

**Adult Services Advisory Council
July 2010 Meeting Notes**

Attendees:

Jo-Ann Benedetti (UHLS), Maureen Brown (BETH), Suzanne Fisher (VOOR), Margaret Lanoue (GUIL), Alissa Oakley (BETH), Lois Papp (EGRN), Judy Petrosillo (BERN) Chris Sagaas (APLM), Damon Vorce (TROY)

Visitor: Helen Tannenbaum, National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Mid-Atlantic Region

National Network of Libraries of Medicine

Helen Tannenbaum gave a brief description of the NN/LM and benefits of affiliate membership.

2010 Databases / Budget:

The Central Library Advisory Council met last year to approve spending on databases. We do not yet have the monies for 2010, but we know the funding will be reduced from last year. Unfortunately, we do not know at this time how much funding will be reduced, nor do we know which programs/services will be targeted. At this time, the discussion is not about which databases we should add, but rather, what we willing to give up next year.

Discussion followed.

Those present who have the Mango Language database like it a great deal. VOOR has promotional materials near the travel books and languages on CD. BETH and GUIL mentioned the ESL piece of this database is robust. Usage is continually increasing.

The Thomson Gale representative contacted J. Benedetti to offer an online version of some of their print works. For example, if two libraries individually purchased Gale print subscriptions (such as Contemporary Literary Criticisms) they are paying more than what the System would pay. M. Brown said that these got very little use and they cancelled their subscriptions. M. Lanoue said that the older volumes still got use at GUIL, but noticed the \$19,000 price tag on the archived volumes.

Reference USA is good, but C Sagaas said it was a bit clunky and he keeps expecting usage to go up. Some never use it. J. Benedetti presented database statistics which showed it to be used primarily by COLN.

Testing and Education Reference Center was purchased because the test-prep books seem to walk out of the library. All agreed that this was still a valuable resource to have.

Gale Legal Forms is not offering anything that cannot be obtained online with a Google search.

Many patrons ask for Ancestry.com and this should be made available System-wide. Although there is no remote access, it will get people into the library. Those libraries that currently subscribe on their own (TROY, BETH) say that people ask for it by name and those that want it will come into the library to use it.

Newsbank has offered UHLS a trial on their newspaper database. This includes the Times-Union, Troy Record and Schenectady Gazette. C. Sagaas remarked that the *Schenectady Gazette* would be popular.

A. Oakley said that the *Gazette* website is locked down and it is difficult to access. This database would be nice. J. Benedetti will followup and get a price.

C. Sagaas brought up 2 databases that looked interesting - both published by Recorded Books. *Universal Class* is similar to the Great Courses CDs; *ePrep* is an SAT, ACT preparation tool. Based on our circulation figures, each would be \$22,000 / year.

Recommendation:

Drop *Reference USA*

Drop *Legal Forms*

Investigate consortial pricing for *Mango*

Get a System price quote for *Ancestry.com*

Investigate *Newsbank* for local papers.

Overdrive

Overdrive has been increasingly popular. M. Brown said that usage has tripled at BETH; L. Papp at EGRN said usage keeps going up. There was a discussion of various devices that can be used with Overdrive. There was discussion about the Overdrive bus and everyone was very interested in the possibility of getting the bus. BETH has stopped *NetLibrary*, GUIL is considering letting *NetLibrary* go. M. Lanoue suggested manybooks.net as a source for eBooks.

LSTA Storytelling grant

There is concern that we may not be able to spend all of year one money before the end of the grant year (March 2011). BERN will see if they can schedule their storyteller this fall.

Coordinated Outreach

Since the NYS budget is being cut, there will be very little money for minigrants this year. (Last year there was only about \$9,000 available). J. Benedetti asked the group that if the money is cut again, would they prefer fewer grants (2 or 3) or more grants with less money. It was determined at a small grant of \$500 would allow the library to do a program targeting the outreach population very well. J. Benedetti will bring this up to the Coordinated Outreach Advisory Council in the fall.

Potential training

JBenedetti asked what training UHLS could provide and everyone expressed interest in Overdrive. There is online training provided by the company in September, but many feel that a face-to-face training would be better. J. Benedetti will followup.

Next meeting

September 21st at 9:00 AM.