

2-11-2008

E-Resources Working Group Minutes for February 11, 2008

Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois

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Recommended Citation

Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois, "E-Resources Working Group Minutes for February 11, 2008" (2008). *E-resources Working Group*. Paper 38.
<http://digitalcommons.carli.illinois.edu/erwg/38>

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E-Resources Working Group Minutes

February 11, 2008

Members attending: Sara Blaszczyk (University of Illinois at Chicago), Sarah Wessel (Illinois Wesleyan University), Jeanette Pierce (Loyola University), Jeff Matlak (Western Illinois University), Chris Sweet (Heartland Community College), Laurie Sauer (Knox College), Gwen Harrison (Illinois State Library), Cindy Clennon (CARLI), David Hamilton (CARLI), Elizabeth Clarage (CARLI)

Members calling in: Wendy Shelburne (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

Guests: none

Members absent: none

The focus of this meeting was the review of proposals for possible one-time purchase decisions. We began with a discussion of the goals we hope the purchase program will achieve. These included:

- To provide permanent access to products with long-lasting value
- To provide products which will require low member contributions
- To provide products with the broadest appeal. We must be cognizant of our audience – which we believe to be mostly undergraduate students and faculty.
- To allow CARLI to make a statement about electronic resources. E-books are an example of this goal. We would like for CARLI to be out in front of the curve in terms of our use of e-books.
- To allow us to take bold, and possibly experimental, steps that we could not take on our own.

Specific product discussions:

1. ABC-CLIO E-books provided by EBSCO

Pro: Good list of suggested titles

Lots of libraries have some of these in print but this is not seen as a problem

Lots of representation across the CARLI members

There is some room for pricing negotiation and they are eager to enter the market

The MARC records are provided at no cost and they are of good quality

Con: The interface allows you to view and print only one page at a time (this is a negative)

There is a question about the ownership of the content

They have not specified an archival format

2. Historical Chicago Tribune provided by ProQuest

This offer is for the out-of-copyright years. The current CARLI subscription provides for 1926 through 1986. Current customers can purchase the historical editions or increase their annual subscription fee to provide access.

Pro: Offer includes a 2 or 3 year payment plan

This is of broad appeal

Con: The annual fee is very high. Current participants indicated that they were paying between \$2,700

and \$4,000 per year for the subscription.

This is also offered on the NewsBank platform

Concerns were expressed about the value of the deal at this price.

Libraries may have microfilm Questions: Does the quote reflect current customers?

3. **Black Studies Center provided by ProQuest**

Proposal update: Cynthia provided an option to buy just the Chicago Defender (1909 – 1975) for \$815,000 with a \$60,000 annual maintenance fee. The annual access provides for the addition of new content to the Index

Pro: Valuable content

Con: The annual fee is an issue

The content is not a replacement for the current materials

4. **Sage E-reference collection**

The content is predominantly history and social sciences with a handful of STM titles.

140 volumes and editions moving from first to second would be free.

Pro: The range of titles is good and would be of interest

No annual fee for 5 years is good.

The costs are lower as there is no ‘middleman’

The interface is better for printing and would allow you to print an entire chapter.

There are hotlinks to the Sage journals.

Con: The archival format is proposed to be XML but it would require that we provide an interface.

OhioLINK did this and hosts the content.

The proposal does not provide a reduced price or a credit for print.

We would have to pay for MARC records

There was some concern expressed about offering another deal with Sage.

Questions: How often are new editions released?

Would these be offered consortially?

5. **EBSCO Magazine Archives**

This is a rolling file with access on EBSCOHost for the following years:

The New Republic – 1990 forward

National Review – 1975 forward

Pro: These archives will integrate with Academic Search Premier.

Con: There are not many current CARLI subscribers

Unsure of the broad appeal of the content

6. **Historical Statistics of the US provided by Cambridge University Press**

There was a question about the frequency of online updates.

Pro: valuable content used by all types of libraries

The purchase cost and annual fees are great

7. **Gale Virtual Reference Online**

Pro: The product would provide broad coverage and a larger collection than the other offers.

Gale hosts other publishers on their platform

We could negotiate a deal for fewer titles.

Con: The product as proposed is very expensive and would use all of our purchase funds for 2008 and 2009.

There are no print credits offered but they do have DDP. There are also no credits for titles owned electronically.

Concerns were expressed that this does not include any of their major series.

Also there are multiple editions of the same works included.

8. **Women and Social Movements and Black Thought & Culture provided by Alexander Street Press**

The proposal has been updated to remove all of the non-purchase products (the music products).

The annual fees will allow for the inclusion of new, updated content.

Pro: The products are almost all primary source.

There was much interest in the group in both products.

Cons: the products are never complete. Most of the diaries are available in print.

IWU used to have subscriptions to both products and came to see that WASM was more valuable.

Preliminary product review:

No to:

- ProQuest products – they are too expensive and the annual maintenance fees are untenable
- ABC-CLIO titles because of the interface and printing issues, and concerns about the scope.
- EBSCO Archive – there was not a lot of broad interest in these.

Yes to:

- Sage e-reference
- Historical Stats – the group recommended that this be purchased with no subsidy
- The 2 Alexander Street Press products
- Gale – a smaller, core list would be more attractive.

Final recommendations:

The group would like to make a major e-book purchase but the offers received this year (except for Sage) had problems with content, printing and cost. The group would like to create a content list and have the publishers propose in response rather than having to accept whatever is offered and pursue this with the final year's funding for the purchasing experiment.

A possible e-book symposium was discussed as a source of information about platforms, use of e-books by students and use with faculty.

Next meeting:

Conference Call

March 10, 2008 1:30pm to 3:00pm

217-265-6999