

VALE Executive Committee

Minutes of the December 10, 2003 Meeting

Present: J. Avrin, Bro. P. Chervenie, A. Ciliberti, J. Cohn, J. Crocker, C. Daze, M. Gaunt, J. Getaz, N. Madacsi, L. Ostar, D. Pinto, A. Scrimgeour, R. Sweeney

1. Judy Cohn convened the meeting and advised of the addition of two items to the agenda. The minutes from the November 12, 2003 meeting were approved. Marianne Gaunt noted in a follow-up that NJ Edge will attend the February Council meeting and Scherelene Schatz will address the group on the new version of Jersey Cat.
2. Anne Ciliberti presented the budget. As of December 1st, Assessment Committee workshop fees of \$590.00 had been collected. Expenses include payment of honorariums to workshop speakers. All libraries have paid their original FY04 database invoices with the exception of several add-on invoices that are in process. The salary allocation is being drawn down. The salaries do not coincide with the VALE FY calendar since the infusion of funds is in October when service fees begin to be collected along with database invoices.
3. Brother Paul Chervenie reported on the Assessment Committee workshop that was held on November 13, 2003 in the Scholarly Communication Center at Alexander Library. There were almost 70 attendees and feedback was very positive. Keynote speaker David Goodman provided insights on assessment standardization. Vendor and VALE member presentations provided the group with different perspectives on Assessment issues. Bro. Paul has a complete write-up that will be posted on the VALE web site. The Assessment Committee will meet again in January.
4. The Executive Committee approved the decision to contribute \$3,000 to the State Library's Super Librarian campaign. Any VALE library interested in promotional materials will order them directly at its own cost. Judy Cohn will write a cover letter to accompany the donation expressing VALE's appreciation of their efforts.
5. Marianne Gaunt distributed copies of the mock up of the VALE Annual Report. Several printing quotes were obtained and it will go out for printing the following week. Copies will be sent to library directors so they can be hand delivered to their presidents. A message will be posted to the Director's listserv when shipping is imminent. Additional copies will be held in reserve for distribution to libraries. A copy will also be posted online. There was discussion of sending copies to legislators and the creation of a standardized letter to accompany them. The Executive Directors of the Regional Library Cooperatives will be sent copies as well as one to Tom Sanville, of OhioLink.
6. Judy Cohn, Anne Ciliberti and Judy Avrin met with the Proquest representative to discuss potential changes regarding ABI Inform. Proquest will hold an information session on ABI and interface upgrades to be held at Alexander Library. They also have individual online training sessions available to any members.
7. Joan Getaz reported that plans for the Users' Conference are proceeding smoothly and presented a mock-up of the program. Travel plans for the keynote speaker have been confirmed and registration is currently at 108. A weather cancellation procedure notice

will be posted to the listserv. Plans and costs for the anniversary party following the conference were finalized. Samples of the giveaway were distributed.

8. Commendations for former executive committee members were discussed.
9. In continued talks regarding the NJ Access to Science, Technology, Medical and Business Databases proposal, Richard Sweeney reported that in meetings with Carol Nersinger and other State Library leaders, the possibility of offering specific databases statewide was discussed. A copy of the Proposed FY2005 Economic Development Initiative was distributed. It was noted that independent colleges and universities need to be added to the list of eligible institutions. Several business databases may be offered. Further meetings are to follow.
10. Jane Crocker reported that the academic Q&A librarians will talk about their experiences at the Users' Conference.
11. David Pinto reported that the Bibliographic Control and Metadata Committee met and a report will be forthcoming for the January meeting.
12. Wiley InterScience, provider of web based access to publications from John Wiley & Sons, will be making a presentation to VALE on the morning of Wednesday, January 21st prior to the Executive Committee meeting. There is a list of about 300 titles and access to all journal titles would go back to 1997.
13. Ciliberti recommended that given VALE's limited support staff, creation of a guideline for the number of new databases that could be added annually would be beneficial. The consensus was two to three. In cases where a vendor relationship already exists, it will simplify the process.
14. In the past, libraries have been allowed to add databases mid-contract. Ciliberti suggested that given the amount of bookkeeping involved, libraries now be allowed to add databases only at renewal and once a year in January. The committee approved the policy.
15. Gaunt reported that Project SAILS (Project for the Standardized Assessment of Information Literacy Skills) at Kent State University has put out a call for proposals to fund the development of a standardized assessment module for information literacy. The deadline is February 1, 2004.
16. The next meeting is scheduled for January 21, 2004

Prepared by: J. Avrin