VALE Executive Committee

Minutes of the February 11, 2003 Meeting

Present: J. Avrin, Bro. P. Chervenie, A. Ciliberti, J. Cohn, M. Gaunt, J. Getaz, J. Lin Hunt, L Ostar, D. Pinto, A. Scrimgeour, R. Sweeney

1. Marianne Gaunt convened the meeting and several changes to the minutes from the January 12, 2003 meeting were discussed. In item #5, "surrogate" should be changed to "representative" and in item #7, "suggest" will be changed to "urge".

    Gaunt reported that the resolution proposing creation of a New Jersey Digital Academic Library was sent to Norma Blake. In an email response she indicated support of a proposal to provide access to scientific databases but that funding was questionable. Richard Sweeney advised that conversations with the governor's office also indicate their support but that funding is the issue. Sweeney distributed a list of the major STM databases and their VALE subscribers.

2. Anne Ciliberti presented the budget. All libraries, with one exception, have paid their database invoices. The catering invoice for the Users' conference has been paid and we are still awaiting several vendor donations. Salaries have been moved from the main account into a separate account.

3. In a follow-up on VALE's strategic goals, Gaunt reported that at the last Council meeting, item # 7, dealing with identifying potential areas of collaboration among NJ college and university libraries, was discussed. An online survey will be posted to both the Council and Corrado listservs. A draft of the survey and suggestions for additions and formatting of questions and answer options were discussed. There will be a comment space for each item and as well as the option of indicating interest in discussing that option with other colleagues. A demo of the survey will be viewed before it is sent to the listservs.

4. Joan Getaz distributed a draft of the VALE Communications plan and will work on developing it further with her committee. They will try to have the plan and budget figures in place by June. Anne Ciliberti suggested that better press releases would be beneficial. A volunteer could be sought to identify what publications to aim for and to prepare announcements.

    David Pinto suggested adding "Consortium" to the VALE name to better identify its scope. It was also recommended that a link to a list of legislators' web sites be added to the VALE page.

5. Richard Sweeney distributed copies of the final draft report of the Shared Information Literacy Project Team and a FIPSE grant application that grew out of the SIL project effort. He explained that the SIL project report was prepared by Matthew Brown of NJIT, Richard Kearney of William Paterson, Triveni Kuchi of Rutgers and William Vincenti of

Montclair State. The FIPSE application was developed by Sweeney, Ciliberti and Gaunt and was submitted by NJIT on behalf of VALE.

Sweeney praised the efforts of the SIL Team and it was suggested that they be invited to make presentations at the March VALE Executive Committee meeting and at the June Council meeting. There was unanimous agreement to commend the team and a motion to recognize them with a VALE SIL Project Team Proclamation and certificate was made and seconded by Joan Getaz and Bro. Paul Chervenie.

The group also discussed the elements of the FIPSE proposal for federal funding to support the further development of shared information literacy tutorials. The need for funding for some equipment and possibly some software was noted, should the proposal be accepted. Following a motion by Andrew Scrimgeour, seconded by Bro. Paul Chervenie, the Executive Committee approved an endorsement of the grant proposal. A suggestion was made that other sources of funding should be sought for the project in the event that the FIPSE proposal is not accepted.

6. Bro. Paul reported on the Assessment Committee's efforts. Dan O'Connor of Rutgers SCILS met with their group and discussed various ideas on assessment workshops and surveys. At this juncture, the Committee is considering hosting a workshop on database use statistics, conducting a librarian satisfaction survey and possibly doing some focus groups with aculty to assess the impact and value of VALE. Joan Getaz suggested that training and workshops might be co-sponsored with ACRL/NJ.
7. Judy Cohn announced that Luis Rodriguez will be taking over leadership of the Electronic Resources Committee. Ciliberti advised that the addition of several new databases in FY04 would be manageable by existing staff. Cohn will discuss how to select new databases with the group.
8. Gaunt reported that she had received an inquiry about whether VALE would fund committee members' attendance at professional meetings if they related to VALE committee work. It will be made an agenda item at the next meeting.
9. Ciliberti pointed out that this June will be the 5th anniversary of VALE. Gaunt, Ciliberti, Scrimgeour and Murray will develop some ideas about how to commemorate the occasion.

Prepared by: J. Avrin