

**CONNECTICUT DIGITAL LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
MIDDLETOWN LIBRARY SERVICE CENTER**

Minutes of the Meeting on April 4, 2007

Present: Melissa Behney Hal Bright, John Coleman, Patricia Daragan, Irene Iwan, Elizabeth Frechette, Arthur Skerker, Kendall Wiggin, Carol Weinschel

Others: Lynette Baisden, Sharon Brettschneider, Steve Cauffman, Lorraine Huddy, Gail Hurley, William Sullivan

Absent: Robin Dutcher, Nicholas Eshelman, Anne-Marie Kaminsky, Jonas Zdanys, Carolyn Marcato

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:07 p.m.

2. Introduction – Carol Weinschel

Carol Weinschel will replace Deborah Salewski to fill the school librarian vacancy on the board. Carol was not yet present at the meeting so the introduction was held off until later.

3. Approval of Minutes

John Coleman MOVED (2nd Irene Iwan) to approve the minutes of February 7, 2007 as presented. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Approval of Agenda

Melissa Behney MOVED (John Coleman) to approve the agenda as presented. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Public Comment

There was none.

6. State Library Report – Kendall Wiggin

Kendall reported that the Appropriations Committee has until the 19th to report out the budget. Ken encouraged everyone to talk to their legislators about the iCONN request for increased funding. He reported that Julie Schwartz, a librarian at the State Library, gave a presentation to the State Library Board on digital initiatives. Some state agencies are putting government publications on their website but are not publishing them in traditional paper form. The State Library is working with OCLC to digitally archive these documents and make them available through our catalog after they have been removed from the agency's website. The Advisory Council for Library Planning and Development LSTA Planning Committee is working to complete the next Five-year plan that is due at the end of June. The latest round of LSTA sub-grant applications have been evaluated and will be brought to the State Library Board in May for approval. The State Library will be working with Libraries for the Future on a statewide initiative called *Equal Access* which is designed to train library staff focusing on the youth, baby boomers, older adults and health information. Their mission is to use technology to expand and enhance programming and services. The training will be free to libraries. A part-time coordinator is being sought to head the program. Information on the program can be found on CT.Webjunction.org.

7. Department of Higher Education Report – Jonas Zdanys

Jonas Zdanys was not present at the meeting but he submitted the following written report to be distributed at the meeting:

“The Department of Higher Education is continuing to work with the Connecticut’s colleges and universities to strengthen teaching of reading and literacy in Connecticut. Toward that goal, the Department of Higher Education is working with the Deans and Directors of Connecticut’s public and independent teacher preparation programs, and with all appropriate Education faculty, to develop a set of Best Practices for the teaching of reading so as to ensure that all Connecticut teachers, especially those in certification fields that support early reading, are most appropriately prepared to teach reading and literacy. The Department is therefore convening statewide Roundtables, Workshops, and Colloquiums to bring the best thinking, from all practical and theoretical perspectives, in Connecticut to the development and implementation of those Best Practices. This is aimed particularly at the State’s urban centers, where we are committed to ensuring that all students can read and can be taught how to read by committed teachers who are themselves readers.

This, of course, will have an impact on all of the forms of literacy – including internet literacy and the ability to use critical evaluation skills as students use iCONN and other such information sites. I will keep the iCONN Board up-to-date on the process and success of our efforts.”

8. Old Business

a. Nomination Committee – CDLAB DOC 07-04 – Carolyn Marcato
Patricia Daragan MOVED (2nd Elizabeth Frechette) that the Connecticut Digital Library Advisory Board approves the appointment of Carol Weinshel to the Connecticut Digital Library Advisory Board for a first term beginning in April 2007. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.
The Board members introduced themselves to Carol.

9. New Business

a. CDLAB Member Term Expirations – see March Update Report – Patricia Daragan
Patricia reported that a number of board members’ terms will be expiring in December. Board members who are completing their first term and would like to serve again should let Bill Sullivan know. Members completing their second terms will be leaving the board as of December and will need to be replaced. Bill will advertise for these replacements in September to be placed on the board for February 2008.

10. Reports

a. Commission on Education Technology (CET) – Kendall Wiggin
Kendall stated that the Commission will be meeting on Monday. House Bill 7354, *An Act Concerning the Commission on Education Technology and Virtual Instruction for CT Public Schools and Internet Safety*, has been introduced in the House. The bill adds to the responsibility of the Commission to ensure that teachers have access to professional development in online instruction and that students have access to online courses. \$845,000 will be appropriated to the delivery of online courses for 2 years. The Department of Higher Education (DHE) will approve the courses. DHE has hired a new content person which will be funded by DOIT. The CET discussed the *Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement Act (CALEA)*, an existing wiretapping law that asks for compliance to add technology so that they can wiretap the network. The Commission is working on connecting charter schools to the network. The State Library recently had a new fiber optic cable installed which will provide high speed connectivity to its users.

b. CCSU Survey Report – Sharon Brettschneider
iCONN contracted with the Center for Public Policy and Social Research at CCSU to assess the end users satisfaction with iCONN. The study took a closer look at how users were using iCONN and what their opinion of it was. Focus groups were held as well as an on-line

survey. Based on the findings, a report entitled *Assessing iCONN: Patrons' Uses, Perceptions, and Recommendations* was done. Sharon conducted a powerpoint presentation for the Board, based on the results of the report.

c. Database Committee – Lorri Huddy

Stephanie Willen Brown (UCONN) has filled a vacancy on the database committee. iCONN's K-12 Database Committee representatives are working on a panel presentation for the CEMA/CECA annual fall conference. "Collaborations for Student Success" will focus on using iCONN resources to improve competencies assessed in CMT and CAPT tests. iCONN is exploring the possibility of providing a journal title list of all full text titles provided in iCONN resources. iCONN staff also met with Auto-Graphics and Gale representatives about providing links from database citations that will search for the cited publication in the ReQuest serials Catalog. For publications not found in reQuest, an InterLibrary Loan form would be provided to libraries that utilize reQuest ILL. Auto-Graphics still needs to provide pricing.

The committee is considering adding Gale's free PowerPaks - subject-specific collections in areas such as criminal justice, environmental studies, sociology, psychology, etc. There is some unique content in each collection, but most content is in other Gale resources. They are also planning evaluations of possible alternatives to Ebsco's History and Science Reference Centers and Wilson Biographies.

The committee decided to stay with EBSCO as the provider of PsycINFO and CINAHL to get savings from a combined subscription to both resources.

LexisNexis (LN) has established a new pricing policy that would significantly affect the upcoming renewal for LN Academic. Each academic institution will be assessed a minimum of 750 FTE (full-time enrollment). Thirteen Connecticut institutions have FTEs below this stated minimum. If this policy remains as proposed, it means a 12% increase or \$25,000 over last year's cost. Solinet is working with iCONN and other state-wide consortiums to persuade LN to change this new policy. LexisNexis does not offer a true statewide price - iCONN gets no group discount by subscribing to this resource for ALL CT academic institutions. Each CT institution could go to Solinet or Nelinet and pay the exact same price per FTE that iCONN is charged. The board discussed the issue and will discuss it further with CCALD. Some statistics regarding usage of LN Academic: 38 of the 45 institutions covered by iCONN's license regularly access LexisNexis; the 8 smallest institutions rarely (or never) use it.

d. Digital Library Progress – William Sullivan

Bill Sullivan distributed the UCONN Survey Update (March 9, 2007) and the Remote Access to iCONN Stats (March 2007) reports to the board. Bill reported that iCONN and CEMA shared a booth at CEA's New Teachers Conference. iCONN will also exhibit at CEA's Summer Leadership Conference on August 6-8, 2007. The State Library and CEMA recommended that iCONN be incorporated into the State Department of Education's Science Curriculum Embedded Performance Task. Bill distributed a document prepared by Janet Roche, President of CEMA, which illustrates how iCONN can be incorporated into these tasks. There was discussion about increasing iCONN's visibility on the State Department of Education's website, and plans to contact the 15 colleges with teacher preparation programs to ensure that iCONN is incorporated into the curriculum. Library media specialists are being surveyed on how they access iCONN: i.e., do they use the federated search box, the classic menu or direct links? Vendors offering webinars will now produce certificates confirming completion of training so that library media specialists can qualify for CEU's (an added

incentive to attend the training). Steve Cauffman is working on an online tutorial for the iCONN portal interface which will give an overview of how to use iCONN. Bill gave an overview and update on iCONN at the Northwest Public Library Directors' Roundtable. It was an opportunity to bring everyone up to speed on iCONN and discuss the changes that are taking place, and was well-received. As a result of the meeting, and to address concerns voiced about the difficulty of getting to centrally located hands-on training sessions, iCONN training will be offered to these libraries during the summer months using the lab at UCONN Torrington. Bill reported on a recent meeting with Miranda Creative which was an opportunity to review our marketing campaign. Maria Miranda noted the lack of visibility of iCONN in libraries she has visited, and suggested the need for a concentrated direct sales effort involving visits to libraries (Bill distributed her proposed job description for that effort). Also discussed was the effectiveness of the media campaign: the WNPR ads proved to be effective but the print ads and the online Courant banner ads were not effective. Bill distributed a *Where's iCONN?* fact sheet that details ways that libraries can link to iCONN and make it more visible for their patrons to find. Miranda Creative would also like to see iCONN more visible in the libraries themselves. New promotional materials in the works include new bookmarks (to replace the rack cards), ballpoint pens and highlighter pens. Starting with the next (April) issue, the *iCONN Times* will be mailed out to libraries rather than being limited to electronic distribution. The iCONN banner is now mounted on the State Office Building, and iCONN will be exhibited at the Northeast Regional Genealogical Conference at the CT Convention Center. Gail Hurley gave an update on the libraries whose holdings were out of compliance. Gail also sent a letter to libraries notifying them of the Board's decision regarding reQuest participation renewal, and removal of out-of-date holdings.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m. The next meeting will be held on June 6, 2007 at the Middletown Library Service Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynette Baisden,
Connecticut State Library