

ARKLink Meeting Minutes

Friday, December 3, 1999; 1:00 p.m.

Harding University

People in attendance were:

Linda Bennett (UACCB)
Larry Blazer, (JBU)
Dean Covington (Lyon)
Bob Frizzell (Hendrix)
David Glick (Henderson St)
Jan Hart (UAMS)
Sharon Kerr (UALR)
Amanda Moore (UCA)
Peggy Morrison (UAMS)
Bill Parton (ATU)
Virginia Perschbacher (Philander Smith)
Ronald Russ (ASU-Beebe)
Mary Ryan (UAMS)
Kathy Sanders (UALR)
Mark Shores (UAM)
Henry Terrill (Harding)
Merle Vincent (North Arkansas)
Bob Yehl (Henderson St)
Juana Young (UAF)
Myron Flugstad (ASU)
Janet Parsch (AUF) presiding.

Myron called the meeting to order. The minutes were approved with one correction: that Peggy Morrison would distribute the questionnaire on the arculi (not arklib) listserv.

1. David presented several versions of the logo. The group expressed a preference for one to be used as a model for some further modification. David, Myron, and Janet will finish this up.

David will also make the Web site password protected and send out the password on arculi. There are other "Arklink" sites on the Web; Sharon will look into the legal issues surrounding our using that name.

2. Database Purchasing Task Force: No databases are ready yet, much to Bob's frustration. SilverPlatter has proposed some licensing requirements that ARKLink members are unable to comply with, since we are not a legal entity. Each institution will have to sign a separate licensing agreement. There are two outstanding signatures that are needed before CINAHL can be

live. PsycINFO will probably be available by the end of January. Since fewer than expected libraries expressed an interest in MLA, the cost will be somewhat higher than quoted, so the interested libraries are still working on pricing.

Bob's report was the first of several that day to point to a probable need for ARKLink to become a more formal legal being. Becoming a non-profit takes time, work, and money. The consensus was that the legal staffs of individual institutions would probably not be interested in or able to be of assistance. Janet has some materials on the process and will investigate further.

3. Resource Sharing Task Force: Peggy distributed the most recent draft of the Needs Assessment (dated 12-2-99). Final comments are welcome. Peggy and David will work to get the questionnaire on the ARKLink Website to make answering and tabulating easier. Peggy will distribute another draft of the questionnaire and a draft of the proposed cover letter on the arculti listserv. It is hoped that the needs assessment can be mailed to directors in mid-January.

4. Collection Development Task Force: Amanda distributed a written account of the Task Force's first meeting of November 10. They are investigating vendors and their approaches to consortial purchases. They are also looking into electronic journal services, such as JSTOR or Project Muse.

There was some discussion about the wisdom of consortial purchases of print, since in many academic settings circulation is dropping. Some discussion did reaffirm the current need for print materials for some disciplines at least for a while longer.

5. Funding Sources Task Force: Kathy distributed a list of Arkansas foundations that had appeared in the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette. If you have any contacts with any of those foundations, please tell Kathy.

6. Kathy also distributed the outline of the ARKLink "white paper", which is based on the TexShare model. Kathy has had individual phone conversations with each of the white paper committee members. She will work out a plan for writing the paper (5 or so pages) and present it to the group at its next meeting.

Jan Hart summarized a meeting with Dr. Sugg that she, Mary Ryan, Kathy, Janet, and Juana had attended. Dr. Sugg expressed great interest in Web-based catalogs and in INN-Reach for U of A System libraries.

7. Business: Juana reported on a presentation Mary and Kathy had done on the Digital Library for the Joint Committee on Advanced Communications and Information Technology of the Arkansas legislature.

There was also discussion of the sometimes difficult interrelationships of the many library groups working on consortial and distance education issues. The group reaffirmed its interest in remaining an academic library group as it begins and as it works toward some successful efforts. In the near future other groups will almost certainly be invited to join in statewide library cooperative ventures.

The ARKLink name seems to have gotten around to vendors and others, so please be sure to refer any questions about ARKLink and its efforts to Janet or Myron.

The next ARKLink meeting will be Friday, January 28, at UAMS, at noon.

Lunch will be provided by UALR, and parking fees will be picked up by UAMS.

Minute-taker: Peggy Morrison