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

Thursday, April 15, 2021 – 1:00-2:30 p.m. EST

Via Microsoft Teams

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

Guests: Ellen Bishop, Tim Brown, Wendy Ellis, Chris Freeland, Brian Erb, Rachel Erb, Steven Mermelstein, Susan Rodgers, Elijah Scott, Rebel Cummings-Sauls, Lisa Tatum, Dave Whisenant.

Call to order at 1:05 pm

Approval of Minutes
Minutes of March 25 approved with corrections.

FLVC/FALSC Representation in NWRDC Governance
Steve Mermelstein (Director, Strategy and Management Consulting, RSM) said he was attending mainly to observe the meeting but gave a brief overview of his firm’s assignment to aid NWRDC in learning of the past role of FLVC members councils in the functioning of the organization. He expressed the desirability of NWRDC, MCLS and DLSS to learn more about each other. The interview process is winding down after about 30 interviews have been conducted. His firm’s report is due to NWRDC in mid-May. Brown was asked by a Committee member about the possibility of Committee or MCLS members attending NWRD board meetings to be educated about what NWRDC does. Brown said the NWRDC meetings are open to the public and members would be welcome. The member suggested that the purposeful invitation of members to attend NWRDC board meetings might demonstrate greater intent of cooperation and transparency, and Brown agreed.

Controlled Digital Lending Presentation
Chris Freeland (Director of Open Libraries) gave a very brief overview of Controlled Digital Lending and the role Open Libraries could play in a library making at least some of its print titles available in digital form. Open Libraries is part of the Internet Archive. A library could ask Open Libraries to compare some of its holdings against the Open Libraries holdings. Currently 80 libraries are participating in Open Libraries. Open Libraries currently has 2.3 million books in its collection and is growing at about a million titles a year. FLVC could assist individual member libraries with comparing its holdings with Open
Libraries. Some interest was expressed with the concept and Freeman will be asked to present at the June MCLS meeting.

NWRDC/FSU/FLVC Update
The legislation and appropriations for FPLAN are on track. Invoices will be going out to institutions in May; they will be reduced by any budget savings that has occurred. In answer to a question, Brown affirmed that funding for Alma is already in place and should not be an obstacle for go-live.

Library Services Updates
Executive Director Update
Scott reported that another state House committee approved the proposed FPLAN legislation without objection today.

Integrated Library Services
Bishop reported that the ILS implementation is on track and meeting all milestones. Review of test loads continues, and workshops continue for another three weeks. Some institutions are customizing the look of their systems. Whisenant reported that ExLibris confirms the implementation is on target.

E-Resources
R. Erb reported that they are moving forward with the purchase of ebooks from Packt and Rowman & Littlefield with the overage saved from e-resource negotiations. An additional group of Rowman & Littlefield titles will also be able to be purchased. A small amount of overage still remains, and more additional titles may be purchased. CMESC is weighing the EBSCO multi-year offer against the single year offer. Considerations against a multi-year agreement include concerns over EBSCO database and Primo VE interoperability, a statewide decrease in usage, and the unknown increases in EBSCO-hosted third-party databases. A counter offer has been put forth. A question was asked about the lack of quarterly database usage reports since September. Erb explained these were missing due to the new ILS implementation, but institutions can contact FLVC if they need those statistics.

Library Support and Training
B. Erb was not available to report.

Digital Services and OER
Cummings-Sauls reports that there have been attacks launched against Islandora and new measures are being implemented against future attacks. The OER Summit will be held virtually May 13-15 and general registration will begin shortly.
June MCLS Meeting Agenda Topics
As this will be the last MCLS meeting before Alma go-live and likely to be of the most interest to those in attendance, the report on the ILS implementation was moved to the first item of the Library Services Updates. The agenda was approved with this change.

New Business
There was no new business.

Adjourned 2:10 pm.