

INCOL Meeting

March 10, 2000

10:00am-12:00pm

ICNE

Attendees: Bob Pringle, Tom Carter, Nancy Baker, Janet Lyon, Julie Meier, Pat Kelley, Ann Johnston, Janice Bradley, Mary Wood, Mary Ann Goodwin, Hans Bynagle, Mike Wirt, Mike Pollastro

Minutes accepted from Dec. 3, 1999 meeting

Committee/Officer Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Hans Bynagle presented the current budget for the year. Expenditures highlighted included the planned expenditures for the CE workshop in April and the contribution made in Bob Burr's honor to the Rare Book Room at Gonzaga University.

The Courier bill was also discussed. Payment is currently behind because the Whitworth Business Office has not yet issued a check for the latest bill. A 15% increase in the bill came due in March 2000. An additional courier stop at CALS has been added to the route. In addition, Couer d' Alene Public Library will begin courier service in the near future. Each of these sites will pay their own fees. The remaining libraries with this service will continue to share the costs until the next fiscal year's bill is received. At that time all libraries will share costs with the exception of Couer d' Alene which will continue to pay separately.

CE Committee: Mary Wood reported on the Spring Workshop that is planned for April 2000. The topic will be "The Web at your Fingertips: an Introduction to Metadata" and it will be held on April 27, 2000 at Gonzaga University.

The evaluations for the Fall 1999 conference were shared with the group. They were generally positive.

Mary asked the group for ideas for workshops to be organized by the CE Committee. Ideas given included Time Management, Diversity with Jim Aller, How to put together formal and/or informal library surveys, Dealing with a variety of difficult patron behaviors, Visionaries in the field of librarianship, and Assessment issues (not related to surveys)

The group decided to clarify fees for attending CE activities. A final decision was made that anyone working at an INCOL agency will pay INCOL fees for INCOL sponsored workshops. Workshops that may be broadly advertised may be handled differently on a case-by-case basis.

Continuation of INCOL ILL interest group discussion: Julie Meier reported on the ILL Survey. The conclusion was that the informal group currently meets needs. However, it was recommended that the ILL group take official minutes of their meetings and distribute them to all libraries in the region. All libraries in the region, INCOL or otherwise, should know how to connect with this group. Bob Pringle was to ask Gail Fielding to ensure that the INCOL chair receive meeting notification so that all INCOL directors know when the ILL group is meeting and can encourage their staff to attend.

Health on the Internet Workshop: Bob Pringle reported workshop. He requested that the INCOL general budget pay for the refreshments served at the workshop. The request was approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Member Needs Assessment: (Pat Kelley) no report

Automation Interest Group: (Bob Pringle) The following steps were decided on before either supporting or eliminating the idea at this time:

1. Determine who would be an appropriate target group for this interest group.
2. Send out a survey to this group in order to determine if any interest exists for such a group.
3. Have surveys returned to each library director with directors forwarding responses to Bob Pringle.

INCOL Web Page (Hans Bynagle)

Costs for a domain name are \$35-\$50/year with a \$200 set-up fee. Purpose of a home page would be to post business documents, post CE workshop announcements, and maintain the membership list. No one committed to being responsible for the page upkeep; Nancy Baker indicated that she would ask her library staff if anyone would be interested in handling this project for INCOL as a professional growth opportunity. Pat Kelley indicated that EWU would like to be included in any task force related to this project as well.

Hans Bynagle and Mike Wirt will supply the official INCOL documents needed for the home page. Bob Pringle will coordinate activities.

Development and ongoing costs for the INCOL homepage project will be paid from INCOL's General Fund. Costs may be offset once the page is up as expenses for printing membership directories and other documents may be reduced.

Recommendation was made and approved to seek a .org domain.

Policy/Procedures Notebook: (Hans Bynagle) Work is proceeding on this project.

NEW BUSINESS

Chair rotation: With Arturo's departure from Gonzaga Law, the chair position has been rotated forward to the next library. Spokane Falls will provide the chair for 2000 – 2001, Pend Oreille will provide the secretary.

May Retreat: Bob will ask Mike Eisenberg, Director, School of Library and Information Science, University of Washington to present the program which is to be held at the Clark House in Hayden Lake, Idaho. If Dr. Eisenberg is not available, the topic may be to discuss the future of INCOL.

Library Reports

Washington State University

Several months ago, Colorado State University Libraries approached WSU and three other research libraries to assist them in an intensive one-year project to replace pages in books and journals that were severely damaged in their 1997 flood. CSU is paying for special staffing, all equipment, telecommunication charges, furniture, and even some overhead to cover wear and tear on the collection. WSU is providing space in the Libraries and some oversight support. The other participating schools are Arizona State University, the University of Arizona, and University of Massachusetts. All four institutions were approached because of the compatibility of our collections to CSU's and the resource sharing relationships we have established over the years with CSU. Tom Delaney from CSU visited WSU this week to help get our project off the ground. During his visit, he did a pictorial presentation for interested staff on the CSU flood and its impact on the libraries. This helped our staff appreciate the full scope of this project and its urgency.

EWU and WSU will soon initiate a direct request service for our users through our shared Innovative catalog. Students, faculty, and staff at our respective institutions will be able to place a request for a book from each other's libraries directing through the catalog without using ILL service. This will be a good introduction to direct borrowing that will be implemented by the 6 baccalaureate granting, WA state supported schools this summer through our joint catalog. This is part of our Cooperative Library Project (CLP). The joint catalog, called Cascade, will use Innovative's InnReach software for this direct request feature, like ORBIS and OhioLink.

WSU just signed on to the BCR contract for NetLibrary. Although this is now available in the Libraries, we are in the process of getting everyone trained. Through this deal, we have access to 2200 recently published electronic books along with 3500 public domain ebooks of the 14,000 books available from NetLibrary.

WSU Libraries have been approached by the Big12Plus consortium about possible membership. This consortium consists of the Libraries in the Big 12 athletic conference, plus some additional research libraries in neighboring states. For some time, many of us in the Pac10 conference have been trying to get organized into a research library consortium. However, the California libraries were never too interested. The Big12Plus has approached Arizona, Arizona State, Oregon, Oregon State, Washington, Washington State, and USC about joining. WSU will have the required visit from the Executive Director of the Big12Plus and several board members in May or June. If we decide to proceed, 2/3 of the consortium members will then have to vote to extend WSU membership.

WSU is also part of an LSTA grant, along with Gonzaga, UW, Ellensburg PL, Port Townsend PL, and an eastside historical society, on a pilot project to digitize images (photographs, documents, etc) and create metadata using CONTENT software developed by the University of Washington. The idea behind the project is to develop guidelines etc. that will help libraries throughout the state create and provide access to digital collections.

The next President of WSU has been named - V. Lane Rawlins, President of the U of Memphis who was a faculty member and administrator at WSU earlier in his career. Reaction from faculty who knew him has been consistently positive. There are many high level administrative positions currently open at WSU. With the naming of the President, we hope searches can be begin this summer for many of the set positions.

Finally, we are all watching the budget negotiations in Olympia with great interest. Some of the versions from the various legislative bodies have not been very encouraging for WSU. Since the libraries is already suffering from the minimum wage increase (at a cost of \$120,000 more for the current biennium alone), and our usual problem with the increased cost of collections, we have begun discussing some "what if" reduction scenarios in the Libraries.

Nancy Baker

Spokane County Library District

- We're currently developing a 2001-2003 strategic plan that sets priorities and allows us to accommodate the property tax funding impacts of a stagnant local economy and Initiative 695. The target date for Board of Trustees adoption of the plan is their June 13 regular meeting.
- The new Moran Prairie branch will open June 3 in the Cedar Canyon Village Shopping Center at 57th and Regal. Besides entirely new furniture, shelving, and equipment, the materials collection will be entirely new.
- The District's Web site is being expanded with the ultimate goal of providing a "Web branch." Some new content areas have been added (e.g. "What do I read next" and a Spokane materials bibliography) and others will be coming in the future.

Michael Wirt, Director

ICNE Library

Noted upcoming use of Ariel and a digital microfilm scanner.

The library has a "new look", the result of new carpeting last summer and new chairs this winter. Services remain student-intensive, with lots of reference work and help on many topics.

Bob Pringle, Head Librarian

Neill Public Library in Pullman:

1. 1695 caused a freeze on hiring vacated permanent positions in the City of Pullman, including the full-time library systems administrator and two half-time library technician positions in the library. Beginning March 1, the library reduced open hours by 5 from 57 to 52 as a result of staffing deficiencies and the library board's desire to offer "full service", including a professional or a paraprofessional at the Information Desk, during all open hours. New library hours are M 10-6, Tu-W 10-8, Th-F 10-6, Sa-Su 1-5. Reduced hours were M 6-8 and Sa 10-1. There has also been some reduction in outreach youth services (saying no to a number of requests for special programs).
2. More severe cuts are forecast for City of Pullman departments in the next calendar year unless there is relief from the excision of the Motor Vehicle Excise Tax, so all city departments have become involved in a large investigation of the City Council into "services and priorities". The library was well-represented in its turn by library staff and the library board, and council members have voiced their recognition of the importance of the library in the future of Pullman city government, so it is not expected that the library will be expected to shoulder a major share of the forecast cuts.
3. Whitman County Library and Neill Public Library have agreed in essence to seek a shared automated library system and to share systems personnel. Anyone want to join with us or to incorporate us into their system?
4. The Health Information on the Internet workshop hosted by Neill Public in Pullman at the WSU Library was well-attended and well-received. There were 22 participants in the hands-on workshop conducted on Friday, Feb. 25, representing many libraries from around the area, and a couple health services professionals were also included.
5. The Learning About Our Heritage through the Folk Arts series has also been well-received in its presentations at the Pullman library. A recent concert in the series sponsored by the Washington Commission for the Humanities, a performance by the Juan Barco trio presenting Latin American folk music, drew more than 70 people to the library.

Mike Pollastro, Director

Pend Oreille County Library

The Town of Lone received their CDBG grant for a community/library center. By December 2000 there will be a new library in the Town of Lone.

A follow-up regarding the Republican Party investigation into the Library's internet. Janet spent many hours talking with the Republican Chair. The Republican Chair spent many hours talking to other people in the community, including school superintendents, Chamber of Commerce, commissioners. Everyone felt that the library was doing all they could and had taken the steps to provide a filtered computer terminal in two of their libraries and knew that the other two libraries in the county would have an additional public use computer that was filtered by July 2000.

*Janet Lyon
Pend Oreille County Library*

EWU report

- 1) Eastern has appointed a new Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost. He is Peter Duall, coming to us from CalPoly Pomona, and will join us April 3.
- 2) The EWU Libraries received an \$8000 grant from Starbuck's to purchase books for our children's collection, which is one component of our K-12 curriculum collection. The grant was obtained through their literacy program and supports a joint program between Starbucks, the Libraries, the EWU Education Department, and employees in Food Services--all working as volunteers-- to provide story hours for the daycare center that opened on the EWU campus in January.
- 3) The Libraries have been experimenting with blocking software that can be used to block by function. It can also be used to block specific sites, but that is not how we have used it. The product is called WinProxy. There is a good discussion of the product and the problem on Dan Lester's web site: www.84.com/blocking.htm He includes a link to the WinProxy site. The URL for the site is <http://www.winproxy.com> We tried the 30 day free trial. Debate among librarians over the continued use revolves around the use of filtering software of any sort. Some who initially rejected continued use of WinProxy have changed their minds after coming to grips with the difference between filtering content (intellectual inquiry) and function (email, chat, etc.) One or two continue to object on the grounds that those functions have legitimate purposes. So the issue to them is appropriate use of library computers.

*Patricia Kelley
Dean of Information Resources
Eastern Washington University*

Couer d'Alene Public Library

Homework Help Hub Backpack Kits

Alicia Clark is responsible for this wonderful new program which is made possible by the Institute of Museum and Library Services LSTA Grant Funds. Matching funds were generously provided by The Coeur d'Alene Public Library Foundation, Target and the Friends of the Coeur d'Alene Library.

The backpack kits have been a wonderful addition to the youth department and have been very well received by parents, teachers AND students. The kits are put together with a selection of various materials for all grade levels and include books, audio/videos, bibliographies, Internet links, and various other homework aids.

There are currently forty thematic backpack kits that check out for a 2-week time period. Themes covered include everything from Amazing Animals to Wonders of Volcanoes.

*Suzanne Podrabsky
Coeur d'Alene Public Library*