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LACUNY Interlibrary Loan Roundtable Meeting Minutes, April 2009

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LACUNY Interlibrary Loan Roundtable  
April 21, 2009  
Minutes  

Attendees: Jay Bernstein (KCC); Evelyn Bodden (CC); Norman Clarius (HC); Dorothea Coiffe (BMCC); Austin Duffy (JJ); Maria Isabel Fernandes (QCC); Geraldine Hébert (BCC); Gene Laper (LC); Anne Leonard (CT); Andrew Leykam (CSI); Clementine Lewis (LG); Eric Neubacher (BB); Beth Posner (GC/Chair); Kevin Reiss (Central); Evelyn Silverman (QC); Sherry Warman (BC); Judith Wild (BC)

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. by the Chair. There were two guests present: Kevin Reiss, University Systems Librarian, and Polly Thistlewaite, Head of Public Services at the Graduate Center.

The discussion included the following:

**ILL Survey:** Members suggested additions to the online ILL Roundtable survey, such as what listservs members read, whether they borrow textbooks for students, lend videos, art, etc; what percentage of time members spend on interlibrary loan, what they think of LAND…

**Electronic delivery of articles:** BC had a few of its database contracts rewritten to permit electronic shipping of articles. LC prints out an electronic document and ships it via METRO.

**The Information Delivery Services (IDS) Project** is a New York state group of ILLiad libraries that share statistics and have a mentor program, a summer program, and a workflow toolkit (highly recommended by CSI). On May 14, representatives from IDS will be at the CUNY Central Office to talk about the project. Members are invited to attend.

**Kevin Reiss**, the University Systems Librarian, was a guest. He described the differences between Odyssey and ILLiad for ILL beginners. LG and BMCC told of their unsuccessful attempts to install Odyssey’s standalone version. LG uses Ariel and has purchased the new version of the software. CSI said their IT department had a problem opening up ports, not in installing the ILLiad version of Odyssey. HC asked if Odyssey requires a certain scanner; Kevin said no, based on his previous job at the Graduate Center. HC’s systems people had to reinstall a patch they got to make their scanner compatible with Ariel 4.1.

BC urged OLS to put something on their web page for libraries’ systems people to help them install ILL software like Odyssey. Their systems people had difficulty installing it. They did a workaround to avoid disabling the firewall. Kevin said people should email him about common issues like the patch.

**ILLiad:** With CUNY Central offering to pay for CUNY libraries’ first year subscription to ILLiad, several members had questions about this software. JJ asked if they could limit ILLiad to faculty and graduate students. According to Kevin, ILLiad has an internal account system that requires users to self-register first. Staff must log into ILLiad and review and approve (or disapprove) a prospective user’s account. Staff would have to use Aleph to check the user’s
status (faculty, graduate or undergraduate). It is possible to disapprove undergraduate users this way.

In general, Kevin recommended that schools look into integrating their campus directory service with ILLiad from the start “to avoid the workload of having to manage, expire, and renew user accounts by hand.”

Polly Thistlewaite, Graduate Center, thought undergraduates should be able to use ILLiad too. Also, ILLiad can link to the Find it! option (SFX) and automatically fill out the request (title, author, etc.), but it must to be accessible to all users for this link to work. LG indicated that opening ILL to undergraduates for community colleges would require hiring additional staff and obtaining a larger budget for borrowing. BB said fears that opening ILL to undergraduates would flood them with borrowing requests proved unfounded, and urged members to consider letting undergraduates use ILL.

JJ also asked about potential setup problems with ILLiad. Kevin said it was simpler to have OCLC host the ILLiad server it, though it would cost more money and might pose initial firewall problems. For example, CSI had to change the security settings of their office computers to open up their ports and connect with OCLC’s servers.

The meeting was adjourned shortly after 4:00 p.m. After the meeting, Beth demonstrated how ILLiad works using GC’s account and her laptop computer.

Respectfully submitted,

Austin Duffy

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