

URSUS Directors
June 13, 2014
Meeting Notes

Present: Bryce Cundick, Shiva Darbandi, Leslie Kelly, Barbara McDade, David Nutty, Alisia Revitt, Joyce Rumery, Kim Siebold, Ben Treat

Continuing discussion on integration of services

The reference committee on discovery is being led by Sofia Birden and Jess Isler for the UMS libraries. The Summon contract ends December 2014. The state's contract with EDS has begun and it is now available on the MARVEL page. Strategically there is a need for a discovery tool, we need to expose the databases that we have purchased for the users. The reference committee's charge was broad and does cover other tools like Google Scholar. There may be different needs on the campuses and it is possible that libraries will use different tools or none at all. Portland Public Library uses Bibliocommons.

The reference committee on chat is being led by Nancy Lewis. They will be looking at options and the needs of the URSUS libraries.

The collections committee charge is under review by Deb Rollins. She will explore JSTOR for the URSUS group.

The cataloging committee charge to update their specialist list will be going to that committee soon.

We need to give each committee a deadline. We will ask that the committee working on discovery give us an interim report for our retreat, July 28-29. The chat committee will be asked for a report by mid-January. The cataloging committee will respond by the end of the calendar year. Deb will be asked about a timeframe for her committee.

Other integrations we should consider. Three topics are early childhood literacy, information literacy, and the growth of self-published e-books. Information literacy is needed for the public libraries. This conversation can also go to the Maine Library Association. But we should start the project at the URSUS level. UMF already has a partnership with their local public library.

We need to connect with K-12, this was part of the last retreat as a goal and we need to continue working on this connection. We could make a web page for children. The Innovative page for children is not good, so we will not consider that now.

We have discussed centralization of cataloging and this may still be an option for us. Both copy and original cataloging are needed. We could charge for cataloging for libraries outside of URSUS. In terms of demonstrating efficiencies and cooperation as well as managing costs we

need to have discussions about how we can manage and still do the work required to ensure that materials can be found.

We need to be aware of a possible push to have units pay for library services across campuses. This will be a problem for us if this is pushed by the campuses.

We should have the Vice Chancellor meet with us more often so that our work and concerns are apparent.

Planning for the retreat

We need to review last year's goals from the 2013 retreat since we have completed some, but others may need to be moved ahead to the next year.

URSUS Library Directors' Goals 2013-2014

Chancellor's report - There will be a meeting with Dr. Hunter to ask her advice on the issues we are facing, particularly procurement. After the meeting with the VCAA we will get the Roadmap to the Chancellor and Vice Chancellor by mid-October. We will ask the VCAA to meet with us at our November meeting.

Floating collections - explore and assess the implications of floating collections. We may need a trial with some libraries or for a period of time. Maybe this idea needs to go to the subcommittees since it has implications for collections, reference, circulation, and technical services.

Information literacy in schools – we want to create a way to improve information literacy for the students graduating high school. To start we need to have an inventory of already established or planned programs that we may be able to plug into. We also need to have a process to assess this work.

Configuration of URSUS. We need to spend time on this and the implications for the group as well as individual libraries. The software may require some compromise or we may have to have an URSUS that has a different make up.

Maine Shared Collections Strategy. We need to assess the implications of the MSCS for URSUS and to have something substantive that the URSUS group can take from the grant work.

Circulation Committee. In light of decreasing print circulation this committee will be asked to look at a recent FEAST presentation or other descriptions of a liaison program that involves the nonacademic groups, student organizations, etc.

Special Collections Committee. This committee will be a standing committee. They will be asked to redo their membership including the previously unrepresented libraries. Their Best Practices document includes some items that could be done easily such as the brochure.

The MACON project will be moved ahead with support from the Directors. This intent is to move it from beta and provide training for the libraries to use the service.

Reference Committee. This committee will be asked to look at chat again in terms of a product. They will also be asked for ideas on how to extend chat hours beyond our libraries.

Retreat – June 28-29

The retreat will be held at Machias. Marianne is working on the logistics and a tentative schedule of the days will be forthcoming. We should expect to arrive mid-afternoon on the 28th to check into the dormitory, have a tour or some other activity, then meet for dinner. The next day will be breakfast on our own or at the cafeteria. Then we will have a full day of work on the 29th.

What we need to have is a substantive agenda to help us plan for the coming year. We should think about resources to read prior to the meeting that will help inform our discussions. The future of libraries from ALA might be a possibility, <http://connect.ala.org/node/219621>. Also the Cowan article (attached) on information literacy would be a good discussion start.

We cannot continue to talk about doing more with less, it is not sustainable and does us and our users a disservice. What libraries do and why they are important needs to be expressed, we need an ad agency. Maybe different annual reports or other documents that can be used to describe the work we do.

We need have a theme – community in the largest sense of the word. Libraries are needed to build and foster community.

Some ideas to begin creating our agenda:

- Community

- Marketing (what is our value)

- Future of libraries

- Cooperative purchases, services, resources

- How our users are changing, student use of the libraries, 20 to 30 age range are not in the library, how are these users accessing resources

We still have succession planning as an issue

Maine InfoNet Report and information about Hathi Trust

Hathi Trust

The question before the directors was an approval to load the Hathi Trust records into URSUS. URSUS is the largest system and can take the input, it is a better match than other OPACs. The records loaded will be available to all. We approved the load.

The second question was whether we are okay with the financial part of this where a user can link to a form to request a print copy for a charge. This request is processed through the UMaine bookstore and is printed at the printing facility on campus. There was concern that this might confuse some users and we asked that the form be reviewed so that interlibrary loan is presented as an option.

This load will take place after the Sierra migration and before September 2014.

New ticketing system

The new system is freshdesk.com. It will be live after ALA and before the Sierra migration. It is a hosted system it will have the stability that the current system lacks.

Sierra migration

The server migration will be on June 18th. This will be one day of downtime. We will need to use off-line circulation, no cataloging will be done, the OPAC will be unavailable, and all fiscal activity needs to stop the day before.

Then the seeding process begins. Staff can try logins, but will not be able to work with Sierra at that point. There will be a single day of go-live. Millennium will be down and Sierra will be brought online. This may happen on the 30th.

CBB is migrating on July 10.

Future meetings:

Retreat July 28-29. No other meeting dates have been selected.

Future meeting sites after BPL closes for renovations need to be selected. Beginning September 2014 we will need another location for our meetings. Barbara will know soon if there will be space at her temporary site for us to meet. We can get space at the Bangor campus. We also

have the possible use of the studio at the Maine State Library since their Friday meeting room needs are low. We will need to have video meeting capability at the location we select. It is also possible that we will be able to use all three sites as needed during the BPL renovation. This also affects the subcommittees so they will need to find locations too.