University of Maine System and URSUS

**Library Directors’ Council**

Held in the Bangor Public Library

**Friday May 19, 2006**

Attending: Tom Abbott, Joyce Rumery, Greg Curtis, David Nutty, Susan Lowe, Sharon Johnson, Frank Roberts, Bert Phipps, Christine Hepler,

**1.**     **DISTANCE EDUCATION STUDENTS:**

Tom and Joyce reported on the discussion and recommendations related to UMS distance education students at the CAO/CFO meeting – efforts being made to simplify registration and record keeping within PeopleSoft System, students who attend multiple campuses each semester.

**2.**     **SD#4 PRESENTATION REPORT**

Tom and Joyce reported on their (and Bob Rice’s) SD#4 budget and funding formula presentation to the CAO/CFO meeting.  There seemed to be general understanding of the funding formula process and the needs of continuity of support for shared UMS library resources and services, especially for the “digital library,” a collection of resources and services provided online to all UMS users.  The SD#4 funding proposal was based on the 2004 base budget of approximately $319,000 and projected a need for shared contribution from the campuses of approximately $250,000.  The current budget, however apparently has been fully (base) funded at $504,000.   When this information about the base budget being funded was reported by UM finance staff, the obvious question was asked, “Why are the library directors asking for more?”  Our conclusion is that there is confusion about what is funded and where the money is coming from.  That will be resolved at a meeting with the CFO, her staff and SD#4 representatives in the near future.

**3.**     **PORTLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Portland Public Library is still considering becoming a part of URSUS and Karl will be working with them to transition them and their resources into URSUS.

**4.**     **BUDGET AND BOND UPDATES:**

Joyce distributed a budget report showing activity as of May 1, 2006.

There is about $70,000 remaining and it was agreed that once current bills are paid the following priorities should be addressed:

·       Copies of “ViewletBuilder4 by Qarbon” software for designing tutorials

·       Training and travel funds for Jonathan

·       Extend licensing agreement for Serials Solutions

**5.**     **SUMMER WORKSHOPS & MEETINGS (Polycom where possible)**

·       **Serials Staff**:  Directors agreed to support a meeting for serials professionals and classified staff to:  identify problem areas and organize plans for solutions and necessary policy revision and/or training.  **Directors agreed to go back to campuses and ask what serials staff want on the agenda for the workshop.**

·       **Reference Staff**: planning underway for participation in 7/13 event focused on information literacy best practices

·       **Information Literacy Staff**:  event to include CBB, CCM, and URSUS staff 7/13 “Maine Conference on Information Literacy” at UMF

·       **Tutorial Workgroup**: meeting 6/6 to identify needed improvements in tutorials

·       **ILL & Cataloging Standards**: ongoing regular meetings no special events planned

**6.**     **DIRECTORS’ SUMMER MEETINGS:**

·       Directors agreed to meet only one time this summer unless others were needed.  Any member may call a phone conference or meeting as demand warrants

·       Annual Directors’ Summer Retreat will be held at UM Machias – thanks Bert – on Friday the 18th of August – all Maine INFO NET staff are invited as is Ralph Caruso.  – **SEND AGENDA ITEMS TO MARY AND TOM**

**i.**     Plan to arrive on Thursday the 17th 3- 4 PM to get settled into housing, group dinner that evening with possible tour of campus

**ii.**     Breakfast Friday with President Cindy Huggins (pending availability) followed by 9:00 – 1:00 meeting

**iii.**     Departure by 2:00 PM at the latest

**Note:** Blueberry Festival is that weekend so rooms may be scarce – Bert will provide list of housing – all are advised to reserve early

**7.**     **NELINET ANNUAL MEETING AND NEW PRICING STRUCTURE**

David attended meeting and reported that OCLC is dropping regional networks as resellers of its products.  As a result, NELINET needs to redefine its mission and budgets and funding.   We all should be receiving an outline of new costs soon.

Summary of decisions:

·       NELINET is focusing on becoming a service organization rather than a vendor – it can no longer charge a commission on OCLC products

·       Participants with > 500 students must become full members to purchase services

·       Membership will include informational and educational RSS, podcasts for libraries

·       Once fee is paid, points are provided with which one purchases services – points run out within a year -  or you can buy extra points and not lose their value

·       USM’s charges under the new formula are about the same as the old

**8.**     **MAINE INFO NET REPORT –**

In Karl’s absence (at the III user group meeting) Joyce provided an update:

·       Karl is working on basic Maine INFO NET web page

·       Maine Cat is the new name for the Maine Info net catalog

·       John Clark’s position has been filled and ad for Karl’s replacement is nearly ready to go

·       RFP for courier/deliver service has been completed and advertised (**Note**: URSUS libraries may need to consider how to cut costs if bids come in high)

·       Proposed Board membership list is complete and individuals are being contacted (**Note/Action:** Library Directors approved David Nutty as our representative to the Maine INFO NET Board – he agreed – thank you David)

·       Library Directors agreed to invite all Portland Public staff members to our summer workshop session

**9.**     **REVIEW OF SALARY STUDY PROCESS**

In preparation for classified employee position review, Directors agreed to work together to create a new position Library Assistant III, and use common language when reporting duties and roles of all classified library personnel

**10.** **LEGISLATIVE MATTERS**

·       Directors are asked to contact their legislators about LDs 198 and 544 which remain on the appropriations table thanks to the Senate President.  Any funding approved for either Fogler resources or Systemwide databases would be welcomed

·       And the opportunity arises, please support the “resolve” to consider a study of The Maine Cultural Building and how it and its services relate to UM library resources

**11.** **CHAIR OF UMS LIBRARY DIRECTORS’ COUNCIL**

Directors agreed to have Tom Abbott continue for another year as chair for this Directors’ Council.  Tom agreed and noted his appreciation for everyone’s support of the work of the Council.

**12.** **RESOLUTION**

By unanimous vote, the directors asked Tom to send a resolution of appreciation to Vice Chancellor Elsa Nunez for her tireless work and support of UMS Libraries, and the work of the directors during her time here.  Tom will prepare a suitable document and have it transmitted to her prior to her departure for the presidency of Eastern Connecticut State University.

**Thought for the Day -** Maine’s Ubiquitous Library: optimizing access and lowering costs

NEXT MEETING August 17/18 2006 AT University of Maine at Machias

Beginning Thursday the 17th at 5:00 PM ending Friday the 18th at 2:00 PM

**Thanks to Mary Cady for organizing our meeting and arranging lunch.  Thanks also to Barbara and her staff for hosting and supporting us at the Bangor Public Library.**