

Draft, pending approval at next meeting

**SENYLRC Electronic Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
29 March 2006**

Attendees: John Barrie, Josh Cohen, Judy Diffenderfer, Jon Grennan, Tessa Killian, Kari Mack, Colleen Lougen, John Shaloiko, Amy Schuler, Terry Sparks, Mary Ann Van Benschoten.

At the beginning of the meeting, John Shaloiko informed committee members that the New York State Legislature has agreed to include a nearly \$20 million dollar increase in library aid in the budget.

Items discussed

Usage statistics, subsidized resources

Tessa presented resource usage statistics for 2005-2006, including price per search by database.

- FirstSearch statistics. Committee members discussed these statistics and usage trends, primarily in respect to the high-use databases WorldCat and Wilson Full Text.
- Gale Virtual Reference Library (GVRL) and NOVEL statistics. Currency and availability of GVRL titles, as well as access policies and overall usability of GVRL were discussed by members.
- ACLS History E-book. Big variance in usage amongst libraries.
- ABC-CLIO. There is a high cost per search for this database. Is it worth it?
- John Shaloiko summarized members' thoughts, saying FirstSearch seems to be the most desirable/high use resource and gets the "most bang for the buck."

RBDB subsidy, 2006-2007

- Committee considered projected 2006-2007 prices of current electronic resource offerings and discussed whether or not to continue subsidizing these. John Barrie reminded members that TRAC recommends dropping ABC-CLIO, which will probably happen.
- John Shaloiko and Tessa informed members of known price increases for ACLS, as well as the projected price increase and change in access policy for FirstSearch (portals vs. unlimited access). Members discussed the ramifications for SENYRLC. Members also discussed the uncertain fate of Wilson FT as part of FirstSearch.
- Member library cost shares were discussed, including the possibility of where and how to apply monies "saved" if ABC-CLIO is dropped.
- The committee considered increasing the cost share for ACLS.
- The committee agreed that the current share/access model for GVRL is better left unchanged since it is tied in with NOVEL, which is free to NYS libraries.

- Tessa and John Shaloiko presented the WALDO offering ParaText to committee members, who discussed its pricing and effects on reference collections and reference librarian functions. Other new resources discussed were NoodleTools and Alexander Street Press offerings. Kari Mack further suggested the possibility of subsidizing one specific journal or periodical that would have broad appeal – some discussion of possible titles followed (*New York Times*, high-impact medical journals, *Nature*, others).
- Committee members briefly discussed the overall spirit or true purpose of the RBDB subsidy – whether it is intended to introduce new resources periodically, or provide continued support to libraries for the same resources. John Shaloiko told committee members that originally the purpose of the subsidy was to nudge libraries to try out new resources, without necessarily providing long-term support for them.
- John Shaloiko and Tessa briefly informed members of possible changes in SENYLRC committees and programs, as well as the effects on electronic resource availability through SENYLRC.
- The committee members further discussed Alexander Street Press offerings, as well as ParaText and NoodleTools. Tessa will research these further and members will revisit these when more information is available.

Actions

- John Barrie moved to continue subsidizing FirstSearch, ACLS and GVRL, to drop ABC-CLIO and to apply remaining subsidy monies toward a different database to be determined at a later date. This motion passed unanimously.
- John Barrie moved to set a maximum subsidy amount of \$46,000 for all electronic resources. This motion passed unanimously. The committee further agreed that this would be discussed further if electronic resource costs change dramatically.
- Jon Grennan moved to explore the subsidization of an additional electronic resource if a balance remains from the \$46,000 maximum. This motion passed unanimously.

Recorded by: Amy Schuler
30 March 2006.

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