University of Maine System and URSUS

**Library Directors’ Council**

Held at Bangor Public Library

**Friday January 26, 2007**

                                                     Meeting Notes

W/ URSUS Report and Cooperative Collection Outline

**Attending:** Brian Damien (PPL), Lynn Randall, Tom Abbott, Joyce Rumery, Sharon Johnson, Greg Curtis, David Nutty, Jonathan Williams, Gary Nichols, Frank Roberts, Bert Phipps, Barbara McDade, Deborah Rollins and Susan Lowe

**1.**     No additional changes on the meeting notes from our November meeting

**2.**     Brief update on events and activities from ALA mid-winter:

·        ACRL – CUPA academic library position description hearing chaired by Tom, assisted ably by David and Joyce had 35 people in attendance at 8:00 on Sunday in Seattle

·        Tom met with Google staff at their booth to learn more about Google Book and how to add a link to your library webpage that sends searchers to your collection using the Google search engine – Karl is looking into this as part of Maine Info Net

·        Joyce spoke to the Docutek representative, but the product does not  have the promotion as in past years – suggesting that the product is not high in the SirsiDynix priority

·        Tom and David participated in a III SearchPro demonstration – sort of like a federated search tool – more research indicated

·        Gary met with Gates Foundation as part of an advisory board – recommending directions for their giving

·        Joyce attended the EBSCO presentation on Information Commons

·        Joyce attended the meeting of the ESIG libraries of the EPScOR states, this is a “buying group” that has contracted with Nelinet.

**3.**     WorldCat Collection Analysis:

·       Decided that it wasn’t worth the money given that:

·        Not much has changed with the book collection since our last OCLC collection study

·        Using the data generated would take staff resources we really can’t spare – note Colby, Bates and Bowdoin Colleges received a grant to fund 2 librarians to implement the study and its results

·        Data about our serials and e-collections would be more valuable – a tool such as Ulrich’s Serials Analysis would be valuable could we afford it – It was also suggested wisely by Greg that EBSCO be contacted and asked to do such an analysis for us as they serve as the serials broker for most of us. Thanks Greg – Joyce will follow up

·        If any libraries want to participate with OCLC, they will need to do it on their own

·        INSTEAD, the directors agreed to create a new task force on Shared Collection Development – Deb Rollins was asked to head it up and agreed to do so – she will come back to the directors with a recommended charge and membership list – the overall goal is for the URSUS libraries to make more efficient use of their materials resources

·        Tom will contact Mary Sue at OCLC to tell her of our decision

**4.**     Related to more efficient collection development: Greg reported that his CFO has contacts with the Base Realignment leadership and is willing to pursue for us the acquisition of a building on the Brunswick Naval Air Station that can be used as a Last Copy Center. Greg will work with his CFO to include the Chancellor’s Office, the State of Maine through the Governor’s Office and will present the concept within the context of improved statewide collection development a.k.a. Strategic Direction #4, Etc.

**5.**     Blackboard Library Tab – Susan is updating the “Indexes and Databases” link on the Blackboard tab to reflect the new link in the updated Mariner. She will be working with Tim Pellett on this.

**6.**     Virtual Reference: Joyce had trouble finding anyone representing Docutek within the company that purchased them, SirsiDynix. Co-browsing is the valued and unique feature of the software. Susan at OCLS and Orono will continue to participate. Other libraries are dropping it and have asked that the “Ask a librarian” button be linked to the local library’s e-mail.  USM and others are experimenting with “Instant Messaging” for student contact with limited success.  Some in the room even speculated that “with it” high tech students would tend to reject communicating by IM with “establishment” librarians – OUCH – Frank helped focus the communication discussion by pointing out that Mantor is using IM as one method of carrying out its overall strategy of communication with students rather than thinking of IM as an end it and of itself – thanks

**7.**     The E-Reserves part of Docutek is working well and those using it don’t want to lose it – but it may be time to look at other options

**8.**     LibQUAL: David reported on the training he, Tom, Joyce, and Linda Lord participated in while at ALA.

·        The most important determiner of good results is adequate publicity and promotion ahead of time – David sent the materials used by Assumption College to all directors – this was the example used by LibQUAL as an excellent model – study it well

·        Gretchen at UM is working on graphic/promotional materials

·        Timing: at most 2 -3 weeks ahead of the survey release is the time to send out the publicity materials

·        Agreed that each campus would have $500 for incentives --

·        All need to determine how to obtain personnel and student e-mails for the survey distribution and announcements – Jonathan can assist if necessary from the patron database but given that all are using full-population surveys it makes sense to obtain the lists from the campuses.

**9.**     Maine Info Net – Karl was out sick –*thanks for not sharing Karl*: David, Gary and Joyce put together a few notes:

·       The Minerva Exec Board met and agreed (with a few conditions) about how it would relate to M.I.N.

·       Minerva Board would retain ability to review policies effecting them and two staff to support their system have been added to the Legislative Library request

·       The end result is a successful strategy to bring Minerva under the Maine Info Net umbrella

**10.**  Library Assistant III position: Reminder that Susan is awaiting your input on the design of a new classified position called LA III

**11.**  URSUS Update – NOTICE TO ALL – URSUS SERVER UPGRADE       RESCHEDULED FOR FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9 – PLAN ON THE       SYSTEM TO BE DOWN ALL DAY –

·       Jonathan provided an update on his work (included at end of these notes) and demonstrated an early version of Project Espresso – a new interface for searching Maine owned resources

12.    Gary presented the major legislative document he’s been working       on and will provide us with more details as it becomes available –       Gary, thanks as always for your great work on our behalf –

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**LIBRARY DIRECTORS’ ITEMS FOR THE YEAR –**this is the beginning of the year’s agenda – feel free to edit as needed

·        Fine policy for future

·        LibQual – ongoing

·        Decision on continuing Docutek

·        Career ladder system for MLS librarians – system-wide

·        Library Assistants III for support staff

·        Cooperative collection development consistent with goals of UMS Strategic Plan

·       Analyzing “avoidable” collection duplication

·       library buying items to be shared instead of each purchasing them, and/or,

·       sharing campus library purchase funds to purchase shared central database or single item to be shared

·       Last copy center if possible and if not – planned sharing via cooperative collection development

·       Digitizing bound publications where we control copyright

**THIS YEAR’S MEETING SCHEDULE:**

All at Bangor Public Library – scheduled as follows:

            February – NO MEETING

            March 9

            April 13

            May 25

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URSUS System Report

Presented to URSUS Library Directors

Submitted by Jonathan Williams

January 26, 2007

1. **URSUS Server Upgrade** – Due to several unfortunate scheduling problems during the holidays, the new server was not ready for our original scheduled migration date during the interterm period.  We have rescheduled the migration to take place on ~~February 6~~~~th~~~~.~~ (at 1/26 meeting the date was changed to February 9th.\*\*) Again, this will require one day of downtime.

I apologize for any inconvenience in rescheduling the migration.  I had been hopeful that we could still reach the original date until shortly before it was reached.

1. **Title Level Holds in OPAC** – This matter has not been resolved, due primarily to a lack of consensus from the last Circ Heads committee meeting on how to implement the change.  This is to be an agenda item for the next Circ Heads’ conference call.  I will ask the committee for a date to be approved to implement this change.

1. **Portland Public Library** – Portland Public Library will be represented at upcoming meetings of the Circulation Heads committee and the Cataloging Standards committee.  Sarah Campbell and I have identified specific questions to be resolved by these committees.

1. **New Mariner Website** – A new website for Mariner has been launched.  The new site has a few new features, as well as a new look and a new interface.  Tim Pellett put many hours of hard work into this project, aided by input from Marilyn Lutz and myself.  Tim welcomes your comments about the new site.

1. **LibQual**– I have been asked by David Nutty if I can extract patron email addresses from URSUS to use in the LibQUAL survey.  I can do this, but I will need the following information from each library before February 1st.

-Whether to use the whole population or a sample.   
-The sample size they would like to use for each patron type.   
-Whether to break the samples out by patron type and which patron types to use.   
  
Before I perform the extraction, I will make sure that the requests for each library will work and let you at the relevant library know if there are likely to be any problems.

1. **Project Espresso** – I have a working demonstration of the first stage of Project Espresso.  This is still very much a pre-release, not yet appropriate for public consumption.  The user interface currently in place is very simple, and will be substantially reworked.  Much of the data is not yet in the system, but one can see the way that the Espresso will work for users.

\*\* later changed to March 6, starting at 5 am.

FROM: Deb Rollins, Head of Collection Development, UMaine

Cooperative collection development

* Format - digital
* Type - serials, databases
* Funding base - centralized system budget
* Implementation strategies

o       Gather "need/want" lists from each campus

o       Analyze current subscriptions

o       Publisher or consortium license opportunities

o       Talk first, buy later

o       Designated contacts responsible for journal and budget decisions?

"Insurance"