In Attendance:

Ginger Young, presiding (R-MC); Kip Campbell (Library of Virginia); Virginia Cherry (RBC); Joe Coalter (Union-PSCE); Helen McKann (JTCC); Paul Porterfield (UR); John Ulmschneider (VCU); Sheila Carrington (VSU); Jim Rettig (UR)

1. President Ginger Young called the meeting to order at 9:57 AM.

2. Minutes of the Board meeting of October 11, 2005 were approved as submitted.

3. Treasurer’s report:
   1. Paul Porterfield reported that there have been few expenses other than the courier service.
   2. Next meeting (April) is the budget meeting. Committees should think about their activities for the coming year and provide budget estimates.
   3. We had our first audit two years ago. We will build an audit into next year’s budget and have it conducted after close of this year and prior to next fall’s meeting.
      i. The October 30, 2003, meeting minutes indicate that at that time the bylaws were amended to provide for an annual audit. Is that more frequently than we need?
      ii. A revision to Article VII, Sec. 1 of the bylaws was proposed: “… have fiscal records audited by a disinterested third party every other calendar year during even-numbered years. The audit will cover the two previous calendar years.” This proposed revision will be voted on at the April 2006 meeting.

4. Approval of agenda:
   1. Agenda was approved as it was distributed prior to the meeting.

5. Committee reports
   1. Technical Services Committee—No report; the name of Catherine Clements has been mentioned.
   2. Public Services Committee—Helen McKann reported that interest in a program on scholarly communication evinced some interest, but not a great deal. Instead the committee is working on a program on free tools on the Web.
   3. Media Coop Committee—Sheila Carrington is working on statistics. One library has yet to report. Will have a meeting in March and will pick a new chair then.

6. RALC Pass Inter-institutional agreement—Ginger Young will have information updated on the Web site and will send out an announcement on the list.
1. Library of Virginia is required to follow slightly different procedures. It requires the user to register for a Library of Virginia borrower’s card.

2. John Tyler also issues a borrower’s card.

3. In addition to the policy stating principles applicable to all RALC members, it would be useful to have a table on the Web site that states local practices institution-by-institution.

7. Shared searching

1. John Ulmschneider reported that a RALC library can put a direct link to the union catalog on its Web site.

2. A link will be needed from the RALC Web site to VCU’s explanatory page.

3. RALC members appreciate this service.

8. RALC Scholarship

1. At the April 2005 meeting Kip Campbell raised the question of whether or not individuals in entry-level professional positions but who do not have an MLS are eligible for the scholarship. Such positions are not uncommon at the Library of Virginia. The scholarship guidelines are ambiguous about this and need to be clarified before the next call for applications goes out next year.
   i. The Library of Virginia’s classification scheme allows for various specialties and individuals to hold positions in job classifications that are professional.

   ii. The intent of the program was to help individuals in RALC libraries fulfill their aspiration to earn a degree in one of the fields specified in the program’s descriptive statement. The statement will be revised to clarify this.

2. RALC has not yet paid out the scholarship awarded last fall. John Ulmschneider will follow-up with the recipient.

9. Donation to VLA Foundation—Andy Morton (University of Richmond) asked that RALC discuss a donation to the foundation.

   1. The consensus was that this is outside RALC’s mission.

   2. Some RALC members had reservations about the most recent dues increase and would probably question having

10. Computers in Libraries Conference—Virginia Cherry received information about a significant discount on registration for Computers in Libraries in March if registrations are sent in a batch. Registrations and payments must be in Paul Porterfield’s hands by February 17.

11. Books movers and compact shelving—Richard Bland is moving out of the library temporarily to the “Library Annex” (actually the dance studio) during asbestos abatement and reinforcement of floors to support compact shelving. The library will be closed for about a year. Virginia Cherry asked for recommendations on library movers and compact shelving vendors.
12. Next meeting will be held at the University of Richmond on Thursday, April 27 at 10:00 AM.

13. Announcements

- Richard Bland—
  1. The Friends of the Library won the FOLUSA Baker & Taylor @Your Library contest. The award was $2,000.

- Union-PSCE—
  1. Weeding periodicals. And have another 7,000 that need to be bound.
  2. Working with faculty to review standing orders.
  3. The old Spence Library will be renovated. It will include off-site compact shelving to compensate for lack of space in the main library.

- JTCC—
  1. April 1 is holding a Fool for Art day. Artists can rent booths for $75 or can donate an item for an auction to be held that evening. The event is open to the community.

- VCU—
  1. Enrollment keeps rising. Expected enrollment in four years is 32,000+.
  2. New provost is focused on academics. Budget allocations demonstrate that.
  3. Library fares well in the university’s six-year budget plan; it would increase the library budget by 48%. Acquisitions budget now more than $5 million.
  4. Library has 47 faculty positions and 140+ classified positions.

- UR—
  1. President has submitted his resignation, effective June 30, 2007. The Board of Trustees has just announced a search committee.
  2. Planning continues for renovation of two stacks levels during summer 2006. Compact shelving has veered from sole source to competitive bid. If any library has compact shelving specs it can share, please send them to Jim Rettig.
  3. NEH has awarded a $5,000 grant to assess preservation needs for the humanities collections.
  4. New part-time distance education librarian started work January 30. This position is funded by the School of Continuing Education.
  5. Science Reading Room in the new Science Center has been delayed a number of times. New anticipated opening date is March 1, 2006.

- Library of Virginia—
  1. Doing a compensation study for 114 staff positions. Have been concerned about being able to compete for needed talent. Study is being carried out by a not-for-profit organization based in California. Have asked 50 other institutions to supply compensation data. So far 23 have responded.
  2. Has multiple pieces of legislation in the General Assembly. One would codify the state publications program, including electronic publications. It will also allow the library to identify agencies that don’t comply.
  3. Have finished a test with I-Archives for harvesting Web sites.

- Randolph Macon—
1. New president starts February 1, coming from Johns Hopkins as head of development. College budget committee does not have a balanced budget. New president will have to deal with this.

2. New freshman curriculum calls for all freshmen to make a film this semester. The library has sponsored programs to introduce students to the technology and other work needed (e.g., having a storyteller tell how to make a story).

• VSU—

1. Elsie Weatherington is busy with the Jamestown preparations.