

URSUS Directors' Meeting Notes

April 12, 2013

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

Absent: John Barden

Guests: Venice Bayrd and Tim Pellett

Maine Shared Collections Strategy grant and Hathi Trust Developments

We got the information back from Sustainable Collection Services on the collections of the eight libraries, their analysis was by Dewey and Library of Congress. We can now go to the next step.

We are seeing less overlap between our collections than expected. We assume that the collecting done since the late 1980's was partially based on ownership in the state. The collection was also compared to the Internet Archive

Regarding the Hathi Trust we had been assuming that the in copyright material would be available and act as a surrogate for our material. We will not have this access. Also public libraries cannot join Hathi Trust, they cannot get Shibboleth. If the academic libraries join Hathi then the public libraries can have access via interlibrary loan.

With Hathi the more overlap with the collection the more the library is charged.

We believe that we will be allowed to join as a consortium.

In Summon we can turn on the full text indexing for Hathi Trust wherever it overlaps with the collections

Technical issues around adding e-resources to our systems

Maine InfoNet staff presented the issues around adding e-resources and services. Some are still plug and play, very easy to add, but others have proven to be difficult, take longer, and still not deliver what we hoped.

Before asking to add e-resources or services we need to have all associated staff identified. There have been problems that could have been avoided by bringing in all staff and following procedures that covered issues before implementation.

One example is ARES, this product did not provide for goals that the staff needed. Not until implementation did they find that ARES could not interact with URSUS without add-ons. If this had been reviewed and negotiated for a start date that was reasonable with the actual go live date it would have been a better implementation.

Another example was Films on Demand. We received a set of records, but for only one campus. Maine InfoNet staff had to use MARC edit to merge all records, this needed a lot of modifications before it could go live.

One upcoming example could be the RDA Toolkit if there is a system-wide purchase.

We keep adding more resources and services, this has escalated and we need a process for the better management and therefore better service. Another issue is keeping everything up to date, the links and other issues with access. The staff would like to have more lead time and a chance to see how things function before turning on, like Summon and RefWorks.

Free resources, these are from the URSUS cataloging Committee, they do not do record loading. The selection does go through the collection committee. The free resources do involve some work since they have to go through the proxy server.

Authentication is also an issue. EZ Proxy is owned by OCLC and is undergoing some changes, it may cost more and now it is not as flexible as we would like.

Schools and libraries are coming up with their own authentication system. This can cause problems with the MARVEL databases.

Other issues are that some smaller libraries have not paid for a stable ip address. Every time they lose power there is a change in the ip address and the MIN staff have to investigate and make the change for the library.

The document prepared for the URSUS directors will be edited with some of the changes requested. The document will be shared among the library staffs. This is a document for URSUS and for MARVEL although they do run into some of the same issues with Minerva.

Inclusion of materials in the URSUS catalog that will reside offsite at the offices of the International Association of Privacy Professionals

Do we want to add collections that are not currently owned by one of the libraries? The Law School library has access to a collection that they will catalog, it will be represented in URSUS and it will be available through interlibrary loan. The collection is 13 to 20 boxes and they expect there will be duplication since there are government publications in the collections. There is some expectation that portions of the collection will be digitized.

There are examples of other collections in URSUS that are not readily available for loans. This is a better solution since the Law School library will provide access.

Summon strategy follow up

We need to add EBSCO's Discovery System to the conversation. There will be a trial for MARVEL soon. We need to investigate and compare EDS with Summon. EDS does have problems with Gale products. Since the trial is on the MARVEL databases some issues with the universities will not show up in the MARVEL trial.

EBSCO is interested in selling this product to Maine so kept the MARVEL costs the same as last year, even though there is no guarantee to purchase EDS.

EDS may not need as much work to upkeep compared to Summon. But it may not have the options Summon offers, like Best Bets.

The five campus instance of Summon is not working, too many resources are not available for each of the libraries. There were some changes made to the instance late in March that eliminated those resources that were not shared. But eliminating those resources make Summon unworkable for those libraries.

The UMS contract for Summon is up on December 2013.

Retreat planning

John is planning an in depth tour of the Law and Legislative Research Library Tour of the LLRL. This will be the Thursday afternoon event. The meeting will be on Friday. So far it appears the dates will be August 8-9.

One agenda topic we have so far is succession planning for our libraries. We have a concern that the collaborations we have created continue and grow. We would also like to have a presence on the search committees for library directors. There is precedent although this has not worked for some searches. If we could provide some input for the positions it would begin the collaborative work as soon as the position is being determined.

Cataloger's retreat and training session

The retreat will be in the fall. They are planning a day and a half at a campus and for the RDA part will invite their staffs. They are still looking for a speaker.

Budget reductions for the URSUS libraries – strategies for reduced means

All of the libraries have experienced cuts and this has been a yearly burden. If we cannot keep up with collections we need to redefine what we can offer. We need to determine what the libraries may be if they focus on services. We also need to determine what to do about the e-books since most vendors will not allow us to lend as we can with our

print collections. The MSCS analysis shows little overlap so we do have to loan to each other.

Document for the Chancellor

We want to have support to grow an e-collection and have the system pay for resources that would be available state-wide. We want the Chancellor to back us up in this position.

We believe we need to prioritize the document, with emphasis on academic resources.

We should also ask for funding that may help with services, an investment in all of the libraries. Maybe we select a project that requires just one time funding.

Meetings:

We cancelled the May meeting. The next URSUS meeting is June 21.

Kate Howe and Jane Burke will be at the University of Maine at Augusta on April 25

We have the Maine InfoNet Summit on collections on May 24 at the University of Maine.