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

Thursday, October 15, 2020 – 1:00-2:30 p.m. EST

Committee Members: Stephen Banister (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 1:02 pm.

Approval of Minutes
Minutes from previous meetings approved.

MCLS meeting dates
There were no objections

FLVC/FSU/NWRDC Transition Plan
Northwest Regional Data Center signed the MOU and will formally take over from UWF on Dec. 1.
The Gainesville FLVC offices will be vacated by Nov. 20. All current Gainesville staff will be retained and will work remotely. Property will be moved to FLVC’s Tallahassee offices. No disruption is anticipated, as all staff have been working remotely for months, and other staff have long been working from other states and other cities in Florida.
Rick Chu will be leaving FLVC on Oct. 23 (not related to transition issues); Ray Bogen is interim IT director.
Dugan will meet with Tim Brown, NWRDC, regarding financial matters.
Dugan has not been able to fill staff vacancies since February 2019, with three exceptions. It was asked if job announcements could be prepared in advance, so they would be ready to be posted on Dec. 1. The answer is no, as job titles may change as they move from UWF to FSU, along with other changes.

FALSC Briefings
Executive Director Update
Scott had nothing to add to Dugan’s report.
Integrated Library Services
Implementation of the new ILS remains on schedule. We’re in the final two weeks of the vanguard phase. On Nov. 1 we begin the full-40 test load phase. On Nov. 10, ExLibris is hosting a kick off meeting. Initial invitations were sent to implementation work group members, but they were urged to share the invitation with others; more than 100 people have already registered. At the beginning of February, all will be able to access the new system.

Plaudits were offered to Bishop and Whisenant on the ease of the process so far. Concern was voiced that enough attention be given to the integration of the ILS with Banner enterprise resource planning software, as none of the vanguard institutions was a Banner user. Bishop assured that ERP integration was being considered and explained that although they attempted to include a Banner institution among the vanguard while considering many other factors, the institutions approached declined to participate.

E-Resources
R. Erb reported that for the statewide collection, several vendors agreed to price increases of 0-2%, and a couple even rolled prices back. The cost of Springer-Nature for FCS is not yet finalized. The result is currently a $180,000 surplus. CMESC is considering e-book packages to purchase with the surplus.

FLVC has received a contract draft from Newsbank for FCS. Offered a number of options, LRSC unanimously voted for the “enhanced option” costing $216,444, an increase of $6,000, which includes 11 Florida newspapers in PDF and 52 new sources. R. Erb asked if MCLS or the Executive Committee needed to approve that choice. Concern was raised that the LRSC voting members do not correspond completely with the MCLS FCS voting members, and that it might be a good idea to send out a quick survey just confirming the choice. FLVC will send out a survey with a quick turn-around time, deadline Monday.

The renewal process utilizing the new Consortia Manager is going well. There is uncertainty about the process for paying invoices and reviewing contracts as the renewal process is taking place during the transition period.

Plaudits were offered to R. Erb, Lisa Tatum and staff for their success in negotiating for no or low-price increases from vendors during the institutional budget uncertainty of COVID.

Digital Services and OER
Scott reporting for Cummings-Sauls reported that the Digital standing committee will be starting to consider how to proceed when the current version of Islandora ends in November 2022.
Library Support and Training
B. Erb reports 26 schools are now using OpenAthens, with several others possibly going live before the end of December. Plaudits were offered to Bishop’s staff in getting links switched over. More than 1.5 million accessions have been made utilizing OpenAthens at FLVC institutions. OpenAthens statistics can be utilized in Tableau, as UNF is doing. The joining of HathiTrust to the OpenAthens Federation has made it possible for four SUS institutions to participate in HathiTrust and may make it possible for FCS institutions to in the future.

December MCLS Meeting Agenda Topics
No objections were made to the items to be covered on the agenda. It was asked if there was some established rationale behind the ordering of update reports from FLVC staff. The order followed by the Executive Committee agenda differs from that followed by the MCLS agenda. Also, during several in-person MCLS meetings, the E-Resources report from R. Erb has occurred at the end of the first day and has been split due to the lateness of the hour, to be continued the next morning. No one was aware of any rationale for the current order of reports. It was agreed that the order used by the Executive Committee be used at MCLS meetings, and that would move the E-Resources report earlier in the meeting, probably avoiding future splitting of that presentation across days.

New business
Henderson will send out her draft LBP support document at the conclusion of the meeting and explained some of the choices she made to focus the content. Talking points largely derived from McKee’s LBR presentation to DLSS in October will follow the brief narrative.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30