

**URSUS DIRECTORS**  
**Thursday, April 20, 2017**  
**Bangor Public Library – Board Room – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor**  
**11:00 – 4:00**  
**AGENDA**

**1. III Contract Update (James & Joyce)**

The InfoNet Team met with III's Travis Kelley & Hillary Newman on 4/20/17. A good conversation ensued regarding finalization of the contract. Timing of contract review and signing is an issue for migration, and other scheduling. Boiler plate for contract language will soon be available. A draft of all contract pieces forthcoming. It is hoped that this will happen next week. Statements of work will need to be included and implementation times included in the contract. MIN is planning to move MaineCat into III's hosting environment prior to July 1. All new hosting will be through a WS. Implementation of any of the services will include a one-time cost. This cost will remain stable for the first 2 years. This price may be altered beyond the 2 year period.

This is the projected timeline for contract review and signing. Contract begins July 1, 2017 with a 60 day net payment. There is a need to have legal counsel review the final contract before Maine InfoNet signs it. NB: Hillary Newman will be assuming the leadership position of III's entire support group.

What will be the cost picked up by each of the URSUS Libraries? This is not yet determined. What is the URSUS carry forward and what other expenses will occur going forward till fiscal year end? There will be carry over, but the exact amount has not yet been determined.

A conversation with Dick Thompson is to take place of how to handle the \$21,000 that will be saved that now goes to USIT for hosting.

**MIN Report (James)**

Pre-application to the Maine Next Gen Foundation was accepted. MIN was invited to provide a full application. By May 1 the application will be complete. The grant is written for \$325,000 over a three year period for staffing and support to bring new libraries into the Maine InfoNet systems.

**2. MIN/URSUS MOU (David)**

The MOU is ready to be voted on. Joyce moved to approve the URSUS MOU with MIN. Jamie Ritter seconded the motion, the vote was unanimous.

**3. URSUS Development Day (Bryce)**

This will happen on August 18<sup>th</sup> at the Wells conference center. The logistics need to be worked out. There are costs, how will these be paid? Barbara offered that cost/payments could go through BPL's business office. There is conference manager on UM campus, but this is more expensive.

Dick Thompson offered to bring the new CIO in for an introduction and brief remarks for the D Day.

James Jackson Sanborn could offer a look at Encore, Zepheira, Mobile Worklist and My iLibrary for the pre-lunch session. Post lunch sessions will consist of getting the various URSUS groups together. Each group should set an agenda for the afternoon breakout sessions. Start time for the D Day will be 10:00 am. The D Day will use the one large room for the both sessions. Sessions are: ref Circ cat standards, collections... This will include all personnel who work in these areas in the URSUS Libraries, not just those on the committees.

**4. UMA Update - (Ben Treat)**

Stacey Brownlie is now the Director of OCLS. UMA's President has resigned.

There have not been 3 national searches for a UMA president. Two options were offered on when to begin a presidential search. They are: Six month interim, search starts immediately, or a 2 year interim position is the other option.

UMA library staff - Jess Isler is taking a position at UMF. Loss of Jess's position, who has been the cataloger at UMA necessitated an agreement with UM's Fogler Library to do UMA's original cataloging. UMA and UMA Bangor will continue to do copy cataloging. Ben Treat will be the named the Director of UMA-Bangor's Nottage Library. The search for the UMA Katz Library Director will begin on August 1<sup>st</sup>. Two representatives from the URSUS Directors' Council will be on the search committee. They are Ben Treat and Stacey Brownlie.

**5. LD 256 (Jamie)**

Things will get interesting soon. The bill still in committee, current vote is 10 ought to pass, 2 ought not to pass. The opposing faction is having difficulty writing an amendment. The bill deals with how to fill the gap left from MSLN and the **MTIF?** funding. The bill's delay has provided an opportunity to engage more school and other librarians to contact their representatives to encourage passage. Consensus around the bill from all stake holders is that the bill will pass. The wild card is the Governor's reaction. Dick Thompson, "The libraries should be commended as taking the lead on this bill's importance, when the Dept. of Ed would not take a leadership role." Jamie urged people to call legislators to vote in support of LD 256. MLA could set up the engage form.

**6. Library Legislative Day (Jamie)**

Joyce Rumery, Bryce Cundick, David Nutty, Jamie Ritter, and Jeff LeTourneau head to Washington DC for ALA's National Legislative Day. This allows face to face contact with legislators and their staffs. Federal funding of LSTA funding \$1.1 - 1.2 million is at stake. The Maine delegation will talk about what that money supports. Changes in FCC net neutrality and broadband issues are major issues to be discussed.

Excellent Op-Ed in the NYT 4/16/17 examining net neutrality. Senator Collins is the lead republican on a Dear Colleague letter. Sen. Reed is the lead democrat. Sen. Collins deserves a thank you from the Maine delegation to the ALA Legislative Day for her efforts.

ALA Washington Office has mobilized tech and other related businesses by pointing out that the bulk of LSTA funds goes to purchase products/services from them.

**7. Reference Committee Request for Retreat (Leslie)**

Since this request was made without knowledge of the planning of the URSUS Development Day by the URSUS Directors, the directors agreed that this request for a separate retreat be denied this year. The Reference committee would have a chance to learn about III's new tools, modules, and possibly training in the morning session, then the URSUS Ref Group along with other URSUS Committees and all those who work in those areas could meet in the afternoon to work on items they have identified in the retreat request. Barbara asked that Leslie get back to the catalogers regarding the denial of a

separate retreat and that the D Day is scheduled for August 18<sup>th</sup>. The Ref. Committee should plan an agenda for Reference issues for the afternoon session.

#### **8. Cataloging Possibility (Jamie)**

Jamie asked if it is possible to catalog a technology device, or a related digital item – 3D printers, etc. and other realia. Bryce replied that yes this is possible, and James suggested that there be an 856 link that describes the item, and its uses.

#### **9. Wireless Services – (Dick Thompson)**

The state of IT report 2016 was handed out. The IT organization is a UM System Level service. Dick referred us to see page 3, for a look at the organizational chart. This newly consolidated team is learning how to work together. Each campus has a representative on the team that is responsible for that campus. Robin Sherman is responsible for UM and UMM. Fred Britton is responsible for UMF, UMFK, UMPI and USM. Lauren Dubois is responsible for UMA. The USIT division has a \$24 M/yr. operation budget. The team handles everything from purchasing Laptops to software licenses to maintaining MaineStreet and the payroll system. The data closets/centers are moving to the cloud. There has been a unified wide-area network going back to the 1990s, which linked the campuses together. In the past the individual campus IT departments had to scrape money together to link the individual buildings on campus. The way things were done, on a shoe string, makes a difference in the access to high speed connectivity demanded today.

Unification of IT teams rather than consolidation has occurred. There are seven leaders and one organization now that provides service to the UMS. Services are improving daily. While there was a \$3M savings with the unification, there was no additional investment. Classrooms across the system need the technology expected in a modern university. Because of a patchwork of funding sources –grants – tools/technology were not standardized. Wireless initially installed in 2003-4. There have been a number of improvements in the technology since then.

\$45 M is needed to do wireless and classrooms upgrades across the system. The revenue bond for \$25 M for facilities includes the 7 UMS campuses, and 35 locations statewide. This funding was used for wireless upgrades, classrooms, and MaineStreet. See page 16 for data for the proposed state of IT investment allocations for classrooms and wireless. Every campus

benefited. The \$25 M bond provides only ½ the requested amount. The focus going forward will be on areas that serve students. Wireless upgrade in the campus dorms allows a student to take a course from their room from a different campus. USIT is making smart decisions, but still not going as fast as people want it to. Work to date has speeded up delivery of data at the access points. Dick Thompson is retiring on August 31<sup>st</sup>, but will continue to serve on the Maine Library Commission and CONNECT ME. He was reappointed for a second term by Gov. LePage.

Joyce: What is the next step for Maine? The IT organization needs to expand its focus around academic technology.

DT: The next CIO needs to communicate with faculty, provost, and deans in a better way. How do we do assessment with/for students? We need predictive analytics, this needs to happen sooner, to help students before they withdraw or leave before degree completion. Partnering with State Gov. has saved money.

Where is IT going in the State?

DT: If Maine wants to be viable, we need more people in Maine. That means connectivity and access to the Internet for all, and we must contain technology costs.

J.Ritter: June 19<sup>th</sup> Dept. of ED virtual reality day. The future of education. Virtual Chemistry Labs, and other educational technology will be the focus.

#### **10.VCAA, Dr. Robert Neely – Pre-meeting Conversation including Resource Sharing**

2:00 to 4:00 – meet with VCAA, Dr. Robert Neely

- B. Neely: What is your Acquisitions Budget?
- J. Rumery: We all have different budgets. There is a UMS database fund which has not been increased since its inception. Therefore as the subscription prices have increased, databases had to be dropped.

- JR: There is a shared UM System wide core set of Databases. The budget appropriation for this is set at \$221.730 and has been static since its inception.
- BN: Is there a library fee?
- JR: No.
- BN: At my last University all three libraries had access to the same resources. Students should have access to resources if they are in the same course, even if they are on different campuses.
- URSUS Directors: Yes when a student is from one campus and is taking a course online or face-to-face from another campus, they do have access to the resources from the generating campus' library
- JR: Where can we go next?
- BN: The provosts have endorsed the idea of administrative integration teams. I will put together a task force this summer to look into the issue of providing all students with access to all of the UMS libraries' resources. Carol Kim will chair that task force. Procurement and technology will be members of the task force along with both URSUS librarians and the state librarian.
- JR: The \$58,000 savings garnered from the Summon contract, was taken from library budgets. The money was not used for reinvestment into library resources. The contracting process was very lengthy, and time consuming. It was felt that the libraries could have accomplished the same end without involving Procurement.
- BN: Safeguards must be put in place. Savings realized from procurement contracts or other collaborative processes are not to be taken from the budget, but used to reinvest.
- BN: Procurement should walk into this summer task force as a learning experience. While there is no charge for the committee as yet, the focus will be on determining the costs of providing all resources to all

students in the UMS. What will it really cost to provide everyone with the same level of access?

- JR: Procurement's problem is that the consultant (Hanover) never understood libraries, data provided was for book stores.
- Who will be on the Library task team?
- BN: Shared aspect will be the major focus of the team. I'm asking the provosts to submit names. And I invite you to send me names of people who should be on the committee, such as other URSUS Directors and the State Librarian.

D. Rollins made the point that it would be less expensive to provide all libraries with access to all resources at the same time, rather than do it six times.

- BN: In order to make informed decisions on the directions of the academic programs and student success, it is imperative that the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academics have a team that collects and analyzes data. I need to have the numbers at my fingertips when pitting needs and setting priorities. In building this IR team, I offer their expertise to you in building and analyzing surveys.
- BN: What can we do? Always ask the "what ifs?" Just doing an exploration and education on the collaborative programming piece. I really don't want to handicap a student on any one campus.
- BN: During meetings on the UMM-UM Primary Partnership it was brought to my attention that UMM students did not have access to resources at UM. The provosts say that access to all UMS Library resources would help with faculty recruitment.
- JR: UM was the major purchaser of print monographs which were easily shared among all UMS students, faculty, and staff. Now that we are entering an e-book environment, licensing issues not copyright issues exclude the sharing of e-books.

- BN: If we're really going to do these collaborations. Then the system has to find more ways to put money into libraries. At TWU – there was a \$15/credit hour library fee. The money was used for both operating and collections. I look at fee money as one-time money. We were able to move \$1.5 M into salaries. IT did a lot of the bidding for LMS and software, I'm not sure of databases. At one time we had the Libraries report to the CIO for a year. Some of the librarians didn't want to go back to the old model. There were 40-50 staff across the 3 libraries. Usage statistics informed subscription/journals.
- BN: Federation -----single accreditations. Is it possible? It will take some real skill in analysis.

There is a Peer Analysis Project. It will be powerful for a lot of people to see that we do so much with so little. I'm horrified at the level of staffing at the campus level and in the libraries. Peer group project is not just a static list of peers. Any number of variables can be turned on or off with the software, with a dynamic dashboard. Contracted with Hanover with the UMS peers. By the end of May will have a finalized list of peers. UM is a sea grant and land grant, there are not many that can claim both. Peers are considered in terms of mission, but not in funding.

Data is important to you Dr. Neely, can you talk about that?

- BN: I want to get to the point that at the system level we're collecting the data necessary to do modeling to see what decisions we like to make look like 2 to 5 years out.

There will be a push on Early College. I'd like to know where nursing students have applied and how successful were they? There is the financial piece for collaborative programs. What is the impact if we went to a centralized model? We do not have the capability to do that right now. I can't even get retention data by campus.

How would you ask us to demonstrate the value of the library?

- BN: Definitely have to have data. Metrics don't matter if you can't see how it will benefit students. Close the loop, Assess change and purpose. How do libraries assess the impact on students – assessment?



The URSUS Libraries launched a LibQual survey in 2007. It has not been repeated due to the cost.

- BN: The new system IR office, has a new hire with a sociological background - Ph.D. This individual will be able to build surveys for library directors.

S. Brownlie: It is really exciting to hear that we might get help with surveys from the UMS IR. Accessibility issues, and accommodations are an issue. Are there any conversations happening with the new CIO with making pdf, videos, etc. accessible?

Dick Thompson: Faculty have used some inaccessible pdf documents. A student did resign because of issues related to accessibility. Who on campus takes responsibility for posting/uploading inaccessible resources? IT can't tell faculty what to do, how to teach. We should not be building something new if it is not accessible. Streaming games without captions at UMM athletics was an example of an inaccessibility issue.

### **UMS Database Funding**

Deb Rollins had sent out the cost of the UMS databases with each campuses split. She wanted to know if the individual library directors were ready to fund the deficit, so that she could move ahead and begin the billing.

The URSUS Directors agreed to fund the overage this year. However the deficit for FY19 would rise to nearly \$64,000. Planning and a new approach should be considered earlier next year to see what might be possible in leveraging an increased UMS Database budget.