

URSUS Directors Council
August 2011 Retreat
University of Maine
Meeting Notes

Present: Tom Abbott, James Jackson Sanborn, Leslie Kelly, Angelynn King, Linda Lord, Barbara McDade, David Nutty, Frank Roberts, Joyce Rumery, JoAnne Wallingford

We began the meeting with a discussion of the directions we want to take over the next year. The afternoon session was a regular meeting. As a wrap-up we gathered the items we wanted as strategic priorities for the coming year.

We also raised some questions and have yet to assign some of the priorities.

Directions/Brainstorming

- We need to show everyone in the state how much we cooperate. Others should follow our example. With the seven campus environment – we do this – but we do not have traction.
- LD 1033 – the van delivery money. It was recommended by the Education Committee and the House and Senate sent it forward to Appropriations. Appropriations found \$100,000 for the bill. The governor did not sign the bill. The positive aspect from this is that the legislature understands.
- As long as we do well we will not get resources. We are leaders, but cannot remain as leaders without support.
- We need to demonstrate our impact on retention and graduation to administration, in particular to the UMS Office. We also need to work with admissions. We need to provide the research to those units and to the administration to help show the impact.
- We need to tie the library into what the university is doing and where it is going. We also need to work with the faculty at the time of course creation – for instructional design.
- Strategic Investment Fund. Maybe we need to prototype something with the faculty for a new Strategic Investment Fund. We have had these fail in the past, even though they were collaborative. In some cases it was because there was a need for ongoing financial support. We need to check on the next SIF. What do we want to request the money for – a new ILS? We need to determine a direction if we are to propose an SIF.

- Maybe we have to find a way to have an educational session with Rebecca Wyke. Also tie in the conversation with others and have other advocates.
- We need to revive the tutorials committee and look at UMS wide video tutorials and maybe link to other tutorials. Also – what should happen to Mariner?
- The portal access means we will not need the barcode and the users will not have to input the barcode to get to the databases. But we need to be visible on the portal pages. If there needs to be a change of IDs – need to fund this, maybe through an SIF?
- The Seven libraries document is our defining document, but it needs to be rewritten to encompass all of the URSUS libraries. We should keep this document current so that we can use it whenever needed. Also, each year we should have a focus for the year.
- The new database committee charge will ask the committee to review the list. Are these the resources we need based on the important subject areas for all of the campuses. What is the bare minimum that libraries need to offer? The committee should also look at e-resources and e-books wish list. BPL and MSL will be part of the process; members of their staffs will attend the meetings. It should be shared collection development in all of its forms. Then if all willing to make some kind of commitment we can have a fund to supplement the current amount.
- Shared payments are a problem to keep up with, there is a request for a list of what each library has to pay and when it is due. This list should be sent out each year ahead of time for budget planning. Maybe in July a pretend invoice for everything – what is it and how much for the coming year.
- The Maine InfoNet Strategic Priorities were shared with the group.

Afternoon session

- Greg Curtis presented the Maine State Government Documents plan.
- Valerie Glenn shared the plan and progress for the IMLS grant. The MSCS Directors will meet on August 24.
- Angelynn reported that she will be doing an OCLC reclamation and is working with James on this process. A reclamation will be part of the IMLS grant for the partner libraries, so it will be interesting and helpful to have an example from Machias.

- Tom reported on the RefWorks contract. The first year the cost is supported by OCLS, UMA, USM, and UM. The contract is for three years with no increase during that time.
- Tom reported on the OCLS open position. It will be integrated with Katz library services. The title will be Head of OCLS and the position will be responsible for the integration process as well as reengineering off campus library services to make sure they are current with student needs. The four Katz staff will be liaisons to the disciplines. It will be a national search and the position will include copyright clearance for film and video. Currently the Katz librarians are visiting the centers until the position is filled.
- Linda reported on the Broadband Technology Opportunity Program (BTOP). There is a description of the work and the plan on the web page at MSL, <http://www.maine.gov/mssl/commons/index.shtml>.
- The storage meeting that took place in Amherst was about a facility for New England. The plan is for a new building at Amherst College, where the current Bunker is located. There are no details or other information at this point. This was an exploratory meeting to determine if there was interest. The question of why just New England was raised.
- We have an early implementer proposal from Innovative Interfaces for their new Sierra product. This proposal comes with a discount, but not much information about the system. We decided that this was not a step we wanted to make at this time.
- The URSUS server is more than five years old. We will have to migrate and we will have to involve III. We should be able to move to a virtual server.
- The URSUS catalog is outdated and the discussion concerned the next steps we should take. One issue is that there is currently no replacement for INNReach. We are not in a position to implement web scale management and open source does not scale for URSUS. The WMS would be better for URSUS in the future; we are not in a position to implement it now. Some places have gone with WorldCat Local. An Evergreen implementation is better for the Minerva group. We do not have the financial resources, \$300,000.00 is paid to Innovative yearly, and we would need to plan for one year of running two systems as a transition. Putting everyone in the same system would be difficult; we should not take this route. A better idea is to keep a "MaineCat" and then have more constituent groups, for example K-12, etc. We do need to solve this in 36 months or so – which means a decision within 24 months. All in all we still have a good deal from III for URSUS.

- James has been working on authentication with John Grover and Dick Thompson. We need to move this way for access to the databases via the UMS MaineStreet ID, it saves the users from typing in the 14 digit barcode. We need to do this, but it is ceding some control. We still have the issue of multi-campus users. Do we want to move this forward? Augusta and Fort Kent will be up soon. Farmington has been up for two years.
- We need to consider a replacement for the current e-reserves and a proposal to investigate ARES was discussed. It integrates with ILLiad and might be a better service. The decline in reserves overall was mentioned. An ARES demo for a future meeting will be set up. The current contract is a fiscal year, so it will be June 30 for contract end.
- The need for a mobile interface was discussed, Library Anywhere and AirPac (III) were the two options discussed. There is a \$5,500.00 annual fee for Library Anywhere for the system based on the number of buildings. The unofficial quote for AirPac is \$24,500.00 one time and then \$245.00/month. There was also the question of further connections with III and do we want to continue in that direction.
- User interface committee. James reported on the work of the Committee. They have made some minor changes and will bring the other ideas to the library directors at a future meeting.

Strategic Priorities/To Do for 2011-2012

- The Committee will review the subjects that are important to all campuses and then rebuild the list of databases based on that scan. Although the amount of funding from the UMS has not changed we want a fresh look at what we are purchasing. The committee will also begin to work as an advisory committee to the directors on other resources that should be considered as group purchases, in particular ebooks. The Database Committee will now include representation from the Bangor Public Library and the Maine State Library.

Charge: The Database Committee will do a 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. The committee will also be advisory to the library directors for other resources that should be purchased collaboratively, including ebooks.

Staff from Bangor Public Library and the Maine State Library will be part of the committee.

- Rewrite “seven libraries” document to include all of URSUS. David, Tom, and Barbara will take on the rewrite and bring it back to the group.
- Strategic Investment Fund. The schedule should be following a similar pattern to other years. That means that the priorities will come out in October and proposals would 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. Who will monitor this and bring it back to the group?
- 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.
- We want to keep pursuing a way to do cooperative cataloging. *Who will take the lead on this? Should it go to Cataloging Standards*
- There are two institutional repository projects now ongoing, the Digital Commons at UM and DSpace at UMPI. *Joyce and JoAnne will report back to the group on their installations.*
- We will keep the Best Practices documents active and will invite a representative from each group to a meeting. One Best Practice document per meeting - Reference, Cataloging, Special Collections, and Circulation/Interlibrary Loan. The discussion with each representative will be on the direction that should be taken and how to implement the points of the document. *We need to do our homework before the first invitation goes out, Joyce will bring this up at the September meeting.*
- We need to demonstrate our impact on retention and graduation to administration, in particular to the UMS Office. We also need to work with admissions. We need to provide the research to help show the impact. It appears that we need a marketing strategy or public relations plan to promote what we do and how we collaborate. One of us mentioned some research that could be pulled in support of the impact of libraries. *Who wants to take this on?*
- We need a list of what is paid through Orono and other URSUS libraries, what amount, and when due. *Joyce will work on this and on an updated shared resources/services spreadsheet.*