

VALE Executive Committee Meeting

February 3, 2012

Rutgers University – Cook Campus

FINAL

Present: J. Avrin, A. Ciliberti, J. Cohn, J. Crocker, C. Daze, M. Gaunt, D. Murray, T. Pavlovsky (Chair), L. Rodriguez, A. Scrimgeour, E. Siecke, R. Sweeney, J. Toth

1. Call to Order / Welcome & Minutes of December 13, 2011 Meeting

Taras Pavlovsky convened the meeting. He reported that Amira Unver was unanimously approved to fill Nancy Madacsi's vacated seat at the Members' Council meeting. Minutes from the December 13, 2011 Executive Committee Meeting were accepted as revised.

2. Finance Report

Anne Ciliberti presented the January Budget Activity Report. Contributions to the Users' Conference from vendors totaling \$1800 were received in January and \$4,538 in expenses related to the conference were paid. The ending balance in the non-salary account for the month was \$66,512.

A minor discrepancy between the total amount recorded in the expense column and footnote for Miscellaneous Refunds to Members was noted and Avrin will correct it. There was no activity in the Reserve Account and the ending Salaries and Benefits balance was \$34,045. The December Budget Activity Report will be emailed to Executive Committee members.

Avrin provided a detailed report on the Users' Conference revenue and expenses. Financial support from the vendors (\$4,200) and from LibraryLink (\$2,000) has been received. Invoices from the Busch Campus Center and from the keynote speaker for travel expenses have not yet been received. It was noted that the \$2,000 LibraryLinkNJ provided in support in FY11 needs to be expended. If there is a balance of funds after all expenses have been paid, a refund will be made to LibraryLinkNJ.

3. VALE's VALID Project

Marianne Gaunt reported on a conference call that she, Grace Agnew and Taras Pavlovsky had with Quali OLE representatives, Robert MacDonald and Mike Winkler. The focus of the call was a discussion about a possible collaboration between VALE and Quali OLE for a grant proposal to the Mellon Foundation seeking funds to overcome barriers consortia might encounter as they try to implement OLE.

Consortial implementations of the OLE software, especially those intending to share a single instance of the system, will be much more complicated than stand-alone implementations at individual sites. Among the barriers discussed with the OLE representatives were the need for identity management systems capable of high levels of granularity to distinguish rights and privileges in accessing system information; the need for sophisticated resource sharing systems to support enhanced interlibrary loan and universal borrowing; and the requirement for realistic business plans that address economic and organizational sustainability issues.

The conference call also included further discussion about the value of VALE becoming a member of the Kuali OLE initiative. While there are definite benefits to be derived from membership, such as being able to influence the development priorities of OLE, the fees and staff commitment are considerable.

The conference call was a productive exchange, although the group agreed that VALE might explore partnering with other consortia, rather than Kuali OLE, for a Mellon grant to resolve impediments to consortial implementations of OLE.

Pavlovsky reported that another meeting between VALE and Kuali OLE representatives will be held on March 7 and he urged members of the Executive Committee to attend. Avrin will send a Doodle scheduler to the Committee for use in reporting their availability for the meeting.

Gaunt also reported that VALE's VALID Implementation Taskforce has advised that the current server is not adequate for further testing and development of a common VALID database. The VALID Steering Committee discussed the need for a new test server and recommends that the purchase be made, at an estimated cost of \$16,000 for hardware and \$4,000 for software. Taras Pavlovsky moved to support the concept but requested that VOIT consider cloud service in lieu of a new physical server. Gaunt will request this information and the issue will be put to a vote electronically.

4. Users' Conference Report

Luis Rodriguez and Avrin provided a conference update. Final attendance was at a record high of 295. It was noted that although the facilities can accommodate the crowd, it is difficult for late arrivals to find seats for the morning program. It was recommended that a row of seats be added at the back of the room next year. Avrin will make a note and advise the planning committee.

General comments and feedback on the keynote speaker from the evaluation results were distributed and briefly discussed. The Conference Planning Committee and the Executive Committee will receive the full report. Breakout session leaders will receive feedback on their individual sessions only. The tentative date for next year's conference will be Friday, January 4, 2013. Avrin will contact Rutgers to determine the availability of the Busch Campus Center on that date.

5. Triennial Report Update

Rodriguez reported that some sections still require revision but the report is nearing completion. Suggestions for the future include asking committee chairs to collect information for the reports throughout the year and to develop written guidelines to direct editorial efforts. For the report cover, the editorial committee suggests using one of the designs prepared as part of the conference program student competition. The group indicated that it would like to preview the selected design before approving it and that the student must give permission for its use and be acknowledged in the report. Avrin will email the proposed design.

6. Bylaws / 501(c)3

Pavlovsky distributed a new draft of the Bylaws, as approved by the attorney at Rider University who volunteered to assist VALE in becoming an incorporated not-for-profit organization. One outstanding issue is that there is another company in NJ already incorporated under the name of

VALE, so that it may be necessary for VALE to formally become VALE-NJ or something similar. The attorney is doing some more investigation on this issue.

In his review of the changes made in the draft, Pavlovsky noted the following:

- The concept of a Members' Council with a chair has been restored; the attorney indicated this is a common organization structure that can be accommodated.
- A membership termination option has been added.
- The Executive Committee will be known as the Board of Trustees
- A representative from the New Jersey Presidents Council will sit on the VALE Board of Trustees
- In addition to a Chair and Vice-Chair, the Board officers will include a secretary and treasurer.
- The NJPC representative will serve as the Board Secretary
- For as long as VALE continues to use one of its members as a fiscal agent, the representative from the institution will serve as Treasurer of the Board
- The NJ State Library representative will be a voting member of the Board. A typo in Article 4, Section 2 a. was reported and will be corrected.

Pavlovsky also reported that in addition to sending the Bylaws, the Presidents' Council has requested that some earlier documents and cost estimates pertaining to incorporation be provided. The group discussed a suggestion that a rationale for becoming a not-for-profit accompany the Bylaws and that Pavlovsky request a meeting to consider the issue. The rationale or talking points should emphasize VALE's desire to move its collaborative efforts forward to a new level. Pavlovsky urged those present to send him draft language on these points.

Ciliberti reported that she will be obtaining new cost estimates from an accounting firm that represents several library consortia in New Jersey. She noted that contrary to what the group thought, an annual audit is not required for New Jersey. However, all present voted in favor of specifying in the Bylaws that an annual audit must be conducted.

Pavlovsky moved that the Bylaws be approved as a working draft and all present voted affirmatively.

7. NJVid / NJEdge Memorandum of Understanding

The group reviewed a new draft of a Memorandum of Understanding between VALE and NJEDge with respect to NJVid services. The committee approved the revised MOU and Gaunt agreed to share it with the Executive Director of NJEDge. If changes are requested, Gaunt will revise the draft to reflect those changes and share with the Executive Committee. If no changes are requested, Pavlovsky will write a cover letter and send an official copy to NJEDge.

8. Nature License

Cohn reported that the remaining issues with the new Nature license have been resolved. Appendix A was revised to reflect current institution FTE data but more precise calculation of the number of science department FTEs will be postponed for consideration in future licenses. Avrin will send Pavlovsky the final version of the license for signature.

9. Digital Media

A situation involving competing offers for streaming video content resulted in some confusion among some VALE libraries. David Murray and Ciliberti will work with Digital Media Committee chair Jane Hutchison to create a document clarifying the benefits of subscribing through VALE.

10. VALE Strategic Planning

Joe Toth and David Murray followed up on their presentation at the Members' Council meeting. Assuming VALE obtains not-for-profit status, it might be useful to put together a working group moving forward. Given the number of major initiatives already underway, there is concern about overburdening VALE members. Rather than hold a retreat resulting in new initiatives, it may be beneficial to look internally at what the Executive Committee and other committees are already working on. It was suggested that this be discussed further at the March joint meeting.

The Assessment Committee is meeting on February 8th and liaison Liz Siecke will forward the Strategic Plan Process Proposal document to the committee. Toth and Siecke will touch base to include a message.

11. VALE Server Speed

Avrin reported that navigating on the VALE website continues to be very slow and that providing updates take a great deal of time. She will send a video showing the slow update time to Website Committee liaison Sweeney prior to its February 8th meeting.

12. Snapshot Day

Ciliberti is working with Peggy Cadigan at the State Library and Judith Hunt at Montclair State University to develop an activity report form more useful to academic libraries.

13. Joint Meeting of the Executive Committee with Committee Chairs

Pavlovsky reminded the group that the annual joint meeting will be held on March 6. It was suggested that the committee chairs be provided with some guidelines on the kind of information/updates most usefully shared at the meeting. Pavlovsky agreed to do so.

14. Next Meeting Date

The next Council and Executive Committee meetings scheduled for June 7th now conflict with the NJLA Conference. The group agreed to change the date of both meetings to June 14. Avrin will notify Pam Price, who volunteered to host the meetings at Mercer County Community College, of the date change.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 6, 2012 at Middlesex County College.

Prepared by: J. Avrin