



VALE Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 2, | 1pm-3pm

virtual via Zoom

Present: R. Bingham (LLNJ), J. Cohn (Rutgers), A. Fontoura (FDU), J. Hauge (ACCC), R. Hilliker (Rowan), A. Hoang (NJIT), M. Lena (VALE), M. Nizolek (NJSL), M. Ochoa (Middlesex), E. Owusu-Ansah (WPU), T. Pavlovsky (TCNJ), D. Rosinski-Kauz (Ocean), K. Wagner (Monmouth)

Absent: E. Chapel (Edge), J. Machie (NJLA), D. Mizzy (MSU)

1) Call To Order / Approval of Minutes

- Wagner convened the meeting.
- Minutes of the October 21, 2021 meeting were approved as corrected.
- Wagner noted that Joe Toth is no longer at Stockton, and so the Executive Committee is without a Vice-Chair and one member from the public university sector. Wagner appointed Ochoa as Vice-Chair. Toth ran unopposed in the last election, so the open seat will be appointed by Wagner.

2) Treasurer's Report (Pavlovsky)

- Pavlovsky was not able to present the Treasurer's report as he did not receive a financial report from Edge.

3) Program Manager's Report (Lena)

- The last VALE libraries informal check-in discussion was November 17th, and the next will be on December 16th. Later this month Lena will send out a Doodle poll to the Members Council to gauge interest for more meetings in 2022.

4) VALE / NJEdge Partnership (Wagner)

- Wagner continues to meet with Edge to dissolve the VALE-Edge MOU.
- Wagner attended the Edge Board meeting and informed them that VALE has ongoing and unresolved issues with the Edge relationship.
- The President's Council believes they should have oversight of the process and wants Steve Rose to take the lead.
- Wagner will try for more meetings with Steve Rose and Edge CEO Sam Conn.

5) Purchasing & Licensing (Cohn / Hoang)

- The entire committee met in November and shared the information about the WALDO-Lyrasis transition. Lyrasis indicated that WALDO members don't have to pay additional fees.
- They recently reviewed the license for MLA Handbook Plus, a new offering for FY22.

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- There are 12 subscribers for the Elsevier ScienceDirect FY22-24 contract, and only 2 subscribers have finalized the contract with their institution.
- A discussion ensued about the status of Illumira. Hoang suggested that Illumira updates be included in our conversations with Edge.

6) Outreach (Hauge / Owusu-Ansah)

- The conference schedule has been finalized - there will be 11 posters, 5 themed lunches, and 16 breakout sessions.
- The schedule and the online registration form will be posted to the website on December 1st.
- At present there are 5 sponsors (at \$1000 each): EBSCO, ProQuest, Springer Nature, LibraryLinkNJ, and McGraw Hill. Lena continues to solicit additional sponsorships and is following up with vendors.

7) Planning & Assessment (Fontoura / Rosinski-Kauz)

- Rosinski-Kauz thanked Fontoura for joining the Planning & Assessment Committee.
- PAC is working on a survey that will be sent to the Members Council about institutional response to the COVID-19 pandemic in the Fall 2021 semester.

8) OER (Hilliker / Ochoa)

- The OER Ambassadors will present a session at the NJ Academic Libraries Conference.
- They are scheduled to give a presentation on the OER Open Textbook Collaborative at Middlesex College.

9) NJ State Library (Nizolek)

- The evaluation of the current New Jersey LSTA five-year plan is progressing well, with the consultants ensuring maximum participation among all library staff in the state.
- The Affordable Care Act research guide was updated to reflect 2022 enrollment information. It is one of NJSL's most heavily used.
- The State Library Information Center lab is in the process of digitizing fragile and large materials.
- Remote access to Foundation Directory Online (FDO) Essential has been extended through May 31, 2022.
- Activity on the COVID Storytelling Project collaboration continues as more stories from the YMCA were uploaded.



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10) LibraryLinkNJ (Bingham)

- The LLNJ Programming and Outreach Specialist position held by Darby Malvey has transitioned from part-time to full-time. This change will improve LLNJ's continuing education and outreach efforts.
- LLNJ will hold a membership meeting on December 14th, and Kurt will present a VALE update. John Chrastka, founder of EveryLibrary, will present a keynote.
- LLNJ issued a Fortnight Count Form in October that received a 66% response rate.
- LLNJ renewed its delivery contract with T-Force through June 2022, and it includes amendments based on pandemic precautions.
- LLNJ offers subsidies for on-demand training and professional development, and Bingham recommended this information be shared with VALE member libraries.
- Wagner was a part of a call that included other NJ library leaders on the topic of intellectual freedom. He noted that intellectual freedom is being challenged in public and school libraries, and that academic librarians may not be aware of this issue. The NJ Association of School Librarians (NJASL) is drafting a statement in support of intellectual freedom, and Bingham requested VALE's support. Wagner recommended signing a statement of support.

11) Good of the Order

- Cohn offered best wishes for Grace Agnew's upcoming retirement on December 31st.

12) Adjournment

- Next meeting: Friday, February 4, 2021; virtual via Zoom