Richmond Academic Library Consortium
Virginia Union University, L. Douglas Wilder Library

October 14, 2014, 9:30am – noon

**In Attendance:**

Present:
- Joe Coalter (Union Presbyterian)
- Tracey Hayes (Virginia Union)
- Iria Jones (University of Richmond)
- Linda Luebke (John Tyler)
- Sara Marrin (Technical Services Committee, Virginia Union)
- Michael Rawls (VCU)
- Sandy Treadway (Library of Virginia)
- John Ulmschneider (VCU)
- Ginger Young (Randolph-Macon)
- Elsie Weatherington (Virginia State University)
- Hong Wu (J. Sargeant Reynolds)

**Call to Order:**

**Minutes:**

Agenda and minutes: There were no changes to the agenda or the minutes and both were approved by acclamation. A quorum of RALC Board members was present.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Michael Rawls of VCU is replacing Paul Porterfield as the new RALC treasurer. He and Iria Jones will assume the responsibility together. Michael will receive invoices and pass them on to Iria for payment.

All membership dues have been collected. Electronic payment was received from all but four institutions who paid by checks. The goal is to reach 100% electronic payment next year.

Paul Porterfield did a cost-analysis of the courier service last summer. The Committee decided to keep the courier service as it is and RALC currently has enough funding to support it.

**Committee Reports:**

**Old Business:**

Merging Media Co-op with Public Services Committee: Public Services Committee is charged with exploring the merging of the two committees. Media Co-op used to gather circulation statistics and the task needs to be carried on by the new committee. Ginger will instruct Laurie to provide an update on the committee work.
- Distribution of remote storage report: Ready to go. John will draft the letter and send it to Sandy and Joe within the next week. The letter will also be shared among all RALC board members. John mentioned that VCU President Dr. Rao had a briefing on the project during his visit to the medical library and is in support of the idea.

- Review of courier service - John, Paul, and Joe finished the project.

- Revisions of RALC bylaws: The project was suspended due to Ginger’s sabbatical leave and will be resumed in Jan., 2015

- VIVA Universal Borrowing Pilot: The Board decided to assign the review of the VIVA universal borrowing agreement to the Public Services Committee after it integrates the functions of the former Media Co-op Committee.

- Searching RALC institution holdings in a single search: John reported that there is no technical hurdle to the project and VCU is willing to sponsor it. The challenge is how to present it effectively. He proposed that the new Public Services Committee explore it and submit a proposal. Board members agreed that this will be a useful service to the area library community.

**New Business:**

**New Director- Terry Hayes**

Welcome from Tracey Hayes, New Director of Virginia Union University. Committee welcomed Tracey Hayes who started his position as the new director of Virginia Union University on Sept. 15. Tracey introduced himself and outlined his vision for his tenure at Virginia Union which includes gaining faculty status for librarians, encouraging research, publishing and professional development, and seeking collaboration and funding.

Tracey had to ask for a leave of absence from the meeting due to his other engagement.

**Elections of Officers**

A quorum was declared for election of the following RALC officers for the term of 2014-15:
Kevin Butler: President
Ginger Young: Vice President
Michael Rawls: Treasurer
Hong Wu: Secretary

**Committee Reports**

Technical Services Committee: Sara reported that the committee will meet on Friday, Oct. 17, 2014. The committee plans to build a knowledge base to share tips on cataloging special format collections, such as audio visual materials, foreign languages, sheet music, etc. Board agreed that this will be a great project for assembling and sharing expertise.

- Public Services Committee: Laurie Preston is the Chair but had to be absent to attend a funeral. Ginger will instruct Laurie to provide an update on the committee work.
- Web User’s Group: Erin White had to be absent. No report was submitted.
Announcements:

Board members updated one another on activities and milestones at their institutions.

Virginia Union
- Tracey Hunter Hayes was appointed as the new Director of the L. Douglas Wilder Library and Learning Resource Center of Virginia Union University.
- The University is celebrating its 150th Anniversary during the 2014 - 2015 academic year. There are anniversary events happening each month throughout the year.

UPSem
- Joe Coatler is retiring in July 2015 from his position as the Library Director of Union Presbyterian Seminary. He will be on sabbatical leave in Dec. 2014. His position is currently advertised and to be filled in Sept. 2015.
- UPSem will be celebrating 100 years of calling, equipping, and sending Christian educators in November. In early November 1914, the Assembly’s Training School for Lay Workers was established in the Ginter Park Section of Richmond. Though the name was later changed to the Presbyterian School of Christian Education (PSCE), and though the institution later federated with Union Theological Seminary to form the new entity that is Union Presbyterian Seminary, the mission has remained the same: to prepare the finest Christian educators for service in the church.
- BTSR has the privilege of hosting the exhibit of the Heritage Edition of the Saint John's Bible in Oct. and Nov.

JSRCC
- Budget cuts left two professional positions unfilled and a shrinking operating fund. It will be a year of reflection.

RMC
- Budget cuts are not leading to service cuts.
- College web site is switching to CMS with new calendars, Intranet, SharePoint, etc.
- Library web site is featuring a library staff member each month (one face one month) and the winner of the Fall 2014 Yellow Jacket Award, Katie Fauth.

VSU
- The decline in enrollment has put the University in the news.

LVA
- Virginia Literacy Fest was kicked off on 10/14 with two fantastic authors, followed by James River Writers Conference and Literacy Lunch.
- A long overdue and important new exhibit will be on display at LVA: “To Be Sold: Virginia and the American Slave Trade.”
- LVA is facing budget cuts like other area libraries.

JTCC
- The library is staffed. All is fine for now.

UR
- Good news: no budget cuts, actually a bit of increase!
- Library has two positions open.
- Lots of new buildings are built on campus: new dorms, new admission center, etc. Media Center is under renovation, driven by the films study major.
- Lots of new things are going on, including a new provost.

VCU
- New Library building is coming up. Will open the first two floors in Sept. 2015 and all in Dec. 2015.
- VCU Library will be the home to a Sefer Torah, composed around 1750. It survived the holocaust. It was donated by a VCU alumni couple.
- VCU Libraries have a new mission statement:
“The VCU Libraries transforms our communities by enriching scholarship, learning, and clinical care through our teaching, our collections, and our leadership.”

**Future Meeting Dates and Locations:**

The Board decided to leave the decision to the newly appointed RALC president Kevin Butterfield. Kevin is currently on annual leave.