

Vermont Consortium of Academic Libraries

Board of Directors Annual Meeting

14 June 2021

11:03am-Noon via Zoom video conferencing

Attendees

Jim Allen, Miranda Axworthy, Laura Crain, Emily Crist, Eileen Gatti, Lisa Kent, Jennifer Lann, J. James Mancuso (President), Greg Sauer, Terry Simpkins, Jane Woldow

Notes

I. Introductions

II. Approval of Minutes of March 19th meeting

Minutes were previously emailed to members. Approved unanimously.

III. Treasurer's Report (Greg Sauer)

Fiscal year 2022 begins July 1st.

- Balance on hand \$21,651.71. We do pay for web hosting which will be another small expense. This expense may arrive during this fiscal year.
- Spent \$7.10 to mail IRS documents.
- Motion to waive dues (typically yielding ca. \$3500 in revenue) for FY22 to relieve budgetary pressures on member libraries and because we have sufficient funds on hand. Approved unanimously.

IV. Update on VCAL (President Mancuso)

- Report on VLA online conference May27-June 2
 - Waiting on a report that Mike Roy is preparing. Mike is currently on vacation
 - Program and slides/presentations are here:
<https://www.vermontlibraries.org/conference>
- Informational emails provided by Jason Broughton
 - Members discussed continuing to receive email updates, etc., from President Mancuso regarding various grant opportunities that may be available to us. They seem valuable and useful to members, as is the continued collaboration with the State Librarian on National Library Legislative Day and other opportunities.
- Consider a joint meeting/workshop with VLA/College & Special Libraries section. Topics? Dates? Location?
 - Jim proposed a joint meeting with VLA in conjunction with their fall or spring events
 - Probably would be an in-person meeting but it could be virtual.
 - We could use existing funds from our treasury to subsidize speakers, training, etc.
 - Hot-topic ideas:

- Training/workshops are always helpful, especially during this period with few professional development funds available to us
- Decisions around dwindling resources/budgets – doing more with less.
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (DEI) efforts in libraries
- VCAL roundtable/survey on how the pandemic has affected services
- Timing
 - Usual timing is usually around 1st week of November? We could push into spring 2022.
 - VLA may have a date in mind
 - Could also host our own workshop, if a joint meeting does not work, perhaps in April

V. Election of Officers for 2021/22

President: Jim Mancuso (Northeastern Baptist College)

Secretary/Independent colleges representative: Terry Simpkins (Middlebury College)

Treasurer/Independent colleges representative: Greg Sauer (Norwich University)

State college representative: Jim Allen (Vermont Technical College)

UVM representative: Bryn Geffert (University of Vermont)

At-Large representative: Laura Crain (St. Michael's College)

Slate of candidates passed unanimously. Will meet soon to discuss conference ideas. Any other ideas conference, workshops, etc., are welcome at any time. Please send to Jim Mancuso.

VI. Round-robin – news from member libraries

Jim M.: Good year in retrospect. NEBC met in person almost all year, closed a bit early in Nov. Held an in-person graduation. Students largely followed protocols. Moved writing center into the library, and Jim responsible for it at the moment.

Greg: Closed initially due to quarantine. Some staff on site to keep the library open. Requiring students, staff, and faculty to be vaccinated. A bit of turn-over at the College senior leadership level. Migrated to OCLC Discovery interface on June 1.

Lisa: Staff were great. Open to the community now. President of the College is leaving at the end of August. Tasked with forming a virtual library by the end of the year.

Jim Allen: Initially Library access by appointment only. Now fully open. Electronic usage is up, physical circulation is down. VSC campuses are merging, including libraries, and will be hiring a founding VSCS Library Director of the Library.

Miranda: Initially library access by appointment only. Now open to staff, faculty, and public. Also involved in merger of VSC libraries.

Laura: Lost 2 staff members through layoffs, now at 6.5 FTE. Don't know what the new normal (hours, etc.) will look like due to insufficient staffing, and don't yet know how library services will be affected. Enrollment is also low. In the middle of migrating to EBSCO's Folio. Curious about streaming services at other colleges (currently using DocuSeek, Swank, unmediated Kanopy). Writing center is moving to main level of library (was in basement).

Jennifer: Everyone was back on campus and the library was open. Hiring freeze in place.

Eileen: still functioning with 1.5 staff members. Cuts were happening well before COVID, but seems to be in a better financial state now. Last year's enrollment was good. College will be announcing a new president soon. "Virtual residencies" begin in July and continue through September. Library building still closed to public, but will probably open on an appointment basis during the virtual residencies. Transitioning from EZProxy→Open Athens (EBSCO). State roving archivist has visited and is giving recommendations.

Terry: Still down one librarian in VT, and several staff in CA. College is still in a hiring freeze. MIIS (CA) had greater than expected enrollment. LS are at about half-enrollment on campus this summer. Requiring students, staff, and faculty to be vaccinated. Just now opening stacks and library (public still not allowed on campus). Streaming video: Accounting/finance with Kanopy is difficult to work with, hopefully OverDrive will improve things.

Jane: VLS has experienced much of what others have reported. No longer under a hiring freeze. School is engaged in long-term strategic planning. Facing a 9% budget cut to library collections, but will probably cancel a database that is largely duplicated.

Respectfully submitted by Jane Woldow, Secretary and Terry Simpkins, Incoming Secretary