

E-content Advisory Council

December 17, 2012

UHLS Green Room

Minutes

Attendance: J. Benedetti (UHLS), J. Chirgwin (RENS), J. Murphy (APLM), R. Naylor (COLN), A. Peker (CAST), J. Wines (ALTM)

1. Review of 2012 purchases to date.

J. Benedetti passed around a spreadsheet showing purchases to date. Most libraries have stepped up and exceeded the suggested contribution amount. Four libraries have purchased no content. There was a brief discussion about what to do with the non-compliant libraries.. J. Benedetti said she would talk to Tim about the issue and possible follow-up.

2. Update for 2013 recommended purchases by library. J. Benedetti reported that the directors preferred a contribution model based on usage, and not an across-the-board increase. She passed around a spreadsheet showing different contribution models, and R. Naylor found a calculation error. J. Benedetti will re-do the spreadsheet for the group.

3. E-content mini-conference: J. Benedetti is trying to arrange a 1 day mini-conference on February 7th. She has received positive responses from invited speakers, but no one has signed the contracts she has sent them. She will follow up. R. Naylor offered to help and J. Benedetti accepted the offer.

4. E-Book vendors for children (Scholastic, Sebcos, Sesame Street, Tumble Books): The OverDrive platform is not the best platform for compelling children's books. Mary Fellows asked what the process would be for the acquisition of children and teen e-books beyond what OverDrive offers. The group decided that since Central Library already approved a budget for e-content, it would not have to go to that committee, but rather, through the e-content committee for presentation to the Directors Association. The group agreed that this was something to look into, and would want the following info:

- a. What is the cost?
- b. Is the vendor's model an annual subscription? Do we own the content?

- c. Will it integrate with Horizon?
 - d. Are we duplicating what schools have?
 - e. Are there apps available to be able to use it on portable devices? which devices?
 - f. How extensive is the catalog?
 - g. In which file format are the books?
5. New Devices for 2013 – Overdrive Webinar: J. Benedetti reviewed the new devices coming out, especially the e-readers for Children.
6. Upcoming Webinar from PLA: E-Book Action: Inform and Inspire Your Community: J. Benedetti reminded everyone of the webinar. UHLS will participate.
7. Collection evaluation in 2013: J. Benedetti has noticed that non-fiction is not circulating as well as fiction, and suggested perhaps it is time to perform another collection analysis. All agreed and will examine a part of the collection. J. Benedetti will look at turnover rates and share with the group via email. Each member of this committee will look at an assigned part of the collection to review what is circulating This will help us build a better collection.
8. Vacancy on Committee: Gene Schatoff has indicated that she is unable to fulfill her obligations to the committee. We are looking for a member from a mid-sized library to replace her. Sue Hoadley knows and will put out a call for volunteers to replace Gene.
9. J. Murphy joined the meeting. The group reviewed the spreadsheets referring to 2013 library contributions for her behalf. J. Murphy noted that the APL consultant provided statistics showing them that many of their patrons do not live in the APL service area, that less than 2% of their total circ was e-books, and there is constant evolution in ebook, platforms and we don't know that we want to stay with Overdrive. J. Murphy also indicated that if she spent the requisite money on non-fiction e-content, it would have a strong adverse effect on APL's non-fiction collection. R. Naylor clarified that Central Library contributions are for the good of the entire System, and that this is in NY State Law.
10. Next meeting: we will have the e-book mini workshop on February 7th. The group will be notified if we need a meeting before that.

