

**NCES Academic Library Survey
Advisory Committee Meetings
San Antonio, TX
Minutes
January 19-20, 2006**

Meeting: Thursday, January 19, 2006, 2 pm – 5:00 pm, San Antonio Convention Center, Room 206-A.
Friday, January 20, 2006, 9am – noon, San Antonio Convention Center, Room 101-A

Committee Members: Susan Anderson, Vickie Hanawalt, Brinley Franklin, Martha Kyrillidou, Leslie Manning, William Miller, Carolyn Norman.

Ex-Officio: Denise Davis (Chair), Barbara Holton (for Jeff Williams NCES), Neal Kaske (NCLIS), Patty O'Shea (Census), Cindy Sheckells (for Kaleen Vaden, Census), Hugh Thompson (ACRL).

1. Preliminaries
 - a. Introductions – introduce Patricia Profeta
 - b. Logistics (breaks, other)
 - c. Minutes approval, Annual Conference meeting, Chicago
 - i. Bill moved that the minutes be approved.
 - d. Agenda review, any new items
 - i. Agenda approved with changes at 2:15pm
2. NCES (Holton)
 - a. Commissioner – Mark Schneider until 2009
 - b. 2002 Data file released in December data available in various formats
 - c. E.D. Tabs for 2002 released with 2004 ED-Tab report. 2002 part-way through adjudication before it was cancelled. Will be released as a full document with the 2004 data.
 - d. OMB clearance package
 - e. Carolyn Norman raised an issue regarding the peer comparison tool for usage by Community Colleges. The new design made it hard to get data for Community Colleges, without knowing the names of the schools (1600 colleges).
3. Census Bureau (O'Shea)
 - a. 2002 ALS
 - i. 2002 final file and documentation were released on NCES Web site mid-December.
 - ii. 2002 ED Tab will be integrated with the 2004 ED Tab and targeted to be available by the June 2006 meeting.
 - b. 2004 ALS

- i. Census sent NCES the edited unimputed file in late August. NCES expects to have the data released on the Peer Tool near this meeting or soon after.
 - ii. Census sent NCES the edited imputed file for review the end of December. The suppressed file was sent early January.
 - iii. Census is currently running the draft ED Tab tables for review by Census and NCES. Barbara will use the tables to start revising the ED Tab text.
 - c. 2006 ALS
 - i. Based on the final survey changes decided at this meeting, Census will start the processing and system changes on the Web collection application and the post-collection processing system and programs. The survey changes will require program revisions for the display screens, edits, imputations and tables.
 - ii. Census is starting an edit research project to review and update all the edit parameters and add or revise any edits based on the survey changes.
 - iii. Census will also update the User's Manual, revising the calendar, letters and all contents. Section 10 – Status and Summary Reports and Broadcast E-Mail Web Screens, will be expanded to give directions for the LR's using the status and summary reports. There were questions and some confusion in the 2004 survey.

4. ARL (Kyrillidou)

- a. LIB Qual 250 libraries are involved, about half are new, with 4 new languages.
- b. Mine for libraries, a web-based demographics utility of users activities over the course of year. Information about the user, their demographics, their usage are reported and can added to user satisfaction surveys.
- c. Developing further DigiQual, items to evaluate website. For use by digital libraries. Implementation was a pilot, had mixed results. Survey was not clicked on, protocols to get people to take the survey. Goal is to bring them under an umbrella, StatsQual.
- d. Annual stats under revision. A new form was developed for collecting data, and the interface improves the survey. The survey deadline is delayed because of changes (e.g., refined definitions, linked definitions-to project counter definitions).
- e. Taskforce to measure collections
 - i. Taskforce interviewed directors, recommendations were made regarding ways to index non-ARL libraries. The taskforce approved further work to describe a research library. Bruce Thompson and _____ will conduct this work for ARL

5. Oberlin Group (Hanawalt)

- a. 2005 was the first year that Oberlin statistics were collected and displayed as part of the relatively new group web site. Member libraries will now have EASIER access to previous and current data. The response rate continues to be good--

100% this year. The statistics remain confidential, but a summary of results, without specific institutional data, can be obtained.

6. ACRL (Thompson)

- a. Data collection for the 2006 (FY2005) survey is underway through late April. Data to be released soon thereafter. Survey deadline was moved to increase response rate open, and there were no changes to the survey from last year.
- b. The 2005 (FY2004) response rates were down from 2004–05 (approximately 36% total response rate).

7. NCLIS (Kaske)

- a. Personnel
 - i. Two new Commissioners, Jan Cellucci of Massachusetts and Diane Rivers of Alabama
 - ii. Robert Molyneux vacated the position of director of statistics and surveys in March and Neal Kaske assumed the position in late August.
- b. 2005 Activities
 - i. Library Services for the Aging. This initiative seeks to identify opportunities for improving library services for the elderly, and also supports economic development by identifying how libraries might use the skills and experience of older workers as employees.
 - ii. In February 2005, Commissioner Sandra Ashworth wrote a position paper for the White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA), held in December 2005. Her paper was published on the Web sites of both NCLIS and the American Library Association (ALA). Ms. Ashworth was a delegate from Idaho to the WHCoA.
- c. The Role of Libraries in Health Information Literacy. Since 2004, the goal of this initiative has been to encourage all libraries in the U.S. to support Americans' health information needs. NCLIS created Consumer Health Information Recognition Awards for Libraries to recognize libraries that excelled in meeting the consumer health needs of American citizens. With the cooperation of COSLA, NCLIS presented awards to thirty-seven libraries in 2004. In 2006, a second round of awards is planned that will again recognize outstanding library programs in each state, but will also narrow down nine semi-finalists for \$1000 prizes and one grand-prize winning library that will receive \$20,000. The deadline for submissions is January 31, 2006 and the form for submitting is on the Web site: <http://awards.nclis.gov/> An all-day forum is planned at the National Library of Medicine in May 2006. The forum will feature speakers from each of the ten top programs who will explore challenges and solutions in providing consumer health information in effective, efficient ways, especially to at-risk or underserved populations.
- d. Libraries and Educational Achievement. This initiative seeks to identify how school libraries affect classroom learning, and to disseminate this information to community organizations, school administrators, local politicians with funding authority, the media, the larger educational community, and all others who have an interest in the role of libraries in educational achievement. In recognition of the

problem that school libraries are not fully recognized for the value they bring to the educational process, NCLIS created a flyer entitled *Why Care about School Libraries* <http://www.nclis.gov/info/schoollibraryactivities.html>. NCLIS has approached a major publisher to partner in establishing a school librarian award that would spotlight the contributions of school librarians everywhere. Negotiations are underway for implementing the award.

- e. International library and information science issues. NCLIS continued to examine the role of libraries in Sub-Saharan Africa in the battle against HIV/AIDS. NCLIS published the final report (“The Role of Libraries in HIV/AIDS Information Dissemination in Sub-Saharan Africa”) of all this work in November and it is available on the Web site (<http://www.nclis.gov>). Requests for paper copies may be made to the NCLIS office. In November, Commissioner Joan Challinor represented the Commission as a member of the U.S. delegation to the World Summit on the Information Society in Tunis. Her report is on the Web at <http://www.nclis.gov/libinter/internationalactivities.html>.
 - f. Assessment and appraisal of library and information resources and services. This initiative seeks to identify new measures for assessing the value of libraries to the communities they serve. In 2006, NCLIS will publish a summary description of the innovative assessment tools currently in use or being developed.
 - g. NCES, NCLIS, ALA, PLA, and FSCS co-sponsor the Mary Jo Lynch Award for Library and Information Science (LIS) Students. The purpose is to encourage library school student statistical research using public library data collected at the state and national level. For deadlines and additional information see <http://www.nclis.gov/statsurv/surveys/fscs/awardsFSCS/MaryJoLynchAward.pdf>. Please help us inform faculty members of this opportunity for their students.
 - h. Web site redesign. With contributions of design suggestions and technical expertise from University of Maryland graduate students and staff of ProQuest Company in Ann Arbor, Michigan, preliminary redesign of the NCLIS Web site was begun in spring 2005. The new site was unveiled on November 1.
 - i. Plans for 2006 - NCLIS and the University of Michigan Sponsor National Symposium NCLIS is partnering with the University of Michigan University Library to hold a national symposium on March 10-11, 2006 to discuss the impact of mass digitization projects on libraries, universities, government, information policy, publishing, and education. While there is no registration fee, all attendees are required to register. For information, visit <http://www.lib.umich.edu/mdp/symposium>.
8. ALA ORS (Davis)
- Handout provided, with the following projects highlighted:
- a. Member demographic survey had sufficient responses to do preliminary analysis. An article will appear in the February 2006 issue of *American Libraries*. Census changes to race and ethnicity will impact the survey design, and ongoing comparison of member responses.
 - b. The 2006 household survey was recently completed and findings will be released in time for National Library Week. The survey asks households of their public

library usage, perception of library services, and willingness to pay for services. A few “return on investment” questions were added to the 2006 survey.

- c. Quick response survey on public library funding changes yielded about a 39% response. The quick survey model worked and will be used in the future to conduct surveys. ORS will pursue additional funding in budget.
 - d. IMLS grant on Library Networks, Cooperatives and Consortia began and the first, universe-forming questionnaire will be conducted in March 2006.
 - e. The Salary Survey has been expanded to include a survey of non-MLS staff in academic and public libraries. Academic libraries will be asked to respond to both surveys, and ALA is working with ARL for their member libraries identified in the sample. The non-MLS survey launches in February, and is followed by the MLS salary survey in spring 2006. A question was asked about why we are doing a non-MLS survey - Advocacy precipitated the non-MLS survey, as well as the growing number of non-MLS ALA members.
9. OMB Calendar and 2006 Survey Question updates
- a. See attached table for change detail.
 - b. Question 35 & 36 – Barbara Holton wanted to know why they were not included with the questions on information literacy. The committee discussed dropping questions on Information Literacy and replacing them with other questions. The current questions are institutional, and questions are only meaningful that drill down to the library level. Bill Miller suggested eliminating this whole section. Holton indicated that 2006 is a good year for a new clearance package, so any questions should be made now. Holton also suggested eventually moving the information literacy questions to the 2008 IPEDS institutional survey. Holton will investigate this and report to the committee.
 - c. The group discussed meaningful questions, as presented previously (2004 meetings): Does the institution have a curriculum/graduation requirement for information literacy? Does the library have a formally recognized role for information literacy? The group agreed to add the two questions above to the survey. Proposed to add the 2 questions to the survey. Passed.
 - d. Carolyn also proposed resurfacing the 5 questions that were presented in 2004 and reviewing them for inclusion. Comments on additional questions by Friday, February 3rd to Barbara Holton. Leslie Manning will send to group by January 25. The questions will be reviewed and voted on for inclusion in the 2006 survey.
 - e. Joint Use Library (Part Public and Academic) The issue is double reporting of gate count information. There really isn't a way to separate out the numbers. Leslie Manning indicated that perhaps there could be an eligibility question at the beginning of the survey. Susan Anderson commented that it really doesn't matter. Patty said at last meeting there was talk about adding a question. Carolyn suggested adding a question to track this trend of joint use. Is there trend for this? Denise said this should go on another survey, but not this one, and will pass this on to Barratt Wilkins, chair of the State Library Agency Survey Steering Committee.
 - f. Storage facilities – Vickie Hanawalt will see if we can get a copy of her consultant's report or a listing of the colleges that are included in the report. The

committee will wait for the ARL questions to stabilize before adding to this survey.

- g. PART G – ELECTRONIC SERVICES - Are these questions still relevant? Issue that only 6 answered the supplemental questions. Martha Kyrillidou said these questions would remain on the ARL survey. Patty O’Shea will get response information for us. The committee approved keeping all questions in 2006 and will consider changes for the 2008 survey. Carolyn Norman indicated it would be good to track responses for 3 surveys and then decide if we need to drilldown further after there are historical data that can be tracked. Question 44 is here for justification. Leslie Manning suggested that questions 40-48 could eventually be taken out for 2008 and Denise concurred.
 - h. Survey materials will be sent via email by Patty, the group will approve the letters through email discussion.
10. Survey timeline
- a. Notification one month before the survey materials are sent out – September for C&RL News briefing.
 - b. LR listing updated. LR Letters sent out in APRIL. Boilerplate letter to be used, sent via email.
11. June committee meeting
- a. The committee will meet in June only on Friday, June 23, 2006 from 9am-12 noon, and attend a committee lunch.
12. 2008 Survey Issues
- a. Five items to be considered for 2008. Start work in June 2006 or wait until January 2007. A conference call was proposed by Carolyn Norman to discuss the issues and decide about when to begin work.
13. Meeting adjourned at 12pm, Friday, January