

CARLI Collections Working Group

Report of Activities, 2006-2007

Members:

Linda Morrissett (2006-2008), DePaul University, **Chair**

Jerry Anderson (2006-2007), Joliet Junior College

Karen Egan (2006-2007), Illinois State Library

Katie Maier-O'Shea (2006-2009), North Park University

Linda McEwan (2006-2008), Elgin Community College

Nancy O'Brien (2006-2007), University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign

Marlene Slough (2006-2008), Eastern Illinois University

Staff Liaisons: Elizabeth Clarage and Connie Walsh

FY07 Activities timeline:

CWG Meetings: September 8 (DePaul); October 10 (conference call); October 17 (Grants workshop conference call); December 4 (Joliet); February 5 (conference call); April 30 (SAIC)

Bibliographers meeting: November 2 (Elgin)

Grants workshops: December (Chicago and Bloomington)

Joint Working Group Chairs meeting: February 16 (Springfield)

CARLI Rethinking Collections Awards task force: June 6 (Urbana)

Narrative summary:

The Collection Partnership Awards (formerly Collection Partnership Grants Program) was reviewed and revised in order to provide a more structured framework for potential CARLI library participants. The structure was revised to include: "intent to apply" process; workshops for leads; an institutional affirmation of eligibility form; stronger emphasis on the benefit to the statewide collection and need for assessment; overall theme, with particular invitation for proposals for digitization projects. The Principles for Partnership were revised, including the Last Copy Guidelines. The December workshops for lead bibliographers were well received and the proposals submitted were deemed to be overall improved from the previous year, although some proposals still were weak in presenting a compelling case for funding. Although digitization was emphasized as a priority

in both the Bibliographers' meeting and the workshops, only one proposal for the Collection Partnership awards fell in this highlighted category. Twenty-seven proposals were received, an all time high for the entire span of the program. At the recommendation of the CARLI Board, a task force on Rethinking Collection Awards was designated to review the awards program, explore ideas to modernize and revitalize the program, and to make recommendations for the FY2008 program at the July 2007 Board meeting. The CWG agreed that funding should be awarded to a wider variety of collection-related programs, but also expressed interest in maintaining collaborative opportunities among CARLI libraries. All CWG members were invited to participate on the task force, and several attended a meeting in June to discuss the issues and potential revisions.

The Bibliographers' Meeting was held November 2nd at Elgin Community College. Amy Maroso, guest speaker, discussed "Planning Digital Projects."

CWG considered sponsoring a spring workshop on weeding, but this could not be scheduled in the spring due to other meeting conflicts, so it was recommended a weeding workshop should be scheduled in conjunction with the annual bibliographers' meeting in fall 2007. CWG has strong interest in hosting a forum on Scholarly Communication in spring 2008.

The OCLC WorldCat Collection Analysis product license expired and Connie Walsh negotiated a new license in April. CWG recommended that we conduct a survey of the 91 institutions which had previously subscribed to assess the use of the product by CARLI members. The survey was scheduled to be conducted by the end of the year. Unique item reports were generated from the group product and sent to those libraries with fewer than 100,000 unique items.

The revision of the Last Copy Guidelines within the Principles for Partnership of collection partnerships raised some questions by I-Cat and Statewide Serials Task Force members. Since "last copy" is a complex issue for the consortium, and given recent and future changes in scholarly publication, the CWG recommended adding an FAQ to the guidelines document to provide some clarification.

Future planning:

The Collection Awards program revisions have required extensive time of CWG members over the past two years. In FY06 the committee assumed responsibility for administering the ICCMP grants program, and in FY07 again the CWG reviewed and revised the program proposal process. There are many current issues in library collection development and management that the group has not had the occasion to address.

The Collections Working Group has the following recommendations for the coming year:

- CWG committee membership should be expanded so the committee workload can be better distributed
- CWG recommends that the FY08 committee focus on strategic vision and planning in addition to its assigned administrative work
- A question on recommendations for collection size requirements for CARLI libraries was not pursued in FY07, and should be considered for CWG discussion in FY08.

Submitted by:

Linda Morrisett, Chair

July 9, 2007