by the private institutions and Chervenie and Scrimgeour agreed to prepared a few "bullets" on why it was important to include them and under what circumstances private institutions might be excluded.

Tumulty will be discussing the budget with the NJLA Public Policy Committee on January 10 and the follow-up might be a plan for advocacy of the budget in which VALE members could engage.

3. Sweeney also mentioned that there had been some informal discussion to consider having the governor appoint a high level commission on libraries, similar to the commission he established for health science education, to attain visibility and support for libraries. Tumulty noted that this is kind of venue can be very problematic and may not be the best way to seek support.
4. Daze reported that the State Librarian is having a management planning meeting the first weeks in January and an item on the agenda will include working with the academic library community. Daze asked for ideas from the group for areas of collaboration. In addition to ones identified, such as grants, lobbying, budget, consulting, networking, ideas mentioned were the involvement of VALE's Bibliographic Control and Metadata

Committee in the State Library's digitization Task Force activities, and a mechanism/structure for early involvement in the planning and implementation of mutually beneficial services or programs. Additional comments and suggestions can be sent directly to Daze by early January.

5. Cohn distributed a revised Preferred Licensing Terms statement for review. She noted that #4 was a new statement for electronic reserves, as some members asked about having such a statement. It was agreed that a phrase should be added that addresses remote access and vendor supplied IDs and passwords. Anne Ciliberti's name replaced Judy Avrin's on item #9, and item #11 now includes a statement on the ICOLC guidelines for usage data. We may not get this from all our vendors, but these are our preferred terms. Following discussion the committee voted to approve the statement with the additions noted.
6. Gaunt presented the request from the Resources Committee to expand VALE's goals statement #7 to include some of the Resource Sharing Committee's charge, as it seemed a logical extension, and as the committee did not have any goals included. Gaunt noted that the VALE goals were strategic, and that all committees are not mentioned unless there was an additional goal or emphasis for them. The goals are very specific new items to be achieved. In next year's planning for goals, we will ask all committees to recommend goals to the Executive Committee and the Executive Committee will include them as appropriate in the VALE goals. The Executive Committee concurred. Mallery inquired as to their specific goals, and Gaunt noted that the committee was working very effectively on all the charges assigned to it. As the committee seeks to move in a direction that requires funding or overall buy-in by VALE, their work should be sent to the Executive Committee for review. (Revised 1/14/03)
7. Gaunt noted that the IMLS and NEH grant programs of interest to VALE might be related to digitization activities and she had just gotten a report on a recent meeting of the State Library's digitization task force that they plan to submit an IMLS grant in this cycle. As a result, VALE may not wish to compete against something that would benefit VALE if funded. This would not preclude any individual library from submitting its own proposal. Scrimgeour suggested that VALE members might contribute letters of endorsement to the State Library's grant proposal. Gaunt also noted that discussions have started at Rutgers and potentially with UMDNJ to consider the creation of science databases from the research activities of the faculty.
8. Getaz reported that plans for the User Conference are moving well. She will be reviewing the registrations to assign breakout rooms next week. She noted the benefits of collaboration with ACRL/NJ overall, but in particular, in raising the quality of the program. A draft program was circulated.
9. The Assessment Committee has developed an agenda for a breakout session at the Users' Conference; will assess where libraries are in the area of assessment and ask for needs; a pop-up survey is being planned to be incorporated into Academic Search Premiere; and the committee's goals will be posted on the web site. Chervenik noted the committee's role as a clearinghouse.
10. Sweeney reported that 4 librarians (one each) from William Paterson, NJIT, Rutgers and Montclair will convene for the month of January at NJIT to work on developing a tutorial for information literacy based on the University of Texas' TILT model.

11. Cohn reported for the Electronic Resources Committee that while we are not negotiating new databases, the committee would review the requests received thus far and consider offering 5-7 trails open to everyone to begin assembling a priority list of new databases. In addition they would assess the current offerings and compile a list of new databases members are subscribing to. She also noted that the committee determined that the request to design a list of free resources that would be of interest to alumni, friends, and guests, was very broad and that it should come back to the Executive Committee for review and new parameters.
12. Murray reported that the Training Committee is seeking new members and will be reviewing training needs. Pinto suggested training on Westlaw Campus because the vendor does not offer training. Gaunt noted that the committee might want to expand its charge from training on databases to other training needs and partner with other committees, such as the Bibliographic Control and Metadata Committee for continued metadata training. They can bring that option back to the Executive Committee for review.
13. Mallery asked if everyone had received and responded to the NCES survey. She noted that they can call 800-523-3205 for information.
14. Tumulty noted that there should be a response to the Middlestate's guidelines and that this will be discussed at the January 10th meeting of the NJLA Public Policy Committee meeting.
15. Hunt sent a communication noting that Phil Tramdack had represented NJALN on the Library and Administration and Management Council of LAMA Affiliates, and that there was a need for a replacement. Murray agreed to ascertain what group is being represented (as NJALN no longer exists) and to follow-up on a process for naming a replacement.
16. A request to change the meeting time of future afternoon VALE meetings to 12:30 with a \$10 lunch assessed to members and provided to the committee was approved.

Prepared by M. Gaunt