Present: Virgilio Pinto, Chair (Ithaca College); Ben Hogben (Ithaca College), Elise Thornley (Binghamton U); Lorie Brown (STLS), Caitlin Finlay (Cornell), Sarah Shank (Ithaca College), Mary-Carol Lindbloom (ex officio). Excused: Deb Geier (FLLS); Erin Wilburn (SUNY Broome); Lucy Yang (TC3)

Minutes from the November meeting. Approved.

Around the Table

- **Lorie**: Lorie has been visiting STLS libraries, and is trying to get them up back up and running with BARC. STLS has been undergoing major construction; all staff should be able to be in the building after July 4. They are moving forward with change all round.
- **Caitlin**: A new University Librarian, Elaine Westbrooks, will on board in July. They continue to work through some Folio migration bumps. Other changes could be in the offing.
- **Elise**: Permanent lending staff has been hired. The purchase on Demand pilot has been going well—so far, 85 books have been purchased (mostly e). There are new hires across the Library. They’ve also been wrapping up their strategic plan. There are 3rd floor renovations and their offsite storage facility is moving closer to campus. The SUNY UPS contract wasn’t renewed so they have been looking for a different carrier, possibly FedEx. Curtis is stepping down as Dean and will become a faculty librarian.
- **Ben**: They hired a 2nd shift coordinator in January. IC is closing its multimedia desk—the DVD collection will be moved downstairs and the CD collection will go to music section (it will be self-service). That is one of their summer projects. They also have a textbook donation project whereby students donate their textbooks to the library, which in turn adds them to their collection. It is a way for students to have access to textbooks that they otherwise could not afford.
- **Sarah**: The new College Librarian, Michelle Millet, starts in July. They are getting used to Rapido and all it entails, and is glad to be working with the SUNYs on this. She is also thankful for their continued partnership with Cornell. Sarah is going to be part of the working group for Rapido.
Virgilio: Virgilio continues to work on the regular stuff. Outside of ILL, and based on the SCRLC BIPOC meetings that he co-organizes, he is trying to do something similar at Ithaca College for diversity and inclusion.

Mary-Carol: She mentioned the ARPA grant and some of its activities, including the Digital Justice 4 Disability Justice project. They have been working with the Finger Lakes Independence Center and their staff to visit 5 libraries (Tompkins County, Groton, Oneonta, Watkins Glen and Odessa). There is a related webinar on June 9. They also are hosting a program with Gaelynn Lea on June 15. Gaelynn is a musician (most recently scored the Broadway music for Macbeth) and a disability rights advocate.

Staffing at SCRLC. Jessica will be on a leave of absence for a year beginning in July. They will hire some temporary staffing. The Outreach Services position, which works most closely with Resource Sharing, is undergoing some revision and will also include a diversity, equity, and inclusion component. Mary-Carol expects to have new staff on board by mid to late Fall.

BARC Update. Still not back to pre-pandemic levels, it is beginning to increase. TC3 has two more years to go on their current contract before it goes out to bid again. Libraries have been very happy with their service model.

User Group Meeting

- Timing? When?
  - October, mid-week.
  - SCRLC’s annual meeting is the 21st or the 28th, so not then.
  - CLRC’s annual meeting is generally earlier in October.
- Collaborate with CLRC?
  - Yes—"Anna is fantastic." Mary-Carol will contact Anna.
- Virtual? Probably.
  - On the survey, people were split between virtual and in-person. Is it easier to attend virtually? Still working from home in some cases.
  - CLRC is a larger area.
  - The same question came up for the Academic Libraries conference, and the question posed in response was, “who do you want at the table?” Not everyone can get away, and virtual may be more inclusive.
  - Maybe stay with virtual?
- Timing: The Committee thought half-day—5 hours max.
  - If there is a lot of content, we could have a separate program later in the year.
  - We could hold over two days--OCLC is distributing the sessions, as did ILLiad, i.e., they split into two days.
• Ideas?
  o Change—staffing implications, software, change in general; tie-in to change management;
  o Controlled digital lending
  o How do we stay energized with our jobs? (Theme for IC’s access services summer retreat)
  o Day in the Life of a Librarian. Maybe have one instead of three.
    • Ideas: Prison librarian; Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, but limit to one library.
  o Solicit ideas from the members to find out what they would like to cover (can use the RS listserv) and what’s out there.

Other

Mary-Carol asked about the RS meetups, and the consensus was to wait until the next person is on board. They could be introduced to the RS community via a meetup.

Activities for 2021-2022 review. Most of the items have been achieved, including the DEI component. It was covered through CDL and also through the RSUG session on the NYS Braille Library. Lorie remarked how informative it had been, and that many in the community may not know of the free resources available that can be offered to our members/patrons/users, e.g., Online access for free—one doesn’t have to use Overdrive or return items. One way to make ILL folks more informed is to highlight and share such items for those who were not at the RSUG meeting.

How do we report on activities? Completed items are incorporated into the annual report, but we could also highlight items in the News.

Next Meeting: In late June – send out a Doodle poll—don’t include Fridays

Next Steps:

  • Mary-Carol will send out a Doodle poll to the group.
  • She will contact Anna regarding the RSUG meeting.
  • She will work with the Committee to develop a blurb about the Braille Library for the RSUG listserv and SCRLC News.
  • Committee members are welcome to register for the upcoming webinars.

Notes taken by Mary-Carol