

ARC Steering Committee Meeting
Worcester Art Museum
Wednesday December 17, 2008

Present: Debby Aframe, Worcester Art Museum; Gwen Arthur, Clark University; Deborah Bockus, WPI; Christine Drew, WPI; Jim Douglas, Nichols College; Bob Foley; Fitchburg State; Don Hochstetler, Worcester State College; Penny Johnson, Worcester Public Library; Tracey Leger-Hornby, WPI; Mott Linn, Clark University; Carolyn Noah, CMRLS; Linda Oldach, Mt. Wachusett; Ruth Pyne, Anna Maria College; Dawn Thistle, Assumption College; Jim Hogan, College of the Holy Cross; Suzanne Hoey, Worcester Law Library; Irena Bond, MCHPS; Nancy Singleton, College of the Holy Cross; Anna Dunlin, Worcester Law Library.

1. ARC Chair Jim Douglas convened the meeting at 10:05. The minutes of the Steering Committee's November 5, 2008 meeting were accepted.

2. Advisory Committees and Interest Groups

Advisory Committees

Communications: Jim Douglas reported that the Communications Group has not met this semester.

Governance: Bob Foley had nothing new to report from this advisory group, although he did confirm that the ARC action plan update has been mailed to the MA Board of Library Commissioners.

Professional Development Advisory Group: Deborah Bockus from the Professional Development Group advised that Laura Hanlan from WPI is working on the ARC blog and wiki for the Interest Group which is available at arcpd.pbwiki.com. Margaret Cardello will be sending out a message to ARC members to get input about spring workshops.

Interest Groups

Collections Management Interest Group: Nancy Singleton from Holy Cross reported that the CM interest group met on November 12. Their next meeting will be on March 12 at Assumption where their topic will be the shifting of reference collections.

Reference Interest Group: Christine Drew from WPI reported that their next meeting will be at Assumption College on March 10 and will focus on producing "next generation" research guides.

Customer Service Interest Group: Jim Douglas of Nicholas reported there will be a program for ARC staff focusing on new classroom technology, specifically clickers, at Assumption on January 7.

Archives/Special Collections Interest Group: Mott Linn from Clark reported that the Interest Group met last week and will meet again the first week of March.

3. Old Business

There was no old business.

4. New Business

Mott Linn advised the Steering Committee that the Archives/Special Collections Interest Group needs to designate a new chair.

Tracey Leger-Hornby recommended that ARC members examine their database subscriptions to see if there were economies to be made through collaborative purchases. The group agreed to proceed on this project.

5. Current News from ARC Institutions

Clark: Gwen Arthur reported that the new Academic Commons at Goddard Library will open January 12. Mott Linn has been appointed the new Head of Collections Management at Clark, replacing Mike Olson who left last summer for a new position in North Carolina.

Anna Maria: Ruth Pyne reported that AM facilities, including the Library, were hit hard in the recent ice storm which devastated areas in and around Worcester.

WPI: Tracey Leger-Hornby reported that the BBC has picked up news of the Dickens digitization project at WPI.

Worcester State: Don Hochstetler reported that Denis Brutus, South African Poet Laureate, visited WSC, and that his work on his archives at WSC continues apace.

Holy Cross: Nancy Singleton reported that the new Science Building is completed at Holy Cross

Worcester Public Library: Penny Johnson reported that she is retiring at the end of February; and a search is in process to appoint her successor.

Worcester Law Library: The Library will be moving to its new location in Spring 2009.

Mount Wachusett Community College: Linda Oldbach reported that MWCC is having budget cuts, like many other academic institutions. They did receive a LSTA grant to collaborate with Gardner Public Library on organizing Hayward Wakefield documents.

Assumption College: Dawn Thistle suggested that we take a look at AC's "instruct-ommicals" now up and running on the College's website. She also said that the College is considering the possibility of an addition to the Library there.

6. CMRLS News

Carolyn Noah reported on a number of developments:

Hubbardston Library which was going to close due to decertification has a temporary reprieve for now.

With the MA Board of Library Commissioners, CMRLS will be considering and reporting on the relationships of the regional systems (like CMRLS) and the networks (like NELINET).

The InfoTrac database will definitely be kept on the MA/CMRLS roster of electronic resources. Lexis/Nexis is under consideration.

New CMRLS Board members include: Susan Hoar (Mendon PL), Carolyn Murphy (NCCI), Amanda Nelson (Sullivan Middle, Worcester), Faye Fulone Sweeney, Central MA Center for Healthy Communities. Jim Douglas is now Vice-President of the CMRLS Board.

There are now application request forms available from CMRLS for MA Library license plates.

Library Leadership Massachusetts will be offering a four-day intensive leadership training/workshop this summer for regional members.

7. The meeting adjourned at 11:25 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gwen Arthur, Vice-chair/Secretary
ARC Steering Committee