

# VALE Executive Committee

Minutes of the January 21, 2004 Meeting

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

Guest: Luis Rodriguez

1. Judy Cohn convened the meeting and the minutes from the December 10, 2003 meeting were approved.
2. Luis Rodriguez, chair of the Electronic Resources Committee, reported on a presentation by Wiley Interscience for shared access to Wiley electronic journals through their Extended Access License (EAL) agreement process. He noted that there was good attendance and further analysis will be done to determine if there is enough interest in the product to move it forward as a consortium offering.

Luis also stated that he has been contacted by a number of vendors regarding offers and trials for new databases. After discussion, the group agreed that the Electronic Resources Committee should advise vendors that new product trials and presentations must conform to the VALE timetable for license negotiating, which is February and March of each year.

He also reported that the ER Committee would likely recommend that for FY05 two current products be upgraded to their fulltext equivalents and that several new resources be offered. Pricing and other options are currently being evaluated.

3. In the budget update, Anne Ciliberti reported that all vendor invoices have been paid. A separate Users' Conference budget reflected total expenditures of \$7,809.53 for the conference and anniversary party. Vendor donations and budgeted funds covered \$6,000 of the costs. Judy Avrin reported that half of the vendor donations have been received to date.

Not yet reflected in the monthly budget report are the contributions to the NJ State Library Super Librarian campaign and printing costs for the Annual Report. Ciliberti also noted that several libraries have received requests from Lexis Nexis for sales tax exemption forms. Palinet has confirmed that only William Paterson University, as financial agent for the consortium, is required to submit the form. Ciliberti will post this notice to the listserv.

4. Joan Getaz reported that preliminary feedback from the Users' Conference has been quite positive. On behalf of the Executive Committee, Judy Cohn expressed thanks and appreciation to Joan Getaz, Vib Bowman and Janie Fultz for all their work on the conference.

Dave Hoover has created a Web-based evaluation form using new software that enables results to be compiled automatically. Avrin distributed a copy of the new survey form.

There was discussion of what impact, if any, the close scheduling of ALA Mid-Winter had on conference attendance. It was noted that while attendance was at an all time high, although there seemed to be fewer directors present this year. The conference evaluation should help determine if this was a problem. Fortunately, the 2005 MidWinter ALA conference is scheduled for later in January, so the early January date, which has been so successful, can be continued. The expected date will be Thursday, January 6, 2005 and the Rutgers Busch Campus Center has been tentatively booked.

5. Richard Sweeney reported that discussions are continuing with the State Library and NJLA about providing statewide access to high-level scientific, medical, technical and business resources. Although the initiative, now called "Access Edison," was not ready for inclusion in the Governor's budget this year, participants are hopeful that further work in the coming months will result in its inclusion in the 2006 State Budget. Cohn observed that the lobbyists assisting with the project are interested in helping them find effective ways to illustrate to legislators the important connection between scholarly databases and economic development. Sweeney also suggested that a good next step would be a meeting with Norma Blake, Carol Nersinger and Pat Tumulty and that he will contact Blake's office to set this up.
6. Colleen Daze provided an update on "Jersey Clicks" the Statewide Portal initiative. Elements include a uniform interface with customization capabilities and the capability to authenticate users by library bar code for remote access. The goal is to provide statewide remote access to databases offered by the NJ State Library. Daze will ask Scherelene Schatz, project manager, to provide a demonstration at the February 27 meeting of the Council of New Jersey College and University Library Deans and Directors and University Librarians.
7. In committee reports, Bro. Paul Chervenie noted that evaluations from the November Assessment workshop were quite positive. Two future potential projects may be a program that includes extensive case studies about how different institutions are using statistics and/or a program with an outside speaker on outcomes assessment.

David Pinto advised that the Bibliographic Control and Metadata Committee's survey results are still trickling in and they plan to have results compiled by their March 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Jane Crocker reported that the Cynthia McClellan of UMDNJ ran the online reference breakout session at the users' conference and it was well received. Participants in Q and A NJ report satisfaction with the software and service and the Committee may revisit the issue of establishing an academic queue, even if the academic monitoring cannot be sustained 24x7.

8. Richard Sweeney reported that NJIT and Newark Public Library are developing a research proposal for an NSF and/or IMLS grant to explore the feasibility of a new type of sophisticated federated searching protocol. If any others are interested in joining the project, they should contact Rich soon.

9. Judy Cohn stated that Mary Mallery is eager to convene the ad hoc group to study the issue of a last print copy repository and whether one is needed in NJ. The group will consist of representatives from UMDNJ, NJIT, Rutgers, the NJ State Library, Princeton University, the two-year institutions and the independent colleges and universities.

10. The next meeting is scheduled for February 11, 2004.

Prepared by: J. Avrin