To: CSUL

From: Kristine J. Shrauger, Chair

Resource Sharing Task Force (RSTF)

Date: May 3, 2012

Re: RSTF Quarterly report

**Action Item:** Move UBorrow loan period to 45 days and agree to lend interlibrary loan books to a 60 day loan period.

* Discussed at CSUL last month. Asked to discuss it at PSPC. All but 2-3 institutions are in favor of creating a unified loan period for both UBorrow and interlibrary loan requests.
  + Reasons for moving toward a 45 day UBorrow / 60 day ILL loan period:
    - 67%-77% of all ILL users are graduate students and faculty.  Graduates and Faculty are used to a longer circulation loan period and would like to receive the same from ILL.
    - 12,890 UBorrow requests between March 1, 2011 an October 1, 2011 and close to 5,000 had renewals submitted.  Indication that patrons are really needing a 45-60 day loan period.
    - CRL has a 12 week loan period, indication that patrons need adequate time to use the materials.
    - Research Triangle and the CIC both have a 90 day ILL loan period for items.
    - Longer loan periods means staff do NOT need to process as many renewal requests, overdue notices, lost book invoices.  Less staff intensive.
    - Patrons are submitting a request for the same book over and over again due to short loan periods - labor intensive, packing cost and shipping costs for each request.  One long loan equals less cost in shipping and labor.
  + Reasons against moving toward a longer loan period:
    - Books will not be on the shelf at the home institution and available for patrons at their home institution.
    - Longer loan periods mean fewer patrons can view the same book at during the semester / loan period.
    - Decimate the collection – items will be off the shelves for longer.
    - If the home institution has paid for the book, the item should be used by the home institution’s patrons. If out on ILL/UBorrow, the item is being used by another institution’s patron. It is not benefiting their own patrons.

Outstanding tasks / Ongoing tasks

* UBorrow taskforce has asked that RSTF begin to look at overdues, lost books and invoices. A questionnaire has gone out to the RSTF taskforce and Access Services, but nothing further has been done at this time. This can be postponed until after July 1, 2012 when new members are added to the committee and we can have a broader discussion among all institutions regarding the topic.