VALE Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, Oct 26, 2023| 1pm - 3pm via Zoom
Meeting Document Folder

In attendance: Ali Cole (VALE), Isabel Gray (CCC), Janet Hauge (ACCC), Caitlin Kaplan (EDGE), Kurt Wagner (Monmouth), Ana Fontoura (FDU), Marilyn Ochoa (Middlesex), Taras Pavlovsky (TCNJ), Consuella Askew (Rutgers), Ann Hoang (NJIT), Danianne Mizzy (Montclair), Maria Baratta (NJSL), Robert Hilliker (Rowan), Ralph Bingham (LLNJ), Muhammad Hassan (Kean), Leigh Keller (Ramapo)

Guests: Gary Marks (WPUNJ)

Absent: Brett Bonfield (NJLA), Donna Rosinski-Kauz (OCC)

I. **Call To Order** (Hoang)

   A. Hoang called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm.

II. **Approval of September 28, 2023 Minutes** (Cole)

   A. Pavlovsky moved to approve the minutes; Wagner seconded. No discussion. Unanimously approved as is.

III. **Old Business** (10 mins)

   A. SLAC SIG Approval (Cole)

      1. Zoom poll was created to approve the SLAC SIG that was proposed at the Members' Committee meeting by Susan Van Alstyne of Centenary University.

      2. SIG approved with 11/11 votes in favor.

   B. NJAL Conference Planning (Marks)

      1. Provided at MC this morning.

      2. Hoang asked if the emergency speaker should be promoted. Marks and Pavlovsky shared that this should not be shared unless/until we know we are using the backup.

IV. **New Business** (10 mins)

   A. VALE Impact Report (Hoang)

      1. Hoang presented the idea to create an impact report/statement to demonstrate ROI to members – in place of an annual report – which we have not had in many years.

      2. It is shorter than an annual report and communicates VALE's impact to our members, providing transparency and accountability for VALE. As well as identifying areas we should focus on in the future, shows our commitment to sustain VALE.

      3. Askew added that she fully supports moving toward an impact report. Pavlovsky added that one of the most important pieces of impact we can show is the opportunity for savings – for example the presentation from Clarivate in MC this morning. Without VALE, your cost would be X times more…. we can show financial impact.

4. Hilliker requested examples, Hoang will share what she has found so far. Mizzy shared screen – showing an example from PALCI.

5. Hoang will do some additional research on this to bring back to EC to ideally get this out at the end of the Fiscal Year.

B. FY25 Budget Meeting Prep (Pavlovsky)

1. Budget planning meeting will be in January – start thinking about what your budget might be for FY25, will need this right after the holiday break to put together for the meeting at the end of January.

2. P&L to look at license agreements in preparation - what is upcoming, how many new products do we plan to onboard?

3. Conference planning is a big one – by then we will have data for the budget for next year.

4. Hoang added that if there are new projects you are thinking of – propose a budget for it. Treasurer needs proposals to build the budget scenarios.

C. OER Publishing Project (Hassan/Askew)

1. Askew stepped out, will circle back to this at the end of the standing reports. See section V.I.

V. Standing Reports (50 mins)

A. Strategic Planning Task Force (Ochoa)

1. The Task Force has met to discuss the charge, we put a call out to ICOLC and have begun collecting a list of potential consultants.

2. Ochoa asked for feedback on what is the best approach, to narrow down to a few options or request RFPs?

3. Hoang added that if the Task Force identifies multiple potential consultants, we can vet them via RFP. The last one we did, there wasn't an RFP but the one before that had one.

B. Treasurer's Report (Pavlovsky)

1. Reports are in the folder. The two questions from last month have been cleared up – everything looks great.

C. Edge and VALE Update (Hoang/Kaplan)

1. Hoang met w/ Sam Conn yesterday about future planning, did not discuss MOU.

2. Kaplan – no MOU update right now, EdgeCon is coming up at Kean next week.

D. Purchasing & Licensing Report (Keller/Hilliker)

1. Springer Nature added some language about Artificial Intelligence – referred to MC meeting update.

E. Planning & Assessment Report (Fontoura/Rosinski-Kauz)

1. Fontoura shared that the group hasn't formally met, will be beefing up membership and reviewing conference feedback survey in the immediate future and following up on the Strategic Planning process.

F. Outreach Report (Hauge/Hassan)

1. Website revision is ongoing, and many updates have been made. More to come.

G. Program Manager's Report (Cole)

       1. Cole provided highlights from the PM report that is saved in the meeting folder.

  H. Professional Development Task Force (Askew/Mizzy)

       1. Askew is testing/piloting pulling together a curriculum for training - this can give us a head start as something to mold and shape for VALE.

  I. OER Publishing Project (Hassan/Askew)

       1. Presented an idea for a peer-review OER publishing project with focus on open access scholarship. Rutgers has an open access policy on the books, there is an expectation that faculty will contribute to the open access repository.

       2. Our faculty are producing knowledge that we then have to buy back – something like this is an opportunity to take back the IP that exists on our campuses. This idea can connect to the PD Task Force – an exchange program to shadow a dean or director for a period.

       3. Hoang mentioned OpenNJ – has this come up as a possible tool or partnership for this idea? Let's vet the current tool to see if that can fit the need.

       4. Hilliker in chat - The HELIOS group that I am part of has published a guide on research infrastructure development and purchasing https://www.heliosopen.org/ourwork

       5. Hilliker - OpenNJ has been mainly for OER not research, there is also a publishing tool, not peer review in the sense that a journal would be reviewed but reviewed for content/openness.

       6. Askew in chat - We moved to Esploro for our open access repository for faculty publications.

       7. Bingham added that the question could be on the ICLOC discussion list to see if any other consortia have a repository.

       8. Askew in chat - https://www.researchwithnj.com/

       9. Is there enough interest to do anything with this idea? It will take many of us to make this happen. Is there interest? Is there capacity? How will we ascertain that?

      10. Askew asked what's next. Can VALE be a partner in this project? Hilliker asked if there should be a Task Force created – if yes, it needs a clear charge.

      11. Mizzy noted that the technology is only one part of achieving what you want to achieve, the uptake/adoption by faculty has a lot to do with the success of something like this. We can build the platform, but will the faculty deposit their scholarship there?

      12. This conversation will move to email. Hoang and Askew will work to prepare a Task Force proposal and continue the conversation in the December meeting.

VI. 5 Minute Break (2:25 pm – 2:30 pm)

VII. Standing Updates (15 mins)

  A. LibraryLinkNJ (Bingham)

       1. Same as MC – there is a report in the Folder.

       2. Bingham and Cole have been meeting monthly. Cole is assisting with the EDI initiative. Will investigate the ICOLC Professional Development Alliance.

       3. Ralph has an RFQ for a strat planning consultant.

4. Hoang added that VALE is co-sponsoring LLNJ's Tech Summit. This program is for all library types, VALE sponsoring encourages academic librarians to attend and connect/collab with k-12 and public colleagues.

B. NJLA (Bonfield)

1. Not in attendance.

C. NJ State Library (Baratta)

1. State Librarian's Update is in the meeting folder. Highlights include:

   a) IMLS grant awarded for reimagining information literacy standards

   b) Mizzy added that critical information literacy is now part of gen ed at MSU, is critical info lit included in this initiative? Baratta provided contact information in the chat box for person running this initiative: Sharon Rawlins, srawlins@njstatelib.org

   c) Bingham added that all of this is dependent on the state creating the standards that the curriculum comes out of.

2. Social Work Informed Library Services in New Jersey (SWILIBS-NJ)

   a) The initial cohort of social work practicum students from Rutgers University- New Brunswick, began their internship in early September. Twelve BASW and MSW students hosted by a pilot group of nine libraries went through the onboarding and training sessions that helped orient social work students to the library environment and ensured they understood their roles providing social work services in a library context. Links are in the report to the handbook and curriculum created.

3. Palace Project

   a) Provides access to eBooks and digital audiobooks for every New Jersey resident who chooses to sign up. More information and links in the shared report.

VIII. Adjournment and Future Topics (Hoang)

A. Hoang adjourned the meeting at 2:41 pm.

B. Upcoming meetings

1. Next EC Meeting: December 14, 2023, 1 pm - 3 pm via Zoom

2. Special FY25 Budget Meeting: January 25, 2024, 1 pm - 3 pm via Zoom