September 24, 2010

Mr. Frank T. Brogan, Chancellor
State University System of Florida
325 W. Gaines Street, Room 1614
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Dr. Willis N. Holcombe, Chancellor
Division of Florida Colleges
Florida Department of Education
325 W. Gaines Street, Room 1544
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400

Dear Chancellors Brogan and Holcombe:

We are writing to you in our capacity as Chair of the Advisory Board to the College Center for Library Automation (CCLA) and Chair of the Advisory Board of the Florida Center for Library Automation (FCLA). We are submitting for your information, the attached:

2010 Progress Report to The Chancellor of the State University System of Florida And The Chancellor of the Florida College System Concerning Continuing Activity Relating To The Unified Higher Education Library Automation System in Florida.

This report provides an update and overview of the multi-year collaborative effort to implement next-generation library automation software for Florida’s 39 publicly supported institutions of higher education based on plans submitted in 2001. The report was approved by the Advisory Boards of both CCLA and FCLA at their respective September meetings.

This report builds on the heritage of our State’s leadership in this field and is the result of diligent and collaborative work between university and college library colleagues.

Sincerely,

Kathy Miller, Ph.D.
Chair, FCLA Advisory Board and
Dean of Library Services
Florida Gulf Coast University

Jim Morris
Chair, CCLA Advisory Board and
Executive Director, Library and Community Services
Florida Gateway College

KM/JM:bf
Attachment
2010 Progress Report to
The Chancellor of the State University System of Florida
and
The Chancellor of the Florida College System
Concerning
Continuing Activity Relating to the
Unified Higher Education Library Automation System in Florida

September 24, 2010

As Jointly Supported by the
Advisory Processes of the
Florida Center for Library Automation (FCLA)
and the
College Center for Library Automation (CCLA)
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Appendix I: Minutes of the Collaborative Ventures Steering Committee
Executive Summary

This report provides an update and overview of the ongoing collaborative efforts to provide enhanced automated library services to the students, faculty, and staff of Florida’s 39 publicly supported institutions of higher education.

In accordance with the joint university/college library automation plan submitted to the Legislature in 2001, the initial conversion and implementation of the new library automation systems took several years due to the complexity of the task. With implementation now accomplished, both the Florida Center for Library Automation (FCLA) serving the universities and the College Center for Library Automation (CCLA) serving the colleges, have all users on one of the two latest versions of the library management system, Ex Libris’ Version 20 at CCLA and Version 19 at FCLA, as of August 1, 2010.

CCLA, FCLA, and the institutions they serve continue to work collaboratively and in innovative ways. The FCLA Board and the CCLA Executive Committee meet jointly each December to discuss resource sharing, issues of joint and mutual concern, and to work collaboratively on issues best addressed in this fashion. Further, ongoing collaborative activity is conducted by the Collaborative Ventures Steering Committee (CVSC). This group consists of the Directors of FCLA and CCLA along with the past, current and incoming chairs of their advisory groups, and meets each summer.

The implementation of the new library management software at all levels has been achieved. New and innovative endeavors that benefit student and faculty access and use of library materials—both print and electronic—are now being pursued. A heritage of collaboration and dialogue continues ensuring success and positioning Florida higher education library services for the future. This report details the achievements of the past year as well as the anticipated joint activity envisioned for upcoming months.

CVSC collaborative activity for FY 20010-2011 includes:

- Continued work on the joint licensing of eResources
- Activity in support of the Chancellors’ Joint “Task Force on the Future of Academic Libraries in Florida”
- Continued work to ease system issues within Joint Use Libraries served by both FCLA and CCLA

Background

As a result of the 2001-2002 General Appropriations Act, the Florida Center for Library Automation (FCLA) serving the universities and the College Center for Library Automation (CCLA) serving the colleges were directed to join together in the selection and acquisition of the same software that would be used by both higher education library management systems.

A complex, multi-year process of system conversion and implementation began in earnest in early 2002 as FCLA and CCLA staff worked collaboratively to negotiate contracts with software vendor Ex Libris, an international leader in the library management software field. A collaborative planning effort was assisted by a joint university/college steering committee (the Aleph Implementation Steering Committee or “AISC”) that worked to ensure long-term compatibility in indexing tables, assigning user designations, coding, and early visioning efforts toward a “Giant Union Catalog” that would eventually provide all higher education students with a single point of access to the shared resources of the libraries of all 39 publicly supported institutions of higher education in Florida. As a result of considerable effort by FCLA, CCLA and the staff of the 39 publicly supported institutions of higher education, all users are on the same release of the software, the Ex Libris product, Aleph 500 Library Management Software (Version 20 at CCLA and Version 19 at FCLA) as of August 1, 2010.

Progress to Date

While FCLA and CCLA worked diligently on this massive software migration effort, the world of library automation did not stand still, nor did Ex Libris. Additional products became available and were incorporated, as appropriate, as part of the system migration. MetaLib/SFX, a federated library resource search engine with associated online resource “link resolver” was acquired by both FCLA and CCLA and implemented early in the process.

Other new products from Ex Libris are being incorporated into the product and service offerings of FCLA and CCLA. FCLA is implementing the interlibrary loan module with assistance from CCLA staff who implemented it in version 18.2. FCLA has also implemented DigiTool, an enterprise digital asset management product. CCLA has contracted for this product to use in conjunction with the FCLA implementation, but budget reduction has delayed their effort.

In addition, in an effort to explore the experimental and emerging “discovery tool” product environment, both FCLA and CCLA acquired the cutting edge Endeca commercial software platform whose use in libraries was pioneered by a consortium of North Carolina universities. FCLA took this innovative product to full production in 2006, but in a cost reduction move replaced it this year with the open source SOLR/Lucene software platform and continues to improve their MANGO interface with this approach.

CCLA did not move Endeca into production, but instead, accepted Ex Libris’ invitation to join with five other international customers as members of the PRIMO Charter Customer program. This program gave CCLA the opportunity for reduced pricing and a role of influence in the development of the new Ex Libris product, PRIMO, which is an end-user discovery tool that provides seamless
and transparent access to a wide variety of library and information resources, both print and electronic. After bringing both Endeca and PRIMO to “proof of concept” project level, CCLA shifted its resources fully to the PRIMO platform as the basis of its LINCCWeb 2.0 product. “Early adopter” test colleges (Miami, Key West and Palm Beach colleges) activated this new product in August 2009. As of this report, 13 of the 28 colleges have moved to the LINCCWeb 2.0 student product based on PRIMO.

CCLA and FCLA’s research and development with these new technologies continue to offer new and eventual additional options for the creation of a comprehensive “Union Catalog” of all higher education library resources in Florida.

The institutions that CCLA and FCLA serve also continue to work collaboratively and in innovative ways. Since 1998, the FCLA Board and the CCLA Executive Committee have met jointly each December to discuss resource sharing, issues of joint and mutual concern, and to work collaboratively on issues best addressed in this fashion. The FCLA Board and CCLA Executive Committee have established an ongoing group, the Collaborative Ventures Steering Committee (CVSC), which began meeting in August 2007 to serve as a vehicle for cooperative activity in higher education library automation for Florida. This report is the result of the fourth yearly meeting, which occurred in July 2010 and identified additional opportunities for collaboration in the joint acquisition of electronic content, software development, and research to more effectively serve higher education students statewide.

The minutes of the July 2010 CVSC meeting are attached as Appendix I of this report.

The 2010 Legislative Session added additional activities for FCLA and CCLA, both statutorily and through funding proviso. The CVSC is the logical group to provide input toward the implementation of several of these issues. Specific issues include:

a. **Data Center Consolidation** – FCLA and CCLA are to prepare plans for consolidation of technologies into the Northwest Regional Data Center in Tallahassee. FCLA and CCLA staffs have been working, as per proviso, with the Agency for Enterprise Information Technologies (AEIT). Work is progressing, but there are a significant number of issues yet to be resolved.

b. **Joint Catalog Searching** – FCLA and CCLA are to have created a specified cross searching capacity between their systems by September 1, 2010. CCLA and FCLA staff worked jointly to plan and implement this functionality and the deadline was met.

c. **Accelerated Students eResource Access** – This statutory direction requires both Board of Governors and State Board of Education formal regulation and rule respectively and that process is underway. Once the BOG regulation and the SBE rule are adopted, FCLA and CCLA staff will work with their respective constituencies in the implementation of these requirements.
d. **Joint Licensing/Purchasing of eResources** – The CVSC is working with FCLA, CCLA, the State Library on behalf of public libraries, and the Department of Education on behalf of K-12 schools to carry out this process.

e. **Sunlink** – The Sunlink K-12 bibliographic database is to be provided to CCLA by the Department of Education to be included into the LINCCWeb 2.0 “discovery tool” based on the Ex Libris Primo software. The Sunlink program and services are to be discontinued. Discussions are underway between the FCS, CCLA and K-12 DOE staff. But as of this report, the DOE has not provided CCLA with any K-12 bibliographic data.

In addition to the legislative activity, the CVSC has been active in carrying out the directions given by the Chancellor of the State University System, and the Chancellor of the Florida College System in their joint effort to establish a “Task Force on the Future of Academic Libraries in Florida.” The CVSC co-chairs are serving as the co-chairs of the Task Force which held its first meeting on July 19, 2010.

As part of this year’s report it is also noted that the 2009 CVSC sponsored project for FCLA and CCLA to work cooperatively to create cross system searching capacity and experiment with cross system loading of bibliographic data between Broward College and Florida Atlantic University under the auspices of their Joint-Use Library was not completed. The required resources to achieve this project were consumed in completing the 2009 GAA Section 81 proviso requiring a plan to address four specific areas that had been defined by the Legislature.

**Next Steps**

Florida higher education library automation efforts continue to include a history of early adoption of new technologies and a charter membership in numerous regional and national initiatives involving library resource sharing. Building on this legacy calls for ongoing innovation, collaborative planning, and the constant pursuit of emerging trends of value.

The Collaborative Ventures Steering Committee working in concert with the FCLA Board, the CCLA Executive Committee of the Advisory Board, and the libraries of the 39 publicly-supported higher education institutions of Florida is the appropriate and well-positioned group to provide guidance and leadership in the collaborative development of a unified system of higher education library automation serving our state. Specific projects for 2010-2011 include:

- Continued work on the joint licensing of eResources
- Activity in support of the Chancellors’ Joint “Task Force on the Future of Academic Libraries in Florida”
- Continued work to ease system issues within Joint Use Libraries served by both FCLA and CCLA
Appendices

Appendix I: Minutes of the Collaborative Ventures Steering Committee
MINUTES

1. Welcome and Introductions

Kathy Miller welcomed the group to Gainesville and to the Florida Center for Library Automation. Introductions followed.

Dygert proposed that the following items be added to the agenda under Old Business: 1) name for eResource committee, 2) formal approval for Dygert and Schmucker to attend various meetings, and 3) allowable electronic access at joint use libraries.

Action: Madaus moved, Corey seconded a motion to approve revised agenda. Motion approved.

2. Legislative Session Impact

a. Data Center Consolidation

Madaus reported that FCLA and CCLA have submitted “workbook” spreadsheets to the Agency for Enterprise Information Technology (AEIT) as part of their standard data consolidation process. An executive overview with additional information will be submitted by August 6, 2010. AEIT operates under section 282.016, Florida Statutes, which outlines their responsibilities. Their forms are designed for state agencies and FCLA/CCLA do not fit into their model. Both FCLA and CCLA have requested exemptions based on the AEIT standard process. CCLA requested an exemption on the grounds that Aleph is departmentally specific since no other agencies have Aleph. FCLA has requested exemption under statute that exempts the university system from section 282.016, Florida Statutes. No decisions have been made on the exemption requests. Transition plans for moving equipment by December 2011 must be submitted by October 1, 2010.

b. Joint catalog searching

FCLA and CCLA will be meeting on July 20, 2010, to discuss the issues around broadcast federated search to get union catalogs of SUS and Colleges. This is in response to funding proviso “requiring an online discovery tool search capacity across combined FCLA and
CCLA library holdings and applicable electronic resources, to include K-12 and public libraries where feasible, with an implementation date of September 1, 2010.”

c. **Sunlink**

Sunlink (K-12 union catalog and ILL system) was not funded. There was no concerted K-12 opposition to the legislation regarding Sunlink.

The Sunlink union catalog was built by Follett. As a less expensive scaled-down alternative, CCLA will be hosting the K-12 MARC record union database, but will not be maintaining the “Sunlink” database or associated services. CCLA has requested a sample of the data from DOE and is working on putting the data into Primo. Lexile scores are part of the enhanced data that Follett has enhanced each record with, but they are proprietary to Follett. CCLA is unclear about what will be provided by Follett. The current Follett contract is with UCF on behalf of DOE.

d. **Accelerated students eResource access**

Statutory language (SB2700/HB5001) declared that all AP and IB students become "authorized users of college and university library with access to all appropriate resources." This makes accelerated K-12 students full authorized users of all eResources. Nothing can happen until the BOG passes a regulation and the SBOE passes a rule stating how the students are identified, how it is communicated and what the process will be. This will be an eligibility verification process to identify them as authorized users. In response to a request from the BOG, FCLA has developed a draft verification form which has been shared with the BOG. As many as 160,000 high school students are eligible. Over 25,000 of these students are already dually enrolled students in the Florida College System (FCS) and have access through the colleges.

An e-mail was sent out on May 28, 2010, from Nancy McKee (BOG) to SUS library directors requesting input on draft regulation. A conference call is scheduled for July 21, 2010, at 10:00 a.m. to discuss the draft.

Dygert has talked with high school administrators to find out more about the students in these programs. In general this is a stable group and administrators do not feel that a term- by-term authorization would be necessary since there are not that many students who would become unauthorized. Impact on libraries was discussed.

- SUS noted that the Gainesville High School reports they bring accelerated students to the UF library in large groups to teach them how to use a university library. There is concern that under the currently proposed verification/sign-up process circulation desks will be unprepared for dealing with these large user groups.
- CCLA plans for these students to be put into the Aleph system by each institution within a special patron category that will identify which databases they have access to. FCLA has not yet determined how they are going to handle them.
- Dygert is asking eResource vendors for free access/trial for 1-2 years so that FCLA can monitor usage by these students. There are over 160,000 accelerated students; however, we are unsure how many students will take advantage of the eResources.
e. Joint licensing/purchasing of eResources

The Steering Committee reviewed House Bill 5201 which amended section 1006.72 (3), Florida Statutes, to require state colleges and universities to collaborate with school districts and public libraries in identification and acquisition of eResources. The BOG and FCS are looking to CVSC to fulfill these requirements and provide sufficient information to allow a report back to the legislature.

- Information and discussion

To satisfy legislative staff we need to be responsive and document our collaborative activities. We need to report back on what the core eResources are and how the core was determined.

Library staff has to identify the core and FCLA and CCLA are to coordinate the identification. Discussion of what is meant by “core” followed. Charge: identify the resources that should be available to all four-year students.

Dygert stated that the collaborative licensing committee planned to meet with DOE’s new Library Media Specialist and Mark Flynn of the State Library to discuss licensing issues.

- Process for defining FEL, SUS and FCS cores

Legislative proviso states that “Library representatives from the public libraries, school districts, colleges, and state universities all identify those resources that comprise the statewide core that will be available to all students, teachers, and residents of the state.”

**Statewide core category** – The State Library has the Florida Electronic Library, which constitutes the statewide core. Documentation from the State Library stating that this will be done through the Florida Library Network Council is needed.

**Action:** Dygert, Johnson and Schmucker will meet with Katrina Figgett (DOE), and Mark Flynn (DLIS), to discuss the statewide core and other licensing issues. Madaus offered to assist in setting up this meeting. The group will be reviewing existing resources, not defining the core.

**Postsecondary core category** – The overlap that both CCLA and FCLA purchase constitutes the post-secondary core. (FCLA and CCLA eResources that are acquired by both systems for post-secondary students.)

**Four-year degree core category** – Legislative proviso defines the four-year degree core as resources “that shall be available to all four-year degree-seeking students in the college and state university systems.” (four-year, not graduate programs)

- FCLA will need to determine the four-year core that all must have – Core at this point is what FCLA is currently licensing plus what is common to all; what everyone in the SUS has (the basic collection; what everyone currently has regardless of funding source).
- When Dygert negotiates the core with vendors, a price option for colleges and ICUFs that want to buy into the core out of their own money would be built into the contract.

**Two-year degree core category** – The eResources that CCLA purchases constitutes the two-year degree core. CCLA’s Advisory Board will be consulted annually to determine the core.
For Colleges, the core is what CCLA purchases for all, and a price option for SUS and ICUFs will be built into the contract.

Process for pricing for ICUFs, K-12 and public libraries: A meeting will be scheduled with the appropriate parties.

Action: Convene a meeting with Betty Johnson, Katrina Figgett and Mark Flynn.

3. Old Business

a. Joint Use Union Catalog project with FAU and Broward College – A plan was underway to explore the cross-searching capability at the joint use facility at FAU/Broward. Because of resources having to be focused on Section 81, this work could not be completed.

b. eResources e-licensing cooperative licensing paper (Melvin Davis & Claire Dygert report recommendations) – On December 5, 2009, the stakeholders presented their report to the boards of FCLA and CCLA in their joint annual meeting. The final draft report was accepted pending the addition of a conclusion. Schmucker and Dygert will continue to work together with Betty Johnson of Stetson University representing the ICUFs to pursue cooperative licensing opportunities. The group will work under the auspices of the Collaborative Ventures Steering Committee.

Action: Miller moved, Robinson seconded, a motion to approve the report. Dygert and Davis were commended for their work. Motion approved.

c. Committee Formation – Dygert requested that a name for the group that licenses eResources be established. Discussion followed.

“Florida Academic eResource Collaborative” (FAeRC) was agreed upon.

The people who do eResource licensing (Dygert and Schmucker) will comprise the “CVSC Cooperative Licensing Committee.”

Motion: Miller moved, Robinson seconded, a motion to 1) adopt the name “Florida Academic eResource Collaborative (FAeRC) officially for contract purposes, and 2) name the group that does eResource licensing the “CVSC Cooperative Licensing Committee.”

Motion approved.

d. Formal approval to attend meetings

The CVSC formally charged the CVSC Cooperative Licensing Committee to attend as appropriate the following meetings, and others as appropriate, in order to expand collaborative opportunities and strengthen communication:

- Bi-annual in-person meetings of the CSUL CPC
- Annual in-person meeting of the ICUF libraries group
- Annual advisory board meeting of CCLA

Motion: Henderson moved, Robinson seconded, a motion to accept the committee charge. Motion approved.

f. Allowable electronic access at joint-use facilities

Issue is access to eResources at joint-use facilities. Not all FCS libraries allow walk-in users to access computers without a log-in, preventing walk-in users to access eResources.

Dygert proposed the establishment of a small task force working under the CVSC to begin preliminary exploration (data gathering) of these joint-use facilities’ issues. Suggestion was made to break this into two steps: Fact finding to document differences and technological – Dygert and Schmucker will check on what is currently happening at joint-use facilities and
document the issues. CCLA has a list of the FCS/SUS joint use-facilities and will share with Dygert and Schmucker so they can begin. On outcome of this work may be to issue a statement about best practices from the CVSC about authentication options that can be shared with FCLA and CCLA institutions.

4. New Business

Task Force on Future of Academic Libraries in Florida – The initial meeting of the task force was held on July 19, 2010, at the University of Florida. Purpose of the meeting was to receive the charge and get on the table for discussion whatever concerns and questions there might be from people on the task force. Co-chairs, Morris and Miller, will draft a vision based on some of the work done during the meeting and send it to task force members for review. They will also develop an outline of areas of work and what is needed from the task force members. Members will be asked to notify the co-chairs of areas of interest that they would be willing to work on.