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2001

LACUNY Acquisitions Roundtable Meeting Minutes, May 2001

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Acquisitions Roundtable Minutes
May 8, 2001

Present: Ka Chuen Gee (LE), Ching Chang (ME), Judith Wild (BC), Yvonne Webb (HC) Charles Stewart (CC), Dolores Grande (JJ), Sharon Swacker (NY), Sally Bowdoin (BC), Bertha Bendelstein (BC), Devin Feldman (QC), Njoki Kinyatti (York), Micaela Waldman (BB), Susan Vaughn (BC), Francine Egger-Sider (LaGuardia), Ofelia Rabassa (GC), Jane Davenport (JJ), Pat Young (Central), Jeanne Galvin (KB)

ALEPH

Pat's announcements: Subset III of test data has been sent to Exlibris and will be indexed by next Thursday. Catalogers will be called upon to look at the data on May 17th. Acquisitions librarians will be called upon to review the data in June, before the training sessions.

New release of GUI (with corrections) will be distributed soon. Sometimes certain modes of Aleph may not work (or disappear). This is because Exlibris is working on them for improvements. Exlibris does not make announcements or forewarn people when they work on something.

Complete CUNY+ database will be loaded in Aleph production on June 25 (according to the Aleph at CUNY timetable). The training region is too small to accommodate the data. Production region will be created. Details of training sessions will be announced on OLS Aleph homepage (<http://ols.cuny.edu/aleph/timetable>)

Excellent news: Additional Aleph training sessions will be scheduled all throughout the fall in all boroughs. Colleges with large classrooms (enough to accommodate thirty people) will be used as training sites. Please talk to Pat if you have good size classrooms with advanced PCs. Support staff, librarians who haven't been to training, and trained librarians who are still not confident enough to handle all Aleph operations, are all welcome to join these training sessions conducted by Pat.

Two Public Catalog task forces are formed: Indexing and Web Site Design. Minutes of their meetings will be posted to let us be aware of the developments.

Windows NT is the best to work with Aleph GUI. 95 and 98 have problems and sometimes may crash. Exlibris is addressing these difficulties this week.

Coutts:

Fill rate report: Pat distributed Baruch's fill rate report as an example: 82.9% received within 45 days, 90% within 75 days. Pat said that many libraries still did not enter Coutts invoice date into the invoice number field in the correct format. Data could not be retrieved because of such errors. She reminded the librarians that data must be entered like in this format: INV NO 08/15/00; I10020654 (see her email)

Claim reports: Librarians are concerned that Coutts sent out many status reports to them but not the book itself. They are worried that after receiving all the reports, eventually they still are not going to get the book. Occasionally, Coutts sent out a cancellation report to a library and then sent the book a few months later. By then, the library may have already purchased the book elsewhere. Coutts is expected to be completely compatible with Aleph. Item records will be overlaid.

Microfilms:

Librarians agreed that microfilms are seldom used. Most libraries

are seriously considering cutting microfilms to save a substantial amount of money.

E Books:

CUNY NetLibray is provided by Library Central Office and is free for all to use. Four libraries, Brooklyn, Staten Island, Queens, and Borough Of Manhattan, have purchased the basic NYLINK collection. Any CUNY member can go the one of these libraries to register and use the collection there. Some libraries have also purchased individual titles (or subscriptions) from Philip Mervis at different rates. So far, E book usage rate is quite low.

Fiscal Year Close:

The committee has agreed to the following schedule for the fiscal year close report:

May 17th Open Order report.

May 29th FYCL program in test mode.

June 21st Final open order report.

July 2nd FYCL program in production.

Because of the Aleph migration, Pat urges all libraries to clean up their CUNY+ acquisitions database as much as possible, such as: close obsolete open order records, approve unapproved invoices; close (make inactive) obsolete fund records; and be sure to inform Pat of all the new fund codes created with this fiscal year.

Thank you for your attention.

Ka-Chuen Gee
Lehman College