Richmond Academic Library Consortium

Richard Bland College

June 11, 2002

In Attendance:

John Ulmschneider, presiding (VCU); Virginia Cherry (RBC); Paul Porterfield (UR); John Trotti (Union-PSCE); Ginger Young (R-MC); Jim Rettig (UR); Jim Meyer (JTCC-Midlothian); Joy Galloni (RBC); John Trotti (Union-PSCE)

Call to Order:

John Ulmschneider called the meeting to order at 10:06 AM.

Welcome

Virginia Cherry welcomed the group to Richard Bland and introduced Dr. James McNeer, president of Richard Bland College. Dr. McNeer welcomed the group and spoke of the needs of higher education in Virginia.

Minutes of the March 25, 2002 meeting:

Minutes of the March 25, 2002 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report - Paul Porterfield

- The Treasurer said that invoice letters have been sent out. He explained that the date cited on the invoices is the current fiscal year. Correct date is 2002-03. Corrected copies were available at the meeting.
- The Treasurer reported that the contract with the courier has been signed. The service schedules will remain the same.
- The Treasurer inquired about VCU’s film cleaning service and fee. John Ulmschneider says he is awaiting a report and hopes that the service will become a “free” service.
- The President thanked Paul Porterfield for his diligence in carrying out his duties as Treasurer.

Ad hoc Bylaws Revision Committee Reports - Ginger Young and John Ulmschneider

- Article III and Article VII, section I—Ginger Young
  1. Ginger Young explained the proposed changes.
2. Questions arose about the existence of a document explaining membership criteria.

3. Questions also arose about how to set up a barrier to membership by colleges and universities operating in the Richmond area but which do not have libraries locally.

4. Ginger Young explained the proposed changes to the Finance Committee section.

5. These changes will be voted on at the next RALC meeting.

- Article VII, sect 2.—John Ulmschneider
  1. Jim Rettig explained proposed changes, including unresolved issues: one- or two-year terms for chairs and members.
  2. The group decided upon two-year terms for committee chairs.
  3. Members can be reappointed annually. There will be no term limits provision.

Both bylaws groups will revise the drafts as directed.

**Technical Services Committee Reports - Joy Galloni**

1. Held a spring meeting at which every RALC institution was represented.
2. Committee explained to members why Virginia State needed RALC libraries’ IP addresses were needed for its new OPAC.
3. A useful preservation workshop was held in the fall. RALC covered half of the cost of participants.
4. The committee had a demonstration of a vise device useful for greatly extending the life of paperbacks. A replica of the Union PSCE original is being created for each RALC member.
5. The committee hopes to sponsor an advanced book repair workshop from SOLINET to complement earlier workshops. Virginia Historical Society has the needed equipment for this hands-on workshop.
6. Exchange of information from each institution concluded the spring meeting.
7. Michelle Taylor of Virginia Union will chair the committee for the next two years.
8. The President commended Joy Galloni on her fine service as chair.

**Public Services Committee Reports:**

1. No representative of the Public Services Committee was present to report.
2. The committee is sponsoring a program this week, incorporating portions of College of DuPage videoconferences on reference.
3. The new committee chair will be Ellen Andes of Richard Bland College.

**Film Cooperative Committee Reports - Dywana Saunders**
1. The committee was not successful in holding its planned program in January; snow—the one and only day measurable snow fell—canceled the workshop. The committee will continue to seek a date on which this program can be held.

2. The shuttle is working well. Number of media pieces being shared has declined. Dywana Saunders distributed a statistical report.

3. Jim Meyer of JTCC-Midlothian will chair the committee the next two years. He hopes to heighten awareness of media resources throughout RALC.

**Old Business:**

- Executive Committee meeting—John Ulmschneider
  1. John Ulmschneider will call a meeting of the Executive Committee to discuss various issues including the scholarship proposal and the outcomes from the January 2001 planning retreat.

**New Business:**

- Agenda for next meeting
  1. Vote on Bylaws
  2. Selection of site for next meeting; will be Union-PSCE.

**Announcements:**

- VCU is moving along with its renovations of Cabell Library; they should be complete in October.
- University of Richmond is in phase 2 of a three-year summer facelift project.
- VCCS has hiring freezes on most campuses and a 3% cut. John Tyler-Midlothian had earmarked dollars for first two years. That has been rescinded after just two years.
- VCCS is instituting 24/7 virtual reference service with plans for implementation in the fall.
- RBC “has no money.” Has suffered a 12% cut; that eliminates the book budget; serials being cut in half; standing orders also affected negatively.
- RBC has produced a cookbook of pecan recipes as part of the institution’s 40th anniversary celebration.
- VCU’s initial cut was about 5%; that has been reduced by half. Hours are being reduced (11:00 PM closing most nights). Student workers have been reduced.
- Union-PSCE is suffering materials cuts and position freezes. Reference librarian will retire in fall; staff will be redeployed and services will suffer. Periodicals cut. Three student positions cut.
- Union-PSCE sends books to overseas seminaries; over the years it has sent more than 100,000.

**Next Meeting:**

Next RALC Board meeting: Tuesday, October 22, 10:00 AM at Union-PSCE

(This will be Dr. John Trotti’s final RALC meeting! Be there to send him off in style!)