

10-14-2010

# LACUNY Serials Roundtable Meeting Minutes, October 2010

LACUNY

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CUNY+ Serials Committee/LACUNY Serials Roundtable meeting, October 14, 2010

Attendance: Monica Berger (NY); Barbara Bonous-Smit (QB); Sally Bowdoin (BC); Dean Bryan (CO); Marsha Clark (CO); Lisa Finder (HC); Jane Fitzpatrick (GC); Ronnie Gomez (QC); Dolores Grande (JJ); Nancy Macomber (CL); Helena Marvin (CC); Karen Mason (ME); Larry McCue (CO); Phyllis Niles (YO); Olga Snaider (CO); Jennifer Tang (HO); Susan Vaughn (BC); Mike Waldman (BB); Ed Wallace (LE); Judy Xiao (S1); Hope Young (Y0)

Library systems update:

- 1) ALEPH performance – The problems that we have been experiencing with ALEPH began when a patron load, which normally takes 5 or 6 hours, had to be restarted and eventually took 56 hours; Ex Libris discovered that a setting in the Oracle database had been set incorrectly; performance improved when this setting was corrected.

In order to better monitor ALEPH performance and its impact on libraries, some high-level CIS staff have joined CULIBS and will also monitor work orders.

- 2) SFX – Work is currently proceeding on an upgrade to SFX Ver.4, which will be moved to a new platform, resulting in an expected 50% improvement in performance.
- 3) SSN project – Ex Libris completed the SSN project in June. SSN numbers still appeared on one final screen, but that was recently removed despite hindering the ability of circulation staff to distinguish patrons with the same names, etc. Ex Libris is now working with CIS to provide the same functionality without SSN numbers. Final resolution of the problem may have to await implementation of CUNYFirst.
- 4) ARC is still not working and is on a back burner while CUNY is exploring other options, including a non-Ex-Libris alternative being used by Boston College. CUNY will know within 2-4 weeks whether this system will work or not.
- 5) ALEPH Version 20 upgrade is currently targeted for August 2011. As with Version 18, the upgrade will be shepherded by a dedicated CIS staffer (Steve Landau). There were suggestions that July might be preferable, but differing summer school and fall semester schedules among the colleges present problems. The question will be brought before the Chief Librarians next week. The only dramatic change in Version 20 will be in the Reserves module.
- 6) ERM – It seems unlikely that we will be going forward with either Verde or Serials Solutions ERM's. OLS (Angela and Kevin) is experimenting with CORAL, an open-source product being used at the University of Notre Dame. This system does not have a consortial module, but there may be funds available for development and staff for inputting of data.

An update from Angela Sidman, for the minutes:

“In June, representatives from ExLibris and Serials Solutions gave demonstrations of their respective Electronic Resource Management Systems. Thanks to the CUNY staff people who took the time to attend the demonstrations and to subsequently fill out the survey distributed by OLS. Their feedback has been helpful to us. With our budget uncertainties in mind we are looking at both vended and open source solutions as we move ahead with this process.”

- 7) Curtis has purchased two test servers while will allow us to make changes in a test environment. Brian Cohen said at the IT Steering Committee that the servers are ready to be turned over to OLS. Application loading should begin next week. Note that test servers are for internal use only and should not be confused with training servers.
- 8) Public display of electronic resource messages. At the last public services meeting it was decided that the message for electronic resources will be changed from:

Access: XX Web workstations  
to: Access for XX users

Old records will probably not be changed.

E –resource call numbers and messages are listed in the CUNY Cataloging wiki.

Marsha discussed OCLC maintenance of Serials Solutions titles. Serials Solutions will maintain our holdings in OCLC, making it unnecessary for OLS to load our SS records each month. Two forms need to be filled out, one for SS, and the other for OCLC (phone help is available for the latter). There was agreement that all libraries will sign up for this service by December 1<sup>st</sup>; after this date holdings for SS titles will no longer be sent to OCLC by OLS.

Cleanup of records is essential if tools such as IDS are to function properly. It is important to put effective processes in place locally. Records should be deleted from both ALEPH and OCLC, and staff should be taught to suppress certain records to avoid their being reported to OCLC. It is recommended that original cataloging be done in OCLC, and then exported to ALEPH.

#### EBSCO

Susan O’Leary said that the EBSCO serials contract has been approved by OGS, and has been in place for 6 weeks, but is still awaiting final approval at the Comptroller’s office, which does not seem to understand the importance of timing in renewal of serials. All state serials contracts expire December 31<sup>st</sup>, so it is urgent that the contract be signed in sufficient time to renew our titles. It is important that libraries return their renewal lists as soon as possible, so that EBSCO can send invoices immediately upon the contract receiving final approval. EBSCO has been in touch with all parties involved,

and has even hired a lobbyist. It was suggested that any additional pressure upon legislators, the Comptroller's Office, etc. might prove useful. The problem will be brought up at the Chief Librarians' meeting next week.

Susan mentioned that we might want to change the EBSCO title numbers (in order and subscriptions records) to EBSCO order numbers; the former can change, e.g., with title or format changes, while the latter do not. If and when a library wants to make the switch, EBSCO will provide barcodes to facilitate the process.

She also mentioned that some non-CUNY libraries had received a letter from WALDO saying that Sage Premier and Oxford journals had to be purchased through WALDO. She wanted us to know that that is not the case and these materials can be purchased through EBSCO with the same discounts.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 24, 2011, at 9:30.

N.B. These minutes were prepared with the help of Larry McCue.