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WRLC Update

Summary of the WRLC Directors Meeting Catholic University of America June 21, 2004

by **Lizanne Payne**
WRLC

This is a summary of the WRLC Library Directors meeting on Thursday June 17, 2004 at The Catholic University of America.

Attendees: Pat Wand (American), Adele Chwalek (Catholic), Jack Siggins (George Washington), Artemis Kirk (Georgetown), Zary Mostashari (Marymount), Al Casciero (UDC), Lizanne Payne (WRLC).

Guests: Ruth Kifer (George Mason)
Absent: Sarah Hamrick (Gallaudet), John Zenelis (George Mason), Don Gourley (WRLC), Bruce Hulse (WRLC).

WRLC Status Report:

Institutional Repository

WRLC had arranged for a downlink of the ARL Institutional Repository Webcast to be shown at The George Washington University on Friday, June 11. The original showing had to be

postponed due to the activities surrounding the funeral of former president Ronald Reagan. ARL has confirmed that the webcast can be rescheduled. WRLC will arrange a new date for later in the summer.

Bruce Hulse has met with staff from GW and AU libraries to identify pilot projects. A new release of the DSpace software is expected in July, but pilot projects may begin on the current test system if necessary.

Campus Newspaper Digitization Project

Suzanne Picken will be coordinating this project and will be in contact with OCLC and interested member libraries to develop individual price quotes for the OCLC live-hosted option.

Courier Service

The courier service has been restored to a single loop for the summer when the volume of CLS lending is much lower. It is expected that the service will be converted back to two loops for the fall semester. A review of this spring's experience with two loops will take place to see if different routes or other changes might be necessary.

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Washington College of Law

American University's Washington College of Law Library has repeatedly expressed interest in participating more fully in WRLC services. Bruce Hulse and David Bietila met with WCL staff to discuss possible services to WCL and greater WCL participation in consortial arrangements. WCL has an immediate interest in participating in the potential WRLC Illiad implementation. WCL is also interested in direct participation in reciprocal borrowing (no time frame has been identified) and in proxy server services from WRLC IT staff.

One technical issue has been identified as a priority: the need to distinguish WCL students and faculty from other AU students and faculty in the Voyager database. Currently they are described only as "au grad" or "au faculty". WCL will investigate possible solutions with the AU registrar's office.

Medical Libraries' Shared Last Copy Agreement

GW's Himmelfarb Medical Library and GT's Dahlgren Medical Library have signed a memorandum of understanding to eliminate duplication in their titles sent to storage. Bruce Hulse will be meeting with staff from the medical libraries in early July to identify the practical implications of such a policy and steps required to implement it.

CLS Enhancements

Lizanne noted that, at the previous meeting, the Library Directors had agreed in principle to implement the requested CLS enhancements including the request randomization feature, but

had further agreed to reaffirm or revisit the decision at this current meeting. She also distributed a new summarized version of the individual CLS performance statistics by library.

Artemis Kirk raised some concerns about possible negative service impacts due to the request randomization feature, especially when coupled with the change to two delivery routes. She noted that a randomized request could go to a lending library which was on the other route, adding a day to the delivery time. She suggested that, rather than introducing new variables which might degrade customer service, perhaps it might be better to compensate American University in some way for the additional service they provide. [Author's Note: Whether the delivery service consists of one loop or two, all items are picked up on one day and delivered the next day EXCEPT for those cases where the borrowing library happens to be downstream on the delivery route from the lending library.]

Again there was a lengthy discussion about proceeding with the request randomization feature, but eventually it was decided to proceed with that change when available in July, and to review the effects of the change no later than October. The Library Directors asked that WRLC produce, if possible, a report measuring the average time from loan request to "item available for pickup at the borrowing library", which would include the delivery route time and would be a better service measure than the time the item was pulled. Lizanne agreed to investigate whether such a report could be produced.

Possible funding models for storage expansion

Lizanne summarized the background leading up to development of these funding models. The WRLC Board of Directors had requested a meeting of University Administrators to discuss strategic issues facing WRLC including storage expansion. A first meeting was held in April, with a group composed of some chief academic officers, one CFO, and some university and library IT staff. That group recommended a joint meeting of CAOs, CFOs, and Library Directors, which took place on June 2. The major action item resulting from that meeting was for WRLC to develop some possible funding models for expanding the storage facility. The funding models and possible implications for governance will be discussed at a meeting in September, yet to be scheduled.

Lizanne had distributed a spreadsheet detailing three possible funding models, and she handed out a new narrative summary of those models for discussion. She emphasized that these were only three out of an infinite number of possible options, and were intended to stimulate discussion. The three models described were:

- **Option 1:** Continue the current member fee formula, where members share storage expenses equally, including costs of expansion.
- **Option 2:** Members pay for actual usage plus a share of the remaining space, with usage based on number of volumes and boxes actually stored, plus a proportional share of the remaining available space, i.e. for the right to store materials in the future.
- **Option 3:** Members pay for original facility actual usage as described above, plus for a predefined permanent allocation of shelves. Some or all members pay for a predefined number of shelves reserved for their use in the new facility.

There was a detailed discussion of the goals and motivations of some of the university administrators, and of the three funding models and their relative advantages and disadvantages. The Library Directors recommended that Lizanne include the following modifications in the next draft:

- **Option 4:** A subset of members pay for and own the expansion. These members (whether three or four, or even one member university) would contract with WRLC to run it, lease space to other members or non-members, and receive all net revenues.
- Emphasize the difference between governance, ownership of assets, and funding models.
- Describe the funding models of other shared storage facilities.

Lizanne will prepare a subsequent draft in July for review by e-mail, as there are no meetings scheduled in July or August.

GLS HUMAN RESOURCES **UPDATE**

Vacancy Listing

Please see **Attachment A** for the Gelman Library System's Vacancy Listing.

GLS Job Vacancy Listing: Updated June 29, 2004

Req #	Position Title	Grade FT - PT	Incumbent	Vacancy Date	Posting Date	Department/Supervisor	Status
12650	Library Specialist II	11 - PT	Randi Robinson	05/18/02	04/23/04	CMS J. Pec	Position posted on 04/23/04. Applications/resumes forwarded to hiring supervisor. No Activity
12682	GLS, Human Resources Assistant	11 - PT	Vacant	05/07/04	05/07/04	HR S. Carpenter	Position posted on 05/07/04. Applications/resumes forwarded to hiring supervisor. No activity.
12795	Library Manager II	14	Aaron Beaver	08/01/04	06/11/04	HR C. Zeljak	Position Posted on 6/11/04

Congratulations to the following GLS New Hires

Req #	Position Title	Grade FT - PT	Incumbent	Vacancy Date	Posting Date	Department/Status
12526	Library Specialist II	9	Vacant	03/05/04	03/04/04	Congratulations to Michelle Stewart , who accepted the position of Library Specialist II, beginning on June 14, 2004. Congrats, Michelle!!!