

MERAC Minutes
July 14, 2005

Meeting Convened at 10:15

Attending:

Jill Nissen (Archway),
Lois Marshall (Arthur),
Ellen Eliceiri (Bridges),
Melissa Belvadi (Bridges),
Karl Suhr (Galahad),
Dan McGurk (LANCE)
Kurt Kopp (MCO),
Terry Austin (MCO),
Susan McCormack (MCO)
Rhonda Whithaus (MERLIN),
Mary Slater (Quest),
Ed Walton (SWAN),
Robert Black (SWAN),
Carol Antoniewicz (Washington),
Susanne Boatright (WILO),
Frank Baudino (Towers),
Laurie Hathman (WILO),

Minutes of last meeting approved

Airing it out

Washington

Washington University is switching from Article Linker to SFX, and implementing MetaLib, with August 15th being the projected "live" date.

Bridges

Eden-Webster is working on a training CD for students and faculty (using Camtasia), doing assessment for its freshman seminar, working on a tutorial for its extended campuses

Maryville University is beginning talks on starting an Information Commons.

The cluster itself is close to a new OPAC interface. Some changes with this involve breaking out new locations in bibliographic records and hard coding the pull down menus. Are also beginning to implement the Reading History element of Millenium.

Archway

Doing circulation training and implementing the EZ proxy server.

Arthur

Lincoln University has implemented the EZ Proxy server

WILO

Metropolitan Community College is now integrating access to the online library resources through Blackboard.

Election of Chair

Jill Nissen was unanimously elected as MERAC Chair for 2005-2006

State Funding Request

The state is still looking for recommendations on database purchases, not necessarily just in the life sciences as had been previously discussed. MERAC needs to prioritize its recommendations, which will be channeled through the State Library to the Secretary of State to the Governor's Office. Based on the cluster surveys from 2004 and some new information that has become available since then, the following databases were recommended in three tiers (each tier representing a different preference level):

PsycArticles
Web of Science

Biological Abstracts
LexisNexis Academic
BioOne

Sage Full Text
JSTOR Biological Sciences
Opposing Viewpoints

MCO Report

Kurt Kopp will now serve as MCO contact for the MERAC Database Cafeteria Plans.

A new VP for audible.com has made contact with MERAC regarding its products. These consist mainly of downloadable audio books and files for IPODs and MP3s. This is a possible consideration for a Vendor Direct offering.

A subcommittee was formed to review the pricing model and distribution of costs for the ABC-CLIO products in the Database Cafeteria Plan. This consists of Melissa Belvadi, Ellen Eliceiri, and Dan McGurk.

FTE listed by the Coordinating Board for Higher Education (CBHE) tend to be out of date. Vendors need to be able to find and duplicate the information we are giving them. It was suggested obtaining these figures through <http://nces.ed.gov> instead.

Cluster members need to be encouraged to update their MAROON data. MERAC representatives should request this updating be done by September 28th (two weeks before the next MERAC meeting).

MERAC committee representatives need to update the videoconferencing information ~~on their~~ based on the information handed out in the meeting by Susan McCormack.

In regard to the Database Cafeteria Plan's current offerings, subscriptions to ABC-CLIO dropped, ProQuest Psychology Journals was flat, and all others gained

The MLA contract was awarded to ProQuest and it should be running by August 1st

Kurt will forward a survey for MERAC members to distribute to their clusters in regard to offerings for 2006-2007. Possibilities include:

Opposing Viewpoints

Facts.com

PsychArticles

Communication and Mass Media Complete

SocIndex Family

PAIS

Europa World Yearbook

Biography and Genealogy Master Index

Historical New York Times (ProQuest)

America's Newspapers

CINAHL family

Standard & Poor's NetAdvantage

The deadline for returning surveys is Sept 30th.

The next meeting will be by videoconference on Wednesday, October 12th at 10 am.

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan McGurk

Truman State University