

**Adult Services Advisory Council
October 30, 2009 Meeting Notes**

Attendees:

Jo-Ann Benedetti (UHLS), Maureen Brown (BETH), Laurie Burns (TROY), Suzanne Fisher (VOOR), Margaret Lanoue (GUIL), Lois Papp (EGRN), Judy Petrosillo (BRUN), Chris Sagaas (APLM), Pat Sahr (NASS), Frank Sommers (BETH), Judith Wines (ALTM)

2009 Databases

The Central Library Advisory Council met to approve spending on databases. The group decided to keep *Reference USA*, *Testing and Education Resource Center* and *NY State Legal Forms*.

There was interest from the group in purchasing other databases and the individual libraries each paying part of the costs.

1. Language Databases. NetLibrary no longer carries the Pimsleur Language Series. These are missed and M. Lanoue would like to see if we can, as a group, purchase some sort of language learning database. M. Brown also is interested in a language database and indicated that the audio tapes go out frequently. J. Wines wondered if we couldn't just "beef up" our offerings in audios or downloadables. It was pointed out that language databases are different, as they have a visual component. J. Benedetti will set up database trials for *Mango*, *Tell Me More*, *Byki* and others she may find.
2. Career Databases. J. Benedetti is getting a lot of phone calls from vendors trying to sell some flavor of career database. Learning Express has *Job and Career Accelerator*, Ebsco has *Career Library*, Gale has *Career Transitions*. L. Burns said that her patrons aren't interested in taking a test to find a career interest, they need a job now. C. Sagaas said that APLM is trying out the Metrix learning database, which not only has a learning component to it, but also pulls local job information from indeed.com. The license is paid by a grant and APLM is partnering with their local One-Stop. Chris will pass on information to the group about this.
3. Novel databases. The group asked looked at 2009 database stats, then wondered what NOVEL was going to do. J. Benedetti told the group the Bernie Margolis, State Librarian was on a push to get "1,000 databases" into NOVEL. The group wanted to know why NOVEL went with Proquest rather than Ebsco for a general periodical database. M. Brown told the group that there is a 10 month embargo on articles with Proquest and many of the periodicals are British. The group wondered if a letter to the steering committee would help. M. Brown said she would draft a letter.
4. Most present wanted a genealogy database. Ancestry and Heritage Quest are owned by the same company. The former does not allow for remote access. Jo-Ann said that she would contact the vendor to see what kind of pricing structure they could give the group. L. Burns said she would give the group a TROY barcode so that they could try out Heritage Quest.

5. The group wondered if Jo-Ann could get a price for the Chilton Automotive Database.

Grants

1. Coordinated Outreach Minigrants. J. Benedetti mentioned that the Outreach minigrants were coming up. Final reports from 2009 are due December 15th, and the application form for the 2010 minigrants will be posted on December 1st. These grants are for targeted populations such as the physically handicapped, the aged, the institutionalized, the blind, etc.
2. LSTA. The 2010-2011 LSTA grants are coming up. These are for Systems and should center around "service improvement." J. Benedetti is soliciting ideas for this grant. S. Fisher asked if the grant could pay for a language database. J. Benedetti said that we would need to figure out how to measure outcomes for that. M. Lanoue thought the money could be used to teach / market databases. J. Benedetti had concerns that librarians have expended a lot of energy trying to teach/promote databases, and this is just not something that the public wants. Also, UHLS should not write a grant for a service that libraries should provide as a matter of course.
3. Fit for Life. J. Benedetti is concerned that there may be FFL monies left over because of the personnel changes in the System, causing many libraries to pull out of the grant. She will email the FFL participants to ensure the money is spent soon, and if the money cannot be spent, she will offer money to whomever asks for it first. J. Petrisillo asked if she might buy a Wii with it, and J. Benedetti said yes.

Concerns

None

Next Meeting

December 18th at 9:00 AM