

VALE Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Friday, February 7, 2020 | 1pm -3:15pm

Mercer County Community College

Present: L. Beninghove (Stevens), E. Chapel (Edge), S. Chudnick (Brookdale), H. Craven (CCM), F. Ghahramani (Guest, Edge), G. Fallon (Passaic), J. Hunt (MSU), M. Lena (VALE), S. Muir (Rowan), M. Nizolek (NJSL), M. Ochoa (Middlesex), E. Owusu-Ansah (WPU), T. Pavlovsky (TCNJ), K. Wagner (Monmouth)

Absent: M. Chute (NJSL), J. Cohn (Rutgers), A. Hoang (NJIT), J. Machie (LLNJ), P. Tumulty (NJLA)

1) Call To Order / Welcome / Minutes of December 5, 2019 Meeting

- Wagner convened the meeting.
- Minutes of the December 5th meeting were approved as corrected.

2) EdgeResearch (Guest, Forough Ghahramani - Associate Vice President for Research, Innovation, and Sponsored Programs at Edge)

- Ghahramani explained her background and her position within Edge. Some of her top goals are to identify some collaboration opportunities for researchers, establish what type of research is happening, and create solutions for how Edge can work with the research community to fulfill needs.
- Edge has provided connectivity with its EdgeDiscovery platform. The platform provides various aspects that are required for big data and collaboration, access to infrastructure, and tools and expertise. The goal for EdgeDiscovery is to democratize research and develop a community for researchers to collaborate.
- Chapel noted that libraries were missing in Edge's announcement about EdgeDiscovery and asked how Edge can help the library help the researchers. Muir pointed out that libraries are good at building campus connections, and that libraries are not self-serving, rather their work is for the betterment of their research and campus community.

3) OER (Chudnick / Fallon / Ochoa)

- Data is still being compiled for the OpenNJ repository. Ochoa will share the UX testing from the VALE Conference session with the EC in March.
- The OpenNJ advisory committee will be convening to train those who want to manage their own collections in the repository.
- Chapel suggested building in an analytics utilization mechanism to show the financial value that VALE is providing its members. These analytics could also track student savings and performance outcomes.
- Fallon announced that there will be an OER Summit at Ocean County College in late May and encouraged all to make their campuses aware of the event. The theme of the Summit is "Sustainability" and the Committee is currently identifying sessions.
- A discussion ensued about how member institutions are planning for and complying with the textbook legislation.



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- Owusu-Ansah proposed taking on an advocacy role and request funding from the state for OpenNJ. The legislation is an unfunded mandate and VALE is providing value.
- Chudnick noted that VALE's membership in the Open Textbook Network has expired. The Committee will review the membership materials and make a recommendation whether or not to renew.

4) Treasurer's Report (Pavlovsky)

- Pavlovsky asked Chapel to clarify and identify VALE's shared expenses for hosting the conference at Ocean Place. Chapel will work with Nancy Zimmerman to itemize VALE's costs.
- A discussion ensued about the pros and cons of having the VALE Conference at Ocean Place again next year.
- Wagner called for a motion to co-locate conferences again in 2021, Owusu-Ansah moved, Pavlovsky seconded, and all approved.
- Pavlovsky noted that the last 2 years of OTN/OER expenses were funded as strategic initiatives. He asked if VALE should continue this model or include OTN/OER as a budgeted item. Muir moved to have OER related expenses included as a budgeted item, Craven seconded, Pavlovsky abstained, and all approved.

5) Program Manager's Report (Lena)

- The valenj@njedge.net listserv has been deactivated with EdgeXchange fully functioning as its replacement. Lena will reach out to Directors to review and update their institution's subscriber list.

6) VALE / NJEdge Partnership (Wagner / Chapel)

- A discussion ensued about the timeline for VALE to present its budget to Edge, and for Edge to finalize the amount of VALE's membership dues.
- Chapel will create a strawman budget, and Pavlovsky and Chapel will review the MOU. Once complete, it will be voted on by the PRC.
- Lena asked if VALE reserves were being invested. This will be included as an agenda item for the next PRC meeting.

7) Purchasing & Licensing (Lena)

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- Licenses continue to be reviewed by outside counsel. There are 2 completed licenses (Springer Nature and The Chronicle of Higher Education) in ConsortiaManager. The GALE Cengage license is currently being reviewed.
- The P&L Committee will meet virtually on February 27th.
- The Committee sent out a survey to the membership to gauge interest in new products as well as gather environmental scan data. The survey results will be reviewed at the upcoming P&L meeting.

8) Outreach (Muir / Owusu-Ansah)

- Owusu-Ansah presented the conference report. Muir noted that there are an increasing number of conferences that VALE is competing with.
- A discussion ensued about the history of the relationship between VALE and ACRL-NJ / NJLA CUS and conference planning responsibilities. Ochoa noted that the strategic plan includes formalizing committee structure.

9) Planning & Assessment (Beninghove / Ochoa)

- PAC will be contacting the other Committee Chairs to schedule meetings to go over their responsibilities in the strategic plan.

10) NJ State Library (Nizolek)

- Report was presented at Members Council meeting.

11) illumira replacement - RFP with Springshare and collaboration with Purchasing & Licensing Committee (Lena)

- Lena informed Edge colleagues that P&L wants to provide input on the illumira replacement product, and is still waiting for updates on the process.

12) Adjournment

- Next meeting: Thursday, March 5th; Rutgers - Alexander Library