Reference Services Committee

Minutes of the meeting of June 9, 2004, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Alice Moulton Room, Gerstein Science Information Centre

Present: Shauna Dorskind (Media Commons-AVL), Warren Holder (ITS), Ian Whyte (UTM), Sara McDowell (Robarts), Marian Press (OISE/UT), Noel S.McFerran (St. Michael’s), Gabbi Zaldin (Victoria), Jenny Mendelsohn (Robarts), Helen Michael (Gerstein), Sian Meikle (ITS), Sue McGillivray (OCUL VDX Project), Barbara Geiger (Regis), Nalini Singh (chair, FIS), Susanne Tabur (Gerstein), Sam-chin Li (DMGIS), Helen Zhou (East Asian), Margaret Fulford (Dentistry), Marc Lalonde (ITS), Elsie Del Bianco (Trinity), Vicki Skelton (Industrial Relations), Lara Okihiro (ITS), Mary-jo Stevenson (Robarts), Irene Puchalski (minutes, Architecture)

Regrets: Jeannie An (Rotman), Sandra Langlands (Gerstein)

Guest: Alan Darnell (ITS)

1. Minutes of the Meeting of May 12, 2004:
Approved.

2. Business arising:

On behalf of the Reference Services Committee Nalini Singh thanked John Papadopoulos and Ted Tjaden for organizing the orientation for reference librarians at the Law Library, which took place on May 28th. Other volunteer libraries are being sought for future orientations.

3. Scholars Portal/SFX:
Alan Darnell provided the committee with an update. Scholars Portal is a province-wide (Ontario) effort to support research, teaching, and learning with digital resources. Alan outlined the project goals and philosophy and provided details regarding content and services, which include E-journals, Document Delivery (Racer/VDX), A&I, Citation Management. These are the OII-funded components of Scholars Portal. Electronic Government Documents, Geospatial Data and other digital content (which could include digital images, statistical data) have been incorporated into Scholars Portal as “projects of opportunity”, where resources, content, and support are available from non-OII sources.

While the above describe the contents, the relationships are also of significance (i.e. to be able to connect a secondary article to primary data; to collect a series
of citations and be able to link directly to the article). OpenURL Linking was discussed. OCUL has negotiated a license for SFX from Ex Libris. At present SFX just deals with electronic journals. Among the people involved in the implementation is Warren Holder, who is the site contact (liaison) for U of T. The SFX Implementation Specialist (trainer and guide) is Nettie Legace. A list-serv will be set up to include Nettie. Among the Local Implementation Tasks to take place, training is tentatively scheduled for the first two weeks of July.

For details, please refer to Alan Darnell’s PowerPoint presentation on Scholars Portal and SFX which was sent to the refinfo list.

4. Revision of our Terms of Reference and Membership:
Discussion moved to next meeting.

5. Reports:
Moved to next meeting.

6. Other business:
Sara McDowell:
There will be a meeting of instruction librarians with participation from any library that is interested in discussing a coordinated instruction programme. The meeting will take place June 10th at 1:30, 2nd floor conference room at Robarts.

Nalini Singh:
Jeannie An is organizing a two hour Factiva train-the-trainer session. The proposed dates are June 22 or June 24. Please inform Jeannie which date is best for you.

Future talks:
July meeting - Marian Press will speak to us about the OCUL Learning Object Repository.

TBA – Ian Whyte will talk to us about the new course that he teaches at UTM, called “Introduction to Scholarly Research”. This is a credit course incorporating library skills.