

Annual Report
CARLI Electronic Resources Working Group (ERWG)
June 2013

Membership

Chris Bulock, (2011-2014), Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, Chair

John Blosser, (2009-2013), Northwestern University

Jeanne Cross (2012-2015), Southern Illinois University Carbondale, resigned May 2013

Denise Green, (2009-2012), Millikin University

Mary Konkel (2010-2013), College of DuPage

Stephen McMinn (2102 – 2105), University of Illinois at Springfield

Joe Mullarkey, (2009-2013), Moraine Valley Community College

CM! Winters Palacio, (2011-2014), City Colleges of Chicago

Marisa Walstrum (2012 – 2015), National-Louis University

CARLI staff: Cindy Clennon, Mary Burkee

Highlights of Activity

Electronic Resource Proposal Evaluations

The ERWG received eleven new resource proposals in FY2013. Nine proposals were rejected and two are currently pending.

Selection System Podcast

The ERWG helped create the recorded podcast called “Selection System 101: Everything You Need to Know.” The podcast was made available to the membership in September 2012.

Usage Statistics Symposium

The ERWG planned an ambitious symposium on e-resource usage statistics. Keynote speakers came from California and four excellent presentations by CARLI libraries were planned. Unfortunately we had chosen the date of the biggest blizzard central Illinois has seen in 6 years. Of the planned 70 attendees, only 40 were able to be there. The keynote presentations and the one CARLI member presentation were excellent. We are planning to record the presentations and to offer an event to give the other presenters the opportunity to do their presentations.

To introduce concepts that would be covered more fully in the usage statistics symposium, Denise Green presented a webinar entitled “Usage Statistics for Electronic Resources: Beyond the Alphabet Soup” on March 11, 2013. The webinar covered the basics of usage statistics in electronic resources. It included a brief history, definitions and standards as well as a

discussion of the issues involved in interpreting statistics gathered. The session also addressed why it is valuable to collect this data and what can explain the variations in usage data which may be seen during the year or related to the subject matter.

E-Journal Renewal Process

The ERWG advised during the negotiation of two new agreements with major e-journal providers, John Wiley and Sons and Springer.

EBSCO Title Changes

The working group reviewed Taylor and Francis journals dropped from EBSCOhost databases and provided feedback regarding the impact factor analysis and the suitability of the titles that were added in their place.

System Redesign Survey

Members of the ERWG assisted in the creation of a survey to gather input from libraries about their use of the current selection system. Survey responses have been received from 41% of the users of the selection system and excellent feedback which will be very helpful in the redesign process has been received.

Potential Future Activities

- Fall or Spring Forum:
 - ERWG is in the early stages of planning for a fall or spring forum. Possible topics for the program are being discussed but there has been great interest in an opportunity for the libraries that were to unable to present local projects at the usage statistics symposium due to the weather. Other possibilities include the use of alternate subscription models (aka “pay as you go”) and evaluating and leaving “big deal” packages.
- Advise CARLI staff during the redesign process for the Selection System.
- Denise Green has again worked with Paige Weston to pull updated SFX data on journals that were frequently requested but for which no library had full text activated for their users. The working group will be reviewing the information and using it to create a list of possible target resources for consortial agreements.
- Providing support to CARLI as it prepares to implement an agreement for consortial acquisition of electronic books