Executive Committee of the Members Council on Library Services (MCLS)

Thursday, August 20, 2020 – 1:00-2:30 p.m. EST

Committee Members: Stephen Bannister (TCC), Gale Etschmaier (FSU), Teresa Faust (CCF), Janice Henderson (NWFSC), Brent Mai (UNF) Judith Russell (UF).

Guests: Ellen Bishop, Robert Dugan, Wendy Ellis, Brian Erb, Rachel Erb, Susan Rodgers, Elijah Scott, Rebel Cummings-Sauls, Lisa Tatum, Dave Whisenant.

Call to Order
Called to order at 1:04pm.

Approval of Meeting Minutes (July 10, 15, 23, 30)
All minutes approved with minor edits.

MCLS Meeting Dates
Although hopes run high for an in-person meeting, with uncertainty about the COVID virus, institution travel budgets, and whether FLVC will still be in their current Tallahassee offices, FLVC will prepare for a probable virtual meeting on December 3-4, 2020. Tentative date for Spring will be March 4-5, again hoping for in-person, but planning on virtual meeting.

Complete Florida Plus Program Veto
A. CARES ACT Grant
The DLIS CARES grant proposal sponsored by UNF was submitted. Mai reported signed partnership agreement forms have not been received for 6 colleges, in many cases due to the need to route the request through institution administration. Russell reported that 45 grant applications had been received by DLIS, requesting over $5 million in total, though only $1.9 million is available. Gratitude expressed to UNF for waiving its IDC costs in support of this proposal. It is believed that the IDC waiver and the submission of a tiered proposal will be viewed favorably by those determining who gets the grant award. The grant applications are to be reviewed in mid-September and the awardees announced in October.

B. RSI for New Host Institution
Russell proposed that the Committee submit a question on the status of statutes affecting FLVC to the McKee/BOG transition committee for posting on its Q&A site for the benefit of institutions considering hosting the new FLVC. The Committee agreed this would be useful.
It was also reported that some institutions were discouraged from hosting over the limit of 3% for overhead. Whisenant reported a new posting to the Q&A indicated that the BOG transition committee would be open to looking at proposals from institutions offering more or less than 3%.

**FALSC Briefings**

A. Interim CEO Update
Dugan reported that some contracts have been terminated without his input, including some that had already been paid for and for which time remains. He is asking to be included in contract cancellation discussions before more contracts are cancelled. FLVC will be vacating its Pensacola offices by Sept. 15. The 6 FLVC staff members in Pensacola will be operating remotely. Equipment will be moved to FLVC in Tallahassee. There’s been some disagreement about the ownership of some property. Property belonging to Complete Florida is to remain at UWF, property belonging to FLVC is to be moved to Tallahassee. Movement of property to Tallahassee may incur additional expenses which must be approved ahead of time. UWF’s Innovation Institute is no longer in existence, and the division it reported to has also been disbanded, with units moved to other divisions.

B. Executive Director’s Update
Scott reported that operations are continuing as planned and on schedule. Plaudits expressed to FLVC staff for carrying on amidst the organizational turmoil.

C. Integrated Library Services Update
Bishop reported the new ILS is on schedule, and currently in its second phase, with ExLibris having extracted the data from 8 vanguard institutions. ExLibris will present the new instances on Sept. 8, and testing will run through the end of October, at which time the data from all 40 institutions will be loaded. Members of the working groups, and anyone else who is interested, have been working through ExLibris tutorials that are freely available online.

D. E-Resources Update
R. Erb reported that a new agreement with Newsbank will be made through UF. Quotes from other vendors were also received. The current Newsbank arrangement is for FCS, but SUS may be included in the future. Requests to vendors to forego or decrease price increases have been very successful overall. We may be looking at a surplus of $115,000, which could be put toward e-resource purchases.
Institutions are making use of their Consortia Manager accounts as the group licensing process is under way. Training webinars in Consortia Manager were offered in the summer.
Henderson asked about an e-resources vendor who seemed to be encouraging her to pay them directly instead of through FLVC. Although it is common for renewal notices to be sent to individual institutions by vendors, R. Erb had not heard of the situation Henderson was describing happening at other schools.

E. Digital Services and OER Update
Cummings-Sauls reported that Islandora will continue support until 2022. Orange Grove will shut down on Aug. 30.
She asked about the possibility of holding a virtual OER summit before the end of the current calendar year. The consensus of the Committee was to wait until Spring.

F. Library Support and Training Update
B. Erb reported on the progress of institutions moving to OpenAthens.
He has begun planning in-person training for Alma to take place in Spring, with schools being placed into groups for regional 3-day training sessions. The training is not hands-on but would benefit from being held in-person. Virtual training may be used if necessary.

September MCLS Virtual Meeting Agenda
The agenda for the September MCLS meeting was approved with one minor edit.

Executive Committee Meeting Schedule
A. September 16, 2020
B. October 21, 2020
C. November 18, 2020
Acceptance of the planned meeting schedule was made without comment. Rodgers pointed out that the original run of emergency weekly meeting calendar invitations is due to expire at the end of August and asked if the Committee wanted to continue meeting weekly. Scott predicted things may happen very quickly in September and October as the organization transitions. The consensus of the Committee was to continue to schedule weekly meetings with the understanding they could be canceled if not needed, and that the regular monthly meetings be included as part of the weekly meeting scheme.

New Business
Faust brought up a difficulty in listening to the oral discussion to take minutes in her role as Secretary while also monitoring the chat discussion at the same time. She requested that
chat items that Committee members think should appear in the minutes be brought to her attention.

Meeting adjourned at 2:39 p.m. ET.