

L-net Advisory Board Meeting

1/27/06 12:30-1:30 Knight Library in Eugene

Present: Lee Catalano (Chair), Beth Farley (recorder), Paul Frantz, Edith Fuller, Cindy Gibbon, Tina Hovekamp, Valery King, Linda Malone, Caleb Tucker-Raymond

Absent: Heidi Florenzen, Darci Hanning, Carrie Ottow, Jenny Takeda

Introductions and welcome of new Board members.

The group agreed that meeting minutes would remain an alphabetical rotation.

A discussion of changing the Board Charge from requiring four in person annual meetings to two or three meetings ensued. An annual meeting at OLA was suggested and also a meeting in late summer to discuss funding cycle issues. Lee will poll members to see how workable this is.

Lee also raised the question of having bi-monthly meetings. This was left for further discussion.

L-net and IM:

Caleb opened up a discussion of Instant Messaging and the role that it may play in the future of virtual reference. Several points/questions were addressed:

- It would be difficult for schools to implement the service because of restrictions on IM
- IM is not limited by the VR software available
- Privacy issues are a concern with IM vendors
- What are the issues with implementing IM statewide
- Perhaps a pilot project between several organizations with specific goals would be a good idea.
- IM attractive because of the low cost
- Already a familiar interface for teens and youth

Training

It was suggested that Emily Papagni (Training Coordinator) be invited to attend Advisory Board meetings.

Cindy explained that there are some constraints for L-net having Multnomah County as the fiscal agent. If we wanted to expand trainings statewide, using additional trainers, Multnomah Co. would have to hire licensed contractors. For example, Multnomah could contract with OCLC who could in turn sub-contract trainers.

Further discussion of how to best use funds for training and marketing is needed.

Reference Statistics:

The question about L-net throwing off local reference statistics was brought up. Caleb suggested that libraries integrate all reference services. Caleb can supply reports on usage to any library when asked.

L-net Working Teams: There wasn't time for individual team reports. The need to recruit new team members, the possibility of retiring some teams and creating new ones came up. Caleb hoped that this process would occur naturally.

Next Meeting: Teleconference, Thursday, February 16th, 2:00-3:30