

## Preliminary Report

### NexGen Technical Services Pilot 1 for UC Shelf Ready Task Force

August 29, 2013

The UC Shelf Ready Task Force has been charged to serve as a pilot to investigate the potential cost savings from a consortial shelf ready contract with YBP. If sufficient cost-savings can be achieved, recommend implementation of the consortial shelf-ready plan.

The Task Force has partially concluded its assignment. In the past four months, it has identified the stakeholders of the project; initiated preliminary inquiries with YBP, the vendor; and conducted a survey among UC campuses. Here are the findings of the Task Force:

- All campuses are interested in a UC consortial shelf ready agreement with YBP, if it will save money and time for each individual campus.
- The vendor charges two separate fees for their services: 1) the annual subscription fee (\$1,000 each campus); 2) a per book charge which varies among campuses based on the treatment required by each library (property stamping, security stripping, etc.).
- Due to the customized specifications from each campus, it is very difficult to ask campuses to agree upon some “basic services”.
- From the vendor’s perspective, having a consortial agreement specifying “basic services” plus customized services will not save them time and labor, since each volume still needs to be treated individually on a campus-by-campus basis.

Based on the analysis of the task force, since shelf ready involves various processing specifications from each campus, it is just too complicated to include processing details. The easiest and most practical way to realize any savings is to negotiate a single consortial annual subscription fee with YBP.

Currently, 8 UC campuses pay an aggregate \$8,000 subscription fee. We recommend CDL negotiate with YBP for a UC Shelf Ready Consortium agreement. On behalf of all UC campuses, CDL will pay YBP an annual consortial subscription fee annually of \$5,000. Here are the benefits for this recommendation:

- 1) Overall, UC will pay less money (\$5,000 vs. \$10,000). For the consortium, once the agreement is signed, there will be only one flat rate bill to be paid each year.
- 2) It will avoid unnecessary work in splitting the bill among all campuses and each campus having to recharge back their share of the consortial subscription fee.
- 3) It will be a new service model provided by CDL.
- 4) According to our survey, the annual subscription fee is a hurdle that prevents some smaller libraries from having a shelf ready service, since they have to purchase enough volumes to make the service cost-effective.

- 5) It will encourage small campuses/libraries (such as law libraries) to participate. For YBP, they will see service requests from smaller campuses, and there will be extra revenue due to an increased in total volumes purchased.
- 6) It will allow all of the UC Libraries' Technical Services departments to focus their attention on original cataloging and other more technically demanding activities which cannot be automated.
- 7) It will be good publicity of YBP's shelf ready service, since all UC libraries participate.

The Task Force urges SAG3 and CDL seriously consider this proposal.

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