

Academic Libraries of Indiana

Board of Directors
Minutes, April 2, 2009
Valparaiso Student Union

Present: Bowell, Brewer, Catt, Clark, Fore, Hafner, Lewis, Mullins (presiding), Persyn, Robson (sec'y), Russo, Salyers, Schmidt, Slayton, Steele (telephone), Younger

1. **Call to Order.** Mullins brought the meeting to order and the agenda was approved.
2. **Minutes of February 10, 2009.** Approved as amended.
3. **Treasurer's Report.** Minimal expenses have been reported for the last two months. Persyn reviewed thoughts on the 2009-10 budget. Funds have been allocated to support Lewis Miller attending ICOLC (International Coalition of Library Consortia) meeting in Charlottesville, VA. The issue of how best to use reserves and what the responsible level should be were discussed. For example, with the shared cost of Academic Search Premier we could take a one-time step to absorb the proposed increase or help members that struggle with the cost sharing formula. Should membership fees be adjusted? In six years ALI has not experienced any serious budgetary events. Many felt that reducing membership fees, which are relatively modest, was not a good option. Covering the proposed 3% increase for ASP would be symbolic.

Motion: Lewis moved that approximately \$8,000 of funds held in reserves be used to hold Academic Search Premier costs the same in 2010 as in 2009. Schmidt seconded.

Motion passed on unanimous voice vote.

4. **Budget for 2009-2010.** The budget for the new fiscal year closely mirrors the current one. With the decline in interest rates, there will be less interest earned. A second version with a reduced membership fee was considered and rejected. The fee is modest and affordable.

Motion: Lewis moved the acceptance of version one of the budget proposed by Persyn with no increase in membership. Bowell seconded.

Motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

The role of INCOLSA as ALI's fiscal agent was discussed. ILF might serve that role; it is audited annually. MLC could also serve that role and perhaps

Solinet. We pay \$1200 annually to INCOLSA for this service. The law may require an Indiana agent, thus MLC and SOLINET/Lyrasis may not be eligible. PALNI has developed contingency plans. Persyn will research options, including ILF and one or more private companies.

5. **Annual meeting.** The details for the annual program were discussed in some detail with the provisions for hosting the speaker well in hand.

As proposed:

ALI Annual Meeting
May 7, 2009

DRAFT AGENDA

10:00 – 11:00 a.m.	Steve Abram
11:00 – 11:15 a.m.	Break
11:15 a.m. – Noon	Questions and Answers from the Abram session (individuals asked to have comments/questions: Bob Slayton, David Lewis, Jennifer Younger, Tom Kirk, John Robson, and Robert Roethemeyer)
Noon – 12:30 p.m.	Lunch
12:30 – 1:15 p.m.	Poster Sessions (ND, PU and IUB already have volunteered sessions)
1:15 – 1:30 p.m.	Break
1:30 – 1:45 p.m.	Short discussion of take-home ideas (Janet Fore organizing)
1:45 – 2:15 p.m.	What do academic libraries want from a network? (Jennifer Younger)
2:15 – 3:00 p.m.	Business meeting and Elections Parallel with the business meeting will be a discussion of SLIS volunteers and poster session presenters if there is interest.
3:15 – 3:30 p.m.	Brief board meeting

SLIS students might work registration 9:30-10:00. Steele will see about registrations. Abram is an engaging speaker and we should not need an official 'reactor' panel; rather key ALI people will be prepared to spark questions. Russo will manage this aspect. Estimated cost for our speaker is \$500 plus expenses.

All are keen on the poster session portions, giving staff members an opportunity to share ideas and programs that have worked well. The interactive nature of poster sessions will be greatly appreciated.

A call will go out. Younger already has staff eager to come and present.

Hafner will assemble the packets for the members, including the usual reports, budget, slate, etc.

Eighty copies should be enough, including our guest staff members. Steele will send Hafner information on possible use of cloth bags – a greener option. They are quite affordable.

Mullins will send out the official announcement to the membership with RSVPs to go to Persyn. She has already sent out ‘save-the-date’ e-mails.

Fore has agreed to lead a discussion about what we have learned at the annual meeting. Mullins is interested in understanding how the smaller schools are managing in these difficult times. We will probably confirm that all libraries have common challenges.

6. **INCOLSA/MLC.** Younger led a discussion of the most recent developments at OCLC. The merger of SOLINET and PALINET into Lyrasis and the MLC/Incolsa cooperative arrangement has led all ALI members to consider what is the best option for service – individually and collectively.

The merits (as currently understood of (1) directly to OCLC, (2) MLC/INCOLSA, and (3) Lyrasis were reviewed.

The prices will be the same. OCLC wants the same price across the America. So networks will get very minimal reimbursement. Small that the state networks need to forge alliances.

Fore and Younger shared a very recent meeting with Dykhuis. MLC will be able to bill even for those who are not members of NCOLSA. He and Piper are to visit Purdue tomorrow and Mullins will confirm the options. We are all affiliated members of Lyrasis via ISL’s membership.

There is some confusion about a recent letter from MLC wanting prepayment for a year of estimated services. A request for an exception to this policy and to use monthly billing may be possible. Lyrasis has not finalized its relationship with OCLC but should do so in a matter of weeks.

Is there a benefit of going directly? The answer may rest with which entity can offer the best customer service. In the end it was agreed that we are in the midst of a ‘battle’ of the networks and we should delay responding to the MLC prepayment request until after our annual meeting.

Is there any reason for ALI as a unit to move to one option or should each campus makes a separate decision? Bowell made a case that we can better negotiate with Lyrasis if we work as a unit.

Timing means we need to have discussion at the May meeting. Younger will moderate this session. The goal is to assist each ALI member to make a better decision before July 1. The current national economic problems will have an impact on library funding, but what are the longterm implications?

Mullins will alert the membership to this topic for the annual meeting. In the end, we may go in different directions but need to do so purposefully. No one is locked into one option for more than a year. A serious study would be useful.

For a serious discussion, our afternoon session must be closed -- no INCOLSA or ISL representatives. They might be solicited for handouts and could come to the morning portion only.

Motion: Lewis moved that the traditional invitees will be welcome through lunch, but the business meeting is closed, and they may leave handouts.

Bowell seconded.

Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

7. Nominations Committee. Schmidt reported for committee.

The 2009-10 ALI Board of Directors is:

Professional Division:	Mary Persyn
PALNI:	Janet Brewer, Eileen Saner, Cathy Salyers
Non-PALNI Private:	Judy Tribble
Ivy Techs & VU:	Susan Catt, Susan Clark, Robert Slayton
De Facto:	Pat Steele, Jim Mullins, Jennifer Younger
IU/PU Regionals:	Michele Russo, Steven Schmidt
BSU/ISU/IUPUI/USI:	Arthur Hafner, Alberta Comer

Elections for the officers and the member-at-large will take place at the member's meeting. The slate is as follows:

President:	Arthur Hafner, Ball State University
Vice President:	Susan Catt, Ivy Tech Community College, Region 14
Secretary:	Cathy Salyers, Saint Joseph's College
Treasurer:	Mary Persyn, Valparaiso University School of Law
At Large:	Dan Bowell, Taylor University Upland; Janet Fore, Saint Mary's College; William Loudon, University of Evansville:

Robson will distribute to the membership.

8. Strategic Plan Revisited.

- Increase access to electronic resources. The SOLINET agreement, implemented this past year, is an example. Subsets include cooperative licensing, digitizing resources. Hafner discussed in BSU's newsletter his two projects. Collaborations needed between small entities and such schools as ISU, BSU, and IU-Bloomington which know the standards. Should ALI help to build collections based on ContentDM; ISL is interested. Project Indiana has been revived but much missing. ALI could help to create a coherent plan and work to integrate into K-12. National grants are available but they require lots of partners. Lewis shared his experience working with an advisory group of the ISL – projects need compelling themes. For example, Indiana is the nexus of national transportation. We might focus on the early canal system and development of railroads. Another theme might be the migration of New Englanders and Southerners to Indiana. Need lots of partners to get a national grant. Lewis is on advisory group for State Library. Need themes for the projects. ALI needs to bring a prioritized plan to ISL.
- Enhanced access collections to Federal documents and our individual library collections. There is slow progress in resolving the policy and political dimensions of access to documents. Many libraries that are selective depositories would willingly surrender portions of their holdings in order to gain the space. We need, however, to know that there is an efficiently functioning full depository collection, able to serve users.
- In regards to our sharing our own collections with users from other campuses, we need to capture the patterns of on-site statistics underpinning the sending our borrowers to others. To what extent are people are using the cards? Hafner has created a .pdf form that can be used on demand, resolving all issues of distribution of forms.
- Information Literacy. ILF has been contacted about sponsoring a session at ILF annual. IALA was contacted too as a partner for session. Sharing tutorial and pedagogy should have broad appeal.
- Distant and off campus learners. Not critical at the moment.
- What we have is a number of multi-year projects and ALI as a board struggles to make progress. Perhaps the cost of a graduate student stipend for a semester or giving an honorarium to staff members might push the matter. Mullins could solicit membership to see how and who can tackle these projects since the board members cannot. We need to find a way to get the word out to find the talent to tackle our problems, perhaps in units of a semester. 'X' number of high priorities projects need to be done. Members can survey the strategic plan and come up with mini-projects that they can do. Perhaps LSTA grants could be

used? The issue of state documents is a good example, both preservation and digitization. This includes website information. Indiana has a critical problem with state documents and ISL really struggles. The challenge of getting grant support for portions of projects is the need for staff to mentor and coach. There has to be deliverables. The grant recipient's library would supervise.

- Do we have a plan to update the strategic plan? Our current one covers 2007-2012. Should it be an annual exercise to make it a living document? The committee structure is what we use to implement the plan. The board should ask the committees what their goals are for the coming year.
- Professional Development. No update.
- Engage with SLIS. Done.
- Advocating with ISL and INCOLSA. Done.

9. **Interim Secretary.** Salyers agreed to assume the responsibilities of the secretary.

10. **Updates.**

- Evergreen. A new round of libraries being solicited to participate. Because the project is based on a central system all have to agree. Small to mid-sized public libraries are the initial audience. Large publics have not participated. There are no serials and acquisition modules. ISL has good staff. And the price point is right.
- University of St. Francis/Crown Point issue. The issue: Does the establishment of the Crown Point campus call for the University of St. Francis to pay a second membership fee? The consensus is that if the second campus does not have a functioning library with staff, then no second fee is required. Indiana Wesleyan pays only one. The branches of Indiana Wesleyan do not have functioning libraries. Taylor University-Upland and Taylor Ft. Wayne pay each pay but they were two separate entities. The consensus is not to assess. The two Davenports each had a library so de facto that required separate memberships. At Notre Dame the law library has its own OCLC symbol and thus a separate membership. There is no need to be operationally separate.
- Remote storage. Legislature will approve the 2nd ALF for IU and stimulus dollars will be used. The space has already been promised.
- Resource Sharing. No report.

- Public Relations. No report.
- Resources. Bowell presented the work to date. Academic Search Complete would be a minimum additional \$5K per ALI member. It has improved and merits a re-examination. It is probably not an option for INSPIRE and us at this time. Renewals are in process with SOLINET for ASP. A broad discussion of how ALI proceeds on adding additional databases. Do we force ALI members to collaborate and buy databases they do not want for the good of all? What of free riders? Is phased in cost part of the answer? There is a need to factor FTE plus perhaps use per campus. There was some agreement that there should be no free riders but have 'minimum' riders. Where is the threshold of interest that makes it advantageous to all? Some savings can be via ILL reductions. In the end, every subscriber needs to save something and nonsubscribers need a modest cost. Issue two for Bowell, Who can sign a contract? The by-laws may need revision. Some vendors even for a trial require a signed license. There are challenges about identifying the authorizing agent for a consortium license. We will need an MOU for all members who want to participate. Persyn will work with Bowell for such in regards to ARTstor. All praised Bowell for his leadership.

11. **Next meeting.** The new board will organize itself following the annual meeting next month. Persyn was thanked for her hospitality.

12. **Adjournment.** Meeting adjourned at 3:15 P.M.