



## **Notes: Committee on Information Technology (CITE)**

Tuesday, February 2, 2011  
Conference Call

Attendance: Mike Bell, Shirley Bower, Mary Carlin, Ted Ciambor, Debby Emerson, Sara Greenleaf, Corey Ha, Heather Lagoy, Kathy Miller, Betsy Morris, Mary Jo Orzech, Patty Uttaro

Unable to attend: Chris Harris, Julia Sollenberger

### **2010 update**

Kathy reviewed the status of RRLC automation projects as listed on Attachment C. Funding for the 2010 RBDB projects has not yet been received, but is expected (the amount expected is still uncertain).

Committee members shared information on technology changes occurring in their libraries/systems.

### **2011 funding**

A revised RBDB 2011 proposed budget was sent prior to the meeting as Attachment Ea. It is based upon the proposed 2011-2012 State Budget, which cuts library funding an additional 10%, reducing the amount available for RBDB to \$165,806, a significant decrease from its highpoint a few years ago of \$220,742 (a 25% cut).

The proposed RBDB budget would eliminate the subsidy for the Democrat and Chronicle as recommended by the Shared Database Committee. Statistics show relatively low use in comparison to cost. The per document cost is approximately \$16; an individual user can purchase an article for \$4. The budget does continue regional support for FirstSearch WorldCat access.

The proposed budget includes \$7,000 for support for CONTENTdm shared server for the NY3Rs. FLAG is moving to this shared server, as a cost saving measure. If RRLC did not make this move, the cost of CONTENTdm would jump to \$30,000 as we moved to an "unlimited" license.

Kathy indicated that the \$20,000 formerly allocated to the D & C subsidy is, in the proposed budget, used to maintain the Continuing Education budget and add a small amount for technology "gadget" experimentation. In addition, she is recommending that a small amount (approximately \$9,000) be made available for "member grants" targeted toward adding content to the Finger Lakes Genesee River Valley Heritage Project.

Committee members inquired if the small amount of "member grants" would be enough to encourage libraries to add to FLAG. Highlighting locally produced content is important. Kathy noted that in the past, most of the digitization projects were for a small amount of money (approximately \$3,000), so this could be helpful to libraries.

The Committee also discussed the Continuing Education proposal. This is of the greatest value to the most people. Should additional funding be targeted to that? Debby noted that adding additional programs may not add to the number of people trained. We are almost "maxed" out on programming. However, it would be useful to consider other avenues for delivery – webinars or desktop – and perhaps different topics. The Committee agreed that CE programming is a priority, also agreed the current programming is excellent, and cautioned that any webinars or teleconferences offered should be of high quality. (Committee members noted that some recent programs delivered from other councils had many audio problems.) The Council will evaluate its Continuing Education programming in the year ahead to ensure it is meeting the needs of members.

The Committee members agreed with the proposed RBDB 2011 budget (Attachment Ea), and noted that priority for any member projects should go to those that add content to FLAG/NY Heritage, but also that other proposals are welcome.

#### **LSTA 2011**

Debby reviewed the proposed expenditures for LSTA 2011 (approximately \$16,000). This is used almost exclusively for support of our Continuing Education programming.

#### **Next steps**

Kathy noted the draft RPF and RBDB timeframe. The proposals of CITE will be submitted to the Advisory Committee of Library Directors and the Board of Trustees in March. The RFP will be distributed immediately thereafter and applications due in early April.

#### **Other**

RRLC has been approached by WNYLRC which has 3 libraries interested in pooling money for a "purchase on demand" program. The 3 libraries are: SUNY Buffalo, Buffalo & Erie County Public Library, and Canisius College. These libraries would like to partner with any RRLC library that has similar interest. Ted and Mary Jo noted that the SUNY colleges had experimented with this with some success. There may be interest. RRLC will contact library directors to ascertain further interest. RRLC area libraries already have several "purchase on demand/patron initiated purchase" projects.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.