

# **Library Management Team**

Notes from the April 6, 1999 Meeting

Attending: Ross Atkinson, Lee Cartmill, David Corson, Claire Germain, Tom Hickerson, Janet McCue, Jean Poland, Sarah Thomas, Edward Weissman

## **1. Announcements**

Ross reported on a meeting attended by members of TSEG and D-LIT to discuss a recommendation to implement OCLC's Persistent URL (PURL) system at Cornell. After much discussion, the consensus of the group was to take no more than three additional weeks to assess the viability of CNRI's handle system rather than PURL as a means of easing the burden of maintaining URL's in bibliographic records. At the start of the investigation five months ago, CNRI's handle system was not sufficiently mature to consider for implementation. The decision to reconsider handles was driven in part by the impending arrival at Cornell of Bill Arms, who has been CNRI's Vice President, as well as the belief that PURL's will not be sufficient to handle URL resolving in archival digital collection metadata. If one system can be used for both bibliographic records and archival collection metadata, it may be better for us to implement the one system rather than two.

Ross distributed a copies of the Final Report of the Task Force to Examine the Process for Decentralizing Serials Check-in. LMT will discuss this report at our next meeting.

Tom reported that Springer-Verlag had decided not to request a proposal from Cornell in which Cornell would serve as the hub of a network for several New York State academic libraries to access S-V's journals in return for an extensive cross institutional user study. Tom will be talking soon to S-V about participation in Project Euclid, an electronic publications cluster in mathematics. The Library recently received a \$27,000 planning from the Mellon Foundation to investigate the feasibility and economic viability of this concept.

## **2. Life After Library Bear Access**

After looking at images of the unit library and division home pages, we reaffirmed our earlier decision that unit libraries can use their home pages as the default screen on the public access work stations in their units in the coming academic year so long as links to the Library Catalog and the Library Gateway are prominently and consistently displayed on these pages. (Units will also have the option to use the CUL home page as the default page.) Tom will bring back designs for the catalog and Gateway "clickers" along with a recommendations and rationale for their placement. After work on the Library Home page is completed, Sarah said that she would like to have a group look at the issue of consistency across Library web pages and come up with appropriate standards.

## **3. Policy on Providing Library Services to Persons with Disabilities**

We reviewed the distillation of the CUL's Task Force on Services for the Disabled Recommendations and Guidelines: Providing Library Services To Persons With Disabilities (PWD) that Ross drafted. We agreed that the distillation would serve as an effective executive summary of the report but that two things are still needed before we sign off on a policy. The first is a document for distribution to the public. The second is a policy statement based on the reports recommendations.

#### **4. Commitment to Electronic Resources**

We reviewed information from the annual survey of the ALCTS Chief Collection Development Officers of Large Research Libraries Discussion Group as well as an ARL survey that seems to indicate that Cornell has not been spending as many dollars or as high a percentage of our materials budget on electronic resources as several of our peer institutions. Is this because we are not as committed to electronic resources as other institutions? Is our process for allocating money for electronic resources conducive to providing a sufficient level of access? We will continue this discussion in a few weeks gathering information about how funds for electronic resources are allocated in peer institutions spending a significantly larger portion of their funding for electronic resources, as well as examples of electronic resources that these "big spenders" are licensing that we are not. We'll also try to come up with a list of the electronic resources our selectors would like to license but have not because of insufficient funding.