

URSUS Library Directors
Meeting Notes
December 14, 2012

Present: Tom Abbott, John Barden, James Jackson Sanborn, Leslie Kelly, Angelynn King, Linda Lord, Barbara McDade, David Nutty, Frank Robertson, Joyce Rumery, JoAnne Wallingford

Absent: Chris Hepler, Steve Podjagny

Guest: Pat Moriarty

JSTOR

Pat Moriarty presented an overview of JSTOR, Ithaka, and Portico.

JSTOR is working more with Google to allow access to their content. The issue is for users who then do not have access since their library does not own the JSTOR content. There is also a JSTOR connection with Summon.

We can get statistics about the use of our collections, Pat can provide those per library if we want them.

If the UMS group were to get all of JSTOR it would be an additional \$70,000. Plus access fees. The advantages to purchasing as a system would be discounts or payment over time.

This proposal is negotiable so we need to discuss if we want to pursue this.

There is a new free collection, <http://plants.jstor.org/>.

URSUS and future changes

There is a meeting scheduled with the Innovative staff at ALA midwinter. A document is being prepared by James to give to III a couple of weeks prior to the meeting. We are looking for the most logical and best way to restructure the system.

We are proposing restructuring of the groups in Maine:

URSUS group would include Portland Public Library.

There would be one or more public library systems based on size or region

A small academic group plus that would include the community colleges, UNE, COA, Unity, plus hospitals.

We are not sure where K-12 may fit in.

We will provide a spreadsheet of all public libraries to the III staff. We want scale and pricing for any library that is appropriate. If we are able to go with this new system it would eliminate the need for SOLAR. We would still have an INNREACH system.

This plan would make URSUS the lenders of first resort for all inter library lending. After URSUS the requests would go to Mainecat.

How many additional public libraries would be added? There are now 60 in Minerva. There are a total of 260 public libraries in the state. A logical break might be at the top 100/150 that could afford the system and have paid staff.

The new III system is Sierra. This would be a replacement that would give some benefits, but it would not be transformative. For the current contract there is a sole source document going forward at the State.

Bowdon, Bates, and Colby have a proposal into III already. They got a good deal from III and we hope to be able to have the same deal. The ongoing costs are the savings.

If III proposed a development partnership we would need to consider this. It would be the Sierra MT version that is the development system.

Question from the Chancellor

We need to respond to the Chancellor's request to us from when we met with him – where do we see ourselves in three years. We need to prepare a document for the Chancellor. We gave him the Eleven Libraries report when we met, but we need to provide more now. We need a draft document that will address the answer of where we will be in three years and to maybe make the case for future additional funding. Frank will do a first draft for us.

The IT Directors report was rejected because it was not cost saving enough.

IMLS grant, the Maine Shared Collections strategy

We are going with the company SCS, Sustainable Collection Strategy, for the collection analysis. We had planned that this would be a task that OCLC would be able to do. There will be a test of the 583 field, Bowdoin and Bangor Public Library will do the test. The new symbol means an ongoing charge.

The ARRC libraries need to figure out how to be collection builders. We need to know where collections should go and who will retain in certain areas.

We are halfway through the grant with no collection decision. But this is a new process that is being created here and not to have something at this point is not necessarily a problem. We will end up with a plan from this grant, not with change of collections.

Summon

Summon does not work very well with public libraries, maybe we need something sense for the MARVEL databases. Summon is paid for by MTEAF funds, the contract goes through the end of December 2013. Portland Public Library is using Bibbiocommons, but is not actually a discovery system.

We want recommendations from the Reference Committee about the use. We are still looking at a rebranding and relaunch. Jessica Isler will be asked to coordinate this. Tim has been working on it and will give her the needed access. James and Tim will communicate with Jessica.

There have been product improvements and features we have not used. We need to get these implemented. If the issues with the shared system cannot be remedied some libraries may not want to rebrand/relaunch.

MIN Report

The current system has been expanded. Ellsworth, Lubec, Freeport, and Northeast Harbor are now in SOLAR.

ARES implementation is ongoing. James got the programmer to work on this. The authentication is now working. The go live date is January 2013.

Is the license agreement from July to June? If it is we should try to get an extension since we have not had it available. Is this our problem or is it their problem? Joyce will check on the license.

MIN has a new website, not yet live, that is being tested and they have asked for feedback.

Tutorial Committee

The tutorials can be used by any library and John said the Law and Legislative Library is interested. The software is Camtasia and the UMS IT has a license for this, for a fixed number of seats. Tom will check to see if we can be part of their license. Or it may be better to have our own if we will have problems with access.

The reference staff committee was all in favor of Cantasia. They want to move forward on this. Joyce will send a response to Amy Wisheart and Evelyn Greenlaw that this was a good project and the directors support the purchase. We will review the price, although it did seem to be reasonable.

Online discussion from the last meeting

We need to formulate questions and maybe bring B J or others back for a conversation about marketing.

What are all of the libraries doing for marketing? There are posters, one library lends out SAD lights. Farmington has a registry for gifts, like a wedding registry, for their upcoming anniversary. John has a RSS feed from the Law and Legislative library that anyone can get.

Budget

The system received a curtailment of 2.5 million. Not all libraries have heard of cuts. Linda reported that the Maine State Library was given a cut of 38,200. They will take it from staff.

Copyright committee report

The committee has met twice. At the first meeting they reviewed the charge. They did an inventory of what each library is doing with copyright. They want to give value to each library that is participating. They have shared the literature and web sites and will put together a broad statement. Guidelines for the libraries need to have flexibility and resources for the staff. They will use a library guide to organize the information. They will have two more meetings and then wrap up in January.