

URSUS Directors Council
September 16, 2011, Meeting Notes

Present: Tom Abbott, Bryce Cundick (for Frank Roberts), James Jackson Sanborn, Angelynn King, Linda Lord, Barbara McDade, David Nutty, Joyce Rumery, JoAnne Wallingford

Review of minutes from August Retreat

The minutes from the retreat were reviewed and one correction was requested.

The question was raised about the use of the minutes, where they are posted, and if they could be promoted to help raise awareness of our work. They are posted on the Maine InfoNet page, but are there other places to share and promote the work we do within the system? We did not answer this question.

Strategic Priorities and To Do Items

The strategic priorities and to do items that we developed at the Retreat were reviewed and refined. These discussions will continue in future meetings and as the individuals responsible for the items report back to the group.

➤ Database committee

The Database Committee that was responsible for the selection of databases purchased from the UMS fund has been reworked to include broader responsibilities and representation. We want the committee to deal with more collection issues and to include all of the URSUS libraries. The new charge for the committee is:

The Shared Digital Collection Committee will be advisory to the library directors for resources that should be purchased collaboratively, including ebooks and other resources. Collaborative purchases may be for subsets of the full URSUS group. The group will also scan to determine the subjects that are important to all campuses. They will propose changes in the databases purchased from the UMS fund based on that scan. Staff from Bangor Public Library and the Maine State Library will be part of the committee.

Since the only fund this group has worked with is the UMS database fund, we will have to determine a way to support the acquisitions of other resources.

➤ Seven libraries document

The document update and rewrite will be lead by David. Tom and Barbara are also on the committee. The updated version will be brought to the directors for review.

➤ Strategic Investment Fund

The priorities will come out in October and proposals will be due in January with decisions announced later in the spring. We should be hearing more next month and at that point we need to determine if we have something that will fit a priority. Joyce will monitor this and bring information back to the group.

➤ Tutorials

We need to look at the common tutorials and videos and reenergize this effort. This means getting the tutorial group together again for a review of what exists and what is needed. Those interested in joining the group are Ben Treat, Bill Grubb, and Ginny Gibson. Sofia Biden has stepped down from the chair position, so we will need to have another leader of the group.

➤ Cooperative cataloging and reclamation

We want to keep pursuing a way to do cooperative cataloging. The opportunity may be greater in the public library sector and they may be better suited to shared cataloging. The Cataloging Standards Committee had expressed the concern that the turnaround time may be too long. It was noted that the item can go directly to the owning library and the cataloging could be done elsewhere. The Standards Committee has worked on an inventory of talent.

Cooperative cataloging intersects with the IMLS grant and reclamation. The reclamation will be done for the partner libraries of the Maine Shared Collections Strategy grant. The question is if the rest of the URSUS libraries want to participate in the reclamation so that all of the URSUS group would be set forward. If not all are taking part some of the bibliographic records will be changed anyway. Angelynn is moving ahead with an reclamation for Machias and that work may precede the grant work. Neither Frank nor JoAnne wants to participate. Fort Kent is not in OCLC. So at this point all except Farmington, Machias, and Fort Kent will be doing the reclamation. Portland Public Library has gone through the process and can help inform us.

The OCLC collection analysis tool would be the next step, so using the URSUS collection as a whole would work best. This analysis would give us an understanding of the totality of URSUS. This would give us reports of the unique collections. The Law library will be a little out of the scope with the rest of the collection. If Special Collections are in OCLC they will be counted, but the group has not gone this far in the decision making. The scope of the analysis for the grant is a subset, for example videos are out of the grant.

➤ Institutional repository

There are two institutional repository projects now ongoing, the Digital Commons at UM and DSpace at UMPI. JoAnne gave a demo of the DSpace installation she is working on. The Digital Commons installation is being set up and the KickStart program is well underway. The institutional repositories are prototypes and modeling examples for the rest of URSUS. The access to an IR would solve some problems of the unique collections in the state including the Kora collection at UMA. Barbara and Linda had a discussion about the Digital Commons with the sales representative. Since this would be a new venture for the company there needs to be further discussion about the pricing structure.

➤ Best Practices

We will keep the Best Practices documents active and will invite a representative from each group to a meeting. We will invite a representative from one Best Practice document per meeting, Reference, Cataloging, Special Collections, and Circulation/Interlibrary Loan. The discussion with each representative will be on their accomplishments and future directions. We will invite the Reference representative to meet with us first at the December meeting. Laurie MacWhinnie is the current chair of the Reference Committee and will be contacted about the meeting. Prior to the December meeting we will review the documents they provided.

➤ Admission, retention, and graduation

We need to demonstrate our impact on admissions, retention, and graduation to administration, in particular to the UMS Office. We need to provide the research to show the impact that the libraries have on these aspects. It appears that we need a marketing strategy or public relations plan to promote what we do and how we collaborate. This is core, we need to demonstrate our value in student success. Tom is working on an aspect of this and will share that work with us. The following links were mentioned:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/issues/value/futures.cfm>

<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/standards/standardslibraries.cfm>

➤ Shared Resources and Services

We need to get a better sense of the resources and services we share. We have done this work ad hoc with too many different deals. We do not want to squelch creativity, but we should have a philosophy, method, and rationale for the resources and services we purchase. We will spend time on this at the next meeting to try to get to more

transparency with this activity. This is not meant to necessarily change what has been done, but to put it on the table. We still need a list of what is paid through which libraries, what amount, and when due. We also need an updated shared resources and services spreadsheet.

E-Reserves

ARES has been proposed as a replacement for Docutek e-reserves. The cost should be about the same, but would give us more functionality. A presentation from Rich Stryker of Atlas Systems is planned for the October meeting. <http://www.atlas-sys.com/products/ares/>

Delivery service update

The contract for the URSUS delivery service is part of the Maine State Library contract as is the Bowdoin, Bates, and Colby contract. The current contract with Freedom Express ends on June 30, 2012. A new RFP will go out early in 2012. At that point we can make changes including to the on call sites. There was a change in one of the delivery locations for a site move from Livermore Falls to Jay, at this point the company does not go to Jay. The public libraries that were initially dropped from the company's route have been reinstated from federal funding via the Maine State Library.

ILLiad

There have been problems with the upgrades to ILLiad. The server is at Fogler and both Machias and Presque Isle are on the account with Fogler, this has caused some issues too. The ILLiad user interface is appreciated by users, it is very customer oriented. UM staff will check on the pricing for hosting ILLiad at OCLC. This would eliminate some of the problems experienced.

LibraryThing and LibraryAnywhere

LibraryAnywhere is the hosted mobile interface for small screens from LibraryThing. The cost for this application is based on the number of buildings and the anticipated annual cost would be approximately \$5,525, with a 2% to 3% increase each year. We also need a price for LibraryThing.

Other topics

Should we invite Jim Breece to meet with us soon? We need to bring up the database funding, maybe after the new database committee has had a chance to meet. We definitely want to have the revised "seven libraries" completed before we meet.

Kelley Wiltbank requested a list of what we buy in case he gets a call about a license and has to refer it on. Joyce responded to this request, no one else has had a call about it at this point.

Content Café is up for renewal and Barbara will continue to provide it for URSUS. Barbara noted that there has been less content in the café recently.

Bangor Book Festival will be September 30, 2011

UMA will host a Public Policy Forum in the near future, Tom will let us know about it.

Upcoming meetings

The issue of scheduling meetings so that as many of the interested parties can attend as possible was raised. Linda mentioned the calendar on the MSL page which can help with scheduling as long as the meetings are posted on that calendar. The address for the calendar is <http://evanced.info/maine/evanced/eventcalendar.asp> and the person who posts the meetings is Cheryl Ramsay at the MSL, cheryl.ramsay@maine.gov.

The next Maine InfoNet Summit will be the Directors Summit on November 18. The location has not yet been set and the agenda is still being developed. At this point we are hoping to have Jane Burke and Andrew Pace as speakers.

URSUS meetings scheduled, at Bangor Public Library:

October 21

December 16

For the URSUS meetings from January through May we will do a poll for other Friday dates.