Florida Library Association State University Libraries Interest Group (SULIG)

Report

State University Libraries Electronic Resources Subcommittee

In 2005, the CSUL (Council of State University Libraries) Directors reorganized the reporting structure of several committees, changing them to subcommittees reporting to committees. At that time the Electronic Collections Committee was renamed the Electronic Resources Subcommittee. The reporting structure changed from a direct report to the directors to a report to the Collection Planning Committee (CPC). The charge of the ERS is:

- Creating and managing a shared electronic collection acquired through state-wide funding;
- Leveraging the collective buying power of participating State University Libraries (SUL) to acquire resources funded through institutional dollars;
- Writing, maintaining, and applying collection development policies and procedures to the electronic collection;
- Advising collection managers on electronic resources and technologies.

ERS membership is comprised of a representative from each state university institution, one additional representative for each law and medical library, and an ex-officio member from the Florida Center for Library Automation (FCLA). The ERS membership nominates a chair and vice-chair for respective terms of two years.

There are five standing working groups (Business, Education, Humanities, Science/Health Science, and Social Sciences) that report to the ERS to provide subject expertise for new acquisitions, renewals, and cancellations.

<u>**Accomplishments since the 2005 meeting of the Florida Library Association**</u>

1. The ERS faced a deficit of $305,391.00 for the 2005-2006 renewals due to increases in costs for databases and an increase in FTEs. The deficit included the cost of additional blocks of searches for FirstSearch databases. Otherwise, searches would have been depleted before the next renewal. The deficit also included an increase in cost for the BE Press journals, as we were required to move to the full package increasing our holdings from 15 to 25 titles.

The deficit was resolved by:

- Transferring PAIS to CSA for savings of approximately $ 23,362.50.

- Directors of the State University Libraries agreed to fund the remaining overage as recommended by the ERS and accepted by the CPC.

2. The ECC Development Plan was renamed the ERS Development Plan and updated to reflect the new CSUL organizational structure.

3. The five standing subject working groups submitted recommendations for additional electronic resources to be added to the previously developed wish list. The total cost of these is $4,052,941.00. This list was sent to the CSUL as an addendum to the list previously submitted in 2004. It is meant to serve as an ongoing list of electronic resources that would strengthen our existing SUL e-resources collection.

4. The ERS continued to discuss SFX and Metalib and recommended that an SFX/Metalib Group be formed. Currently, ERS members are participating with the DDAC in the planning of an SFX/Metalib Summit.

5. The ERS addressed the need for improvements with netLibrary. These were addressed with representatives from SOLINET, netLibrary and OCLC. One significant issue was with the Visual Security Software (VSS) that was enabled in netLibrary. Patrons were required to enter a code when they requested "too many" pages or moved "too quickly" from page to page. NetLibrary has since removed the software.

Other issues and their resolution included:
- Check-out vs. browsing – SOLINET libraries will move to a browse only platform.
- Printing options – This will remain a problem as publishers want to restrict as much as possible and our users want to print as much as possible.
- Need for more academic titles – Requested that SOLINET include more academic titles in the fifth shared collection.
- Help Desk problems – A core group is being trained to provide online support specific to netLibrary
- Statistics – At the request of the SUL's, netLibrary is creating a statistics advisory board composed of Florida and ASERL librarians. ERS has three members on this board.

The ERS was also asked to comment on the up-front purchase of multiple copies of titles that publishers were strongly encouraging as the future model for netLibrary and consortia. The ERS was unanimous in thinking that this was a bad idea and the current practice of buying additional titles as use dictates is preferable.

6. The ERS created a Scopus evaluation team that began its work in May 2005. The ECC needed to determine the overall value of Scopus within the context of the existing SUL electronic resources collection, as funded by FCLA, and open access tools such as Elsevier's Scirus and Google Scholar. The final recommendation of the team was "do not license," at this time.

7. The ERS initiated an evaluation of the LexisNexis content and interface in order to determine possible alternative resources. Reasons for this include the continued increase in cost for this already expensive product, the loss of content, the inadequate and outdated search capabilities, and its non-compliance with federated search and link resolver technologies used by the State University Libraries. The ERS charged the Business, Science/Health Sciences, Social Sciences subcommittees/working groups and an ad hoc Law working group with researching the possible alternatives. Assignments were as follows:

> Business – Business
> Science/Health Sciences – Medical
> Social Sciences – News (excluding Business, Medical & Legal News)
> Ad hoc Law - Legal Research

The reports of the groups are being evaluated at this time.

8. ERS and CPC members worked on the swap-out of duplicate titles in Elsevier Science Direct. The result of this project is that the SULs have subscriptions to all of the Elsevier titles, except new journals in foreign languages.

9. The CSUL Directors suggested that the feasibility of having SOLINET negotiate on behalf of the CSUL be investigated. Currently, sub-consortia databases and e-journal packages are not handled by FCLA. Individual ERS members have volunteered to take charge of most of these agreements, but this has become an increasingly heavy burden.

The ERS had many conversations on how SOLINET might be used in these negotiations and FCLA provided a summary of how they support our shared electronic resources. SOLINET was invited to the ERS annual in-person meeting for further discussion. The ERS recommended three possible pilot projects that could be used to evaluate whether having SOLINET negotiate

would be better, the same, or less effective than the current process. These were sent to the CPC for approval and then to the directors.

Two of the projects were acted upon before any feedback was received from the directors, due to an immediate offer by one vendor and the time-sensitive character of the other. The third project has been put on-hold for the time being per the advice of the CPC.

10. Other database and ejournal package highlights are:

- The selection and addition of $42,583.00 worth of titles to the Gale Virtual Reference Library;
- Engaged in the renewal processes for Cambridge, Oxford, Wiley, and Elsevier;
- New contract negotiations are in process for Springer and Blackwell;
- Elected to continue with CAMIO, the new image database, from RLG;
- CSA added ASSIA: Applied Social Sciences Index & Abstracts to the SUL package at no additional charge;
- Compendex backfiles purchased by a subgroup of the SUL, with access via Engineering Village 2, resulting in all SULs having access to the current Compendex files on Engineering Village 2 as long as FCLA continues to subscribe to Compendex;
- Reviewed offers from Springer Ejournal Archive Program, Chronicle of Higher Education, Duke University Press Ejournals, Springer E-Books, Birds of North America, Books 24/7, B.C. Decker Journals, Greenwood Press E-Books, INSPEC via Elsevier, INSPEC backfiles, LexisNexis Congressional Research Digital.

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