Richmond Academic Library Consortium

Morton Library, Union Theological Seminary

Friday, July 18, 1997

In Attendance:

Dan Bedsole (Randolph-Macon College), Nancy Brantley (Library of Virginia), Theresa Byrd (J.Sargeant Reynolds Community College), Kip Campbell (Library of Virginia), Nell Chenault (Virginia Commonwealth University), Virginia Cherry (Richard Bland College), Barbara Ford (Virginia Commonwealth University), Jim Gwin (University of Richmond), Paul Porterfield (University of Richmond), Elizabeth Sudduth (Randolph-Macon College), John Trotti (Union Theological Seminary), Elsie Stephens-Weatherington (Virginia State University).

Session:

Gary Graham, President, opened the meeting. Introductions were made. Gary congratulated Theresa Byrd for her appointment as new chair of the VIVA Steering Committee.

Dan Bledsoe moved and Jim Gwin seconded the motion that the minutes of the April 25th meeting be approved.

Treasurer's Report: Paul Porterfield

The letters for payment of dues for the current year have been mailed. All bills have been paid except the Film Cleaning bill from Virginia Commonwealth University. The two requests for workshops were approved during the year. The Program: "To Lend or Not to Lend Non-Print Media" cost $623.00 and has been paid. The other workshop bill has been submitted and will be paid.

Committee Reports:

Technical Services: Elizabeth Sudduth

The workshop held at The University of Virginia, co-sponsored by VLA, focused on cataloguing electronic resources. RALC sponsored 10 of its members and the workshop was very successful. Nancy Brantley has been elected chair of Technical Services for the upcoming term.

Public Services:

Film Cooperative: Nell Chenault

Shuttle Report: New route began July 1, 1997, which added The Library of Virginia and a second stop at VCU. The Library of Virginia and the second VCU stop are early in the route, to facilitate ILL borrowing from both of these institutions. New forms were designed at VCU. The forms were printed and distributed by University of Richmond staff.

Program Report: "To Lend or Not to Lend Non-Print Media: Current Practices & Pending Copyright Changes", was held May 30, 1997, at UR. It was co-sponsored with VLA Media.
Roundtable and ILL Forum. Speakers were Kristine Brancolini, Media Librarian, Indiana University, Bloomington and Sally Wiant, Law Library and Professor at Washington and Lee University. All RALC Institutions, except SSVCC, registered staff. UTS staff were unable to attend. There were 29 RALC attendees: 14 ILL or Technical Services staff and 15 Media staff (2 Media staff also do ILL). There were 30 VLA attendees. Evaluations: 14 Outstanding, 19 Above Average, 3 Average. RALC expense was $623.50.

The new chair of the Richmond Area Media Co-op is Virginia Cherry, Richard Bland College and the Vice Chairman is Lilly Zhang, Randolph-Macon College.

The three committee chairmen will work on an evaluation form for workshops.

For future workshops, Paul and Nell will work on a form for requesting money for workshops. Goals, objectives, projected expenses, etc. will be included on the form. The form will demonstrate the use of money and the value of the workshop.

Gary discussed the funds balance and the activity generated by the shuttle service. In the absence of a printed catalog, we need to address how we can determine the holdings of each library. Also, the libraries need to work on entering all of their media holdings in their individual online catalogs. After much discussion, Barbara reminded the members that this has been an ongoing project and that action needs to be taken to solve the problem of accessing each library’s media holdings. A committee was formed: Nancy Brantley, Mike Burgmeier, Virginia Cherry (Chair), Tom Campagnoli, Charles Lewis, Elizabeth Sudduth and Lily Zhang and they will meet on July 29th at VCU. Theresa asked the committee to make three recommendations to bring back to the members in October. In addition, some future discussion will be on helping libraries add their media to their online catalogs and if funding will be available from the funds balance in RALC.

**Old Business:**

Gary wants RALC to consider a RALC web site. SCHEV needs to know what we do as a consortium and our presence on the Internet will allow SCHEV and as well as others to know the activities, etc. of RALC. Theresa volunteered personnel and Elsie and Theresa volunteered mounting it at their institutions. John Trotti moved and Virginia Cherry seconded the motion that the president of RALC will be in charge of what is added to the web site.

Virginia Cherry discussed sending minutes via email. In the past, two institutions were unable to receive email but at the present time, all participating institutions are able to receive email. Virginia will ask Vonita Foster to check with all institutions and send future minutes via on email. Also, that minutes be posted on the Web Site by the webmaster.

Gary suggested that we continue to sponsor our professional development workshops and consider sponsoring a seminar or workshop at the upcoming VLA State meeting. Also, that RALC should participate in each annual meeting. Barbara suggested that RALC hold a pre-conference workshop at VLA. Gary will contact VLA about participating. Nell has information on VLA and will give to Gary.

Barbara Ford suggested that we convene a statewide meeting of all consortia in the Commonwealth to discuss common concerns and activities. There is a meeting of national
consortia and perhaps elicit ideas from them. Kip will talk with Nolan about convening a statewide meeting of consortia.

Gary presented a recap of meeting notes:

(1) Solve resource sharing through the use of Z39.50; committee appointed and will report back at next meeting with three recommendations.

(2) Explore a Webpage for RALC. Theresa and Elsie will work on this.

(3) Kip will ask about the possibility of a statewide meeting of consortia.

Barbara met with President Clinton and Vice-President Gore about libraries and their roles. They were very supportive of libraries. Reminded that technology is only a tool and that we need people to teach how to use it and books to back it up.

Gary suggested that at end of the year, RALC form a committee to look at dues structure.

Gary suggested that we sponsor a SOLINET workshop about the Internet. Nell suggested that we piggyback with another organization, i.e., VLA. Gary will contact Public Services chair and have them work on this.

**New Business:**

John Trotti brought to our attention the concerns of Richmond Public Library. Barbara emphasized that we need strong librarians at all levels even though we have different missions. John moved and Dan Bledsoe seconded the motion that RALC draft a letter to the RICHMOND-TIMES DISPATCH addressing the importance of libraries and the support they need. The motion was carried. The letter was drafted at the meeting.

Barbara announced that on November 12, the Friends of VCU were having a meeting. Topic: Censorship on the Internet.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 followed by a tour of Morton Library.

The next meeting will be at John Tyler Community College on October 17 at 10:00 A.M.

Virginia Cherry
for Vonita Foster, Secretary