

Systemwide Operations and Planning Advisory Group (SOPAG)

University Librarians Minutes of the Meeting April 27, 2001

See also <http://libraries.universityofcalifornia.edu/sopag/>

1. SOPAG Items

a. Status Report on SOPAG Task Forces and UL's Advisory Structure.

On the basis of the input from the various groups, individual comments, and the excellent LAUC report, Mirsky reported that it appears the University Librarian's advisory structure is functioning well, including SOPAG, the all campus groups, the common interest groups, and the various task forces. A consistent suggestion was that communication be improved to keep the UC community better informed. Methodologies suggested to enhance communication included: (1) consolidating more documentation on SOPAG and make it searchable from the other UCOP Websites; (2) posting agendas in advance of meetings; and (3) issuing updates and progress reports on the initiatives, activities, and accomplishments of the various groups and task forces.

ACTION: SOPAG will be asked to follow up on these suggestions.

Dyson declared the review of the UL's advisory structure completed and gave thanks to all for their assistance in this review. The UL's appreciated their dialogue with LAUC and the LAUC President will be invited to a fall meeting of the UL's Group.

Dyson reported that Gerry Munoff will be the chair and convener of the University Librarians Group, effective July 1st. The membership of the UL's Group will remain as previously established. John Tanno will be chair of SOPAG effective October 1st. Dyson will serve an additional year on the UL's Steering Committee to provide for continuity since most of the members will be new; Munoff will serve two years as chair, thereby providing for the regular staggered terms of the membership.

b. Planning Workshops.

Mirsky reported that no further workshops are planned for this fiscal year. HOPS is developing a workshop on copyright and Colby Riggs (UCI) is chairing a group to develop a second, advanced metadata workshop. The CDL is planning a workshop on usability testing and Ellen Meltzer (Senior Associate for Education, Usability, and Outreach) will be leading this effort, following a similar approach to that used for developing focus groups, i.e., holding a workshop to train campus representatives who can go back to the campus and train others. Lessick mentioned that guidelines have been issued for proposing workshops, which should facilitate the proposal and approval of future workshops.

2. CDL Items

a. CDL Collection Development Issues and Strategies.

French reported on the status of recent negotiations and cited the improvement in the proposed contract from Nature as evidence that the CDL and other research libraries were beginning to have a positive impact on publishers. Sustainability and perpetual access continue to be key

issues in the negotiations. With the renewal of Elsevier contract looming in the next year, strategies for negotiation are continuing to be refined.

The possibility was discussed of seeking funding, particularly in the context of Tidal Wave 2, to develop a core, online undergraduate collection which would be helpful to secondary school students planning to pursue a university education, even though there are public (e.g., Library of California) and private (e.g., Questia) activities in this arena.

ACTION: Dyson will bring this suggestion to the attention of the SLASIAC'S Scholarly Information Program Task Force.

b. Visual Resource Planning.

The development of a repository of visual images was enthusiastically discussed with a general consensus that the concept should be pursued by the CDL. While many constituents are already actively engaged in building image databases (art, earth sciences, medicine, photography, etc.) there is a real need for collaborative leadership. Schottlaender mentioned that UCSD's Senior Associate, Digital Library Program Development, was taking an "environmental scan" to determine what related projects are currently underway at both UC and elsewhere.

ACTION: The UL's will continue a dialogue on visual resource databases via email and be prepared to discuss concepts further at the June 14th UL's meeting. Schottlaender will share the findings of the environmental scan.

c. Shared Cataloging Update.

French reported that the Shared Cataloging Project was going well and that they are caught up with the cataloging of CDL licensed serials and databases. \$20,000 has been allocated from resource sharing funds to catalog State of California internet documents beginning July 1, 2001.

d. A & I/Melvyl® Transitional Update.

French reported that a Aleph System Platform RFP Review Committee chaired by David Walker is hard at work preparing an RFP to acquire new hardware for the Melvyl® System. The CDL Technical Architecture and Standards Working Group and San Diego Supercomputer Center are represented on the committee.

Christina Campbell, Melvyl® Union Catalog Implementation Project Manager, reported on the implementation of the Ex Libris Aleph 500 system. Three implementation teams have been formed: 1) the Services Team chaired by Ann Jensen, will be working on the user interface, including indexing and sorting options; 2) the Database and Technology Team chaired by Karen Coyle will be having a two-day meeting in May to plan the technical implementation; and 3) the Usability and Education Team chaired by Ellen Melzer has established a Website <http://www.cdlib.org/news/melvyl.html#6> which provides a rationale and timeline for the transition. A Prototype database of 500,000-1,000,000 records should be up by the late fall, 2001. The complete new Melvyl® should be up and running in early 2002. It will be run in parallel with the old system until early 2003, after which the old system will be taken out of service and conversion to the new Melvyl® will be complete.

Campbell also briefly discussed the documents prepared to date (Principles, Policy Issues, and Adaptable Text) which were well received and then turned to the issue of the name for the new Melvyl® and the concern that this term could not be used as a noun.

ACTION: The UL's endorsed the recommendation that the name Melvyl® will continue to be used. Campbell was asked to explore further the alleged prohibition against using the name "Melvyl" as a noun, since other entities do not follow this limitation.

The UL's commended Bernie Hurley for his monumental efforts and exceptional leadership in steering the RFP process for the Melvyl® system replacement.

The A & I Transition Steering Committee should make its recommendations in July and the transition should begin in August of this year. PubMed is being fast tracked since Medline will be discontinued in December 2001.

3. Systemwide Library Planning Items

a. Collection Management Initiative Update.

Johns presented an update on the CMI referring to the Preliminary Schedule as distributed. A database of 2,800 titles provided by 18 publishers who can provide the user data necessary for the project has been compiled. The Operations Advisory Committee Subgroups have been formed (Publicity, Bibliographic Control, Costs, Usage, and IL L/Document Delivery) to assist and the project is moving along according to schedule.

b. Resource Sharing Update. Request.

Butter reported that the pilot for Request service for Special Collections materials should be available sometime after May. Requests will be reviewed by Special Collections staff, prior to fulfillment. Materials will be consulted in the Special Collections department of the borrowing library. PubMed will be added to Request in the near future.

c. Consortial Borrowing Software (CBS).

Butter reported that negotiations are underway with the apparent successful bidder for the CBS and plans are to start the implementation in the fall. Bernie Hurley will be assisting with this effort.

d. Desktop Delivery.

Claire Bellanti presented the report of the Desktop Delivery Project Team regarding available options for software and hardware. At this time, no available software was found that meets the all the needs specified by the Team. Ariel 3.1 will allow for posting of documents to the web, but the date of its release is uncertain.

The UL's agreed to defer the decision until August 1st. If Ariel 3.1 is released on or before that date, it will be the software of choice. In not, other options will have to be pursued.

With regard to hardware, the team recommend and the UL's concurred that the Minolta 7000 was the best available choice.

ACTION: Werner will convene an ad hoc committee to develop a cost model for distributing the available Resource Sharing funds (\$342,000) to be used by the campuses for the acquisition of desktop delivery hardware.

In the meantime, campuses may chose to use Relais Express, the software currently used by the SRLF, as a local system in order to gain experience and begin providing desktop delivery on campus.

4. General Items

a. **Review of UL's Advisory Structure.** (See 1.a. Above)

b. **Copyright Committee Update.**

There was a brief discussion of the draft policies developed by the UC Standing committee on Copyright: 1) Policy on Ownership and Use of Course Materials; 2) Policy on Recordings of [Academic] [Instructional] Presentations; and 3) Policy on Reservations of Rights.

5. ILL Loan Period

Dyson mentioned that faculty have expressed interest in having the ILL loan period extended beyond the current three months.

ACTION: SOPAG will charge the Resource Sharing Committee to review the current ILL loan period and consider extending it.

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