

VALE Executive Committee

Minutes of the April 15, 2003 Meeting

Present: J. Avrin, Bro. P. Chervenie, J. Cohn, J. Crocker, C. Daze, M. Gaunt, J. Getaz, R. Sweeney

1. Marianne Gaunt convened the meeting and the minutes from the March meeting were approved and seconded by Richard Sweeney and Judy Cohn.
2. Judy Avrin presented the budget and advised that there was no activity in the Members Account.
3. In her Chair's report, Gaunt advised that she had discussed with Ciliberti the need to identify policy and bylaw changes that are embedded in the meeting minutes. They would then be compiled and posted on the website.
4. Richard Sweeney had announced to the Executive Committee the previous week that the Shared Information Literacy Project Team was not selected to prepare a final FIPSE grant proposal. Further efforts to obtain alternate funding will continue and GALILEO, Georgia's library consortium, may be interested in partnering on the project. Sweeney will obtain FIPSE external reviews when they become available at the end of July.
5. Gaunt distributed results of the VALE Collaboration Survey including rankings and comments from respondents. Results will be distributed on the VALE listserv and members with interest in a particular area will be encouraged to work with the Executive Committee to create a VALE committee.
6. Gaunt advised that Mary Mallery of Montclair State is stepping down as head of the Resource Sharing Committee and has recommended Judy Gardner of Rutgers to take her place. Mallery has requested that the Executive Committee consider the re-establishment of the VALE Technical Committee in order to work on the virtual union catalog. There was lengthy discussion of potential technical needs of other VALE committees and ways to evaluate both those needs and existing technical expertise among VALE members. It was agreed the Interface Committee should be revitalized and Gaunt will determine if the committee charge requires revision.
7. Proposed wording changes for the VALE website were discussed in order to make it both more informational and accurate. A possible change is: "Libraries Dedicated to Innovation and Collaboration". A decision will be deferred until next month's meeting since a quorum was not present to make a decision.
8. A motion was made to acknowledge Dave Hoover's outstanding work last month when the VALE server was down for a scheduled period of time. He successfully re-routed access to the databases with no loss of connectivity.
9. The two-year terms of Jane Crocker and Judith Lin Hunt are expiring at the end of June and the Council will need to look at sector representation. Gaunt, Cohn and Sweeney are ex officio and finishing two-year terms as well.
10. Several issues regarding committee chairs were raised and will be discussed in greater detail at next month's meeting. There was also a grammatical correction to Article 5, Section 1 B. It should read:

"If the Executive Committee does not appoint one of its members to serve as chair of a committee, the committee may recommend to the Executive Committee that one of its members serve as chair for a two year term."

11. Judy Cohn began her report on the Electronic Resources Committee's new database trials with a discussion of the need for more VALE members to be subscribed to the VALE listserv. Response to the trials was poor and various ways to increase awareness to the listserv were examined. It has generally been referred to as the Corrado listserv, named after Ed Corrado who maintains it on Rider University's server. There was a consensus that an effort needs to be made to refer to it as the VALE listserv since the Corrado name is confusing.

CQ Researcher was one of the databases that had been high on the list in the survey the committee conducted two years ago. The Executive Committee requested pricing be obtained separately and bundled for CQ Researcher and CQ Weekly.

ACM Digital needs a threshold of 10 subscribers for a drop in price. There are already at least 8 or 9 libraries subscribing. Libraries can register individually for a trial but access to full text is not available. Once the pricing offer is in place efforts will be made to schedule a demonstration.

Proquest's LION product was also recommended.

Cohn advised that in their evaluation of business databases, Kathy Malanga of William Paterson University and Connie Rosenberger of Rowan University, had recommended continuing VALE's subscription to Proquest's ABI. Cohn will distribute their report to the committee. A motion was made to that effect and Gaunt will email the other members of the Executive Committee for approval.

Cohn announced that Mary Page of Rutgers will be replacing Robert Sewell, and Sulekha Kalyan of Seton Hall will be joining the committee. Bruce Slutsky has replaced Richard Sweeney.

12. Questions have arisen regarding access to databases by students of the New Jersey Coastal Community College. Students will have access to the databases from the college or university where from whom the course is being offered.
13. Avrin noted that IDs and passwords for remote access to databases have not been changed in several years. Gaunt recommended changing them on an annual basis starting this summer.
14. Bro. Paul Chervenik distributed new drafts of the separate surveys the Assessment Committee has written for VALE library directors and VALE librarians. Several questions were discussed; in particular the difficulty of cost savings estimation on the part of the directors. Mid-May is the targeted response deadline.
15. Jane Crocker reported that the Reference Committee would be meeting the following day with a Q&A NJ representative. If the decision is made to proceed, Gaunt will send an email update to the committee and then present it to the Council. Crocker also announced

that on May 2nd Gloucester County College would be sponsoring a Virtual Reference Leadership View national teleconference from the College of DuPage.

16. A revised NJLA statement on budget impacts that had been presented to the NJ State Library was distributed.
17. The committee was advised that Rutgers has teleconferencing equipment that is available to Executive Committee members unable to travel to meetings.
18. The next meeting is scheduled for May 21st at 12:30 pm.

Prepared by J. Avrin