

StLA Survey Steering Committee Meeting
State Plaza Hotel, Washington, D.C.
September 21, 2005
Minutes

Participants Present:

Chair: Barratt Wilkins

COSLA Members: Suzanne Miller and Peggy Rudd

ALA: Denise Davis

NCES: Barbara Holton, Elaine Kroe, and Jeffrey Williams

NCLIS: Trudi Bellardo Hahn, Neal Kaske, and Kim Miller

IMLS: Mary Chute, Mary Downs, Michele Farrell, and George Smith

SDC Representatives: Libby Law and Alan Zimmerman

Census: Suzanne Dorinski, Adriene Oneto, Patty O'Shea, and Cindy Sheckells,

Other Experts: Diana Ray Tope

Synergy Enterprises, Inc (SEI): Sean Grobe

The meeting was called to order.

Introductions: Introductions were made and Neal Kaske was welcomed.

Chair's Remarks: Mr. Wilkins announced his intent to resign as chair of the steering committee. Libby Law, one of the 2 FSCS Data Coordinators with responsibility for providing StLA survey data, also resigned as she is retiring from her position with the South Carolina State Library.

Approval of Minutes: Peggy Rudd motion to accept the September minutes as revised was second by Diana Ray Tope and the motion passed unanimously.

E-Metric Data Collection, Pilot Recommendations: Alan Zimmerman reviewed the charge to the committee: to present recommendations for e-metrics to be added for the 2006 Survey, identify training needs and a process to resolve definition questions. Nine states (AL, AZ, OH, IA, MN, SC, TX, WA, WI) have agreed to test the e-metrics identified. Neal Kaske agreed to serve as a member of the Pilot task force and assist with the analysis of the response to the survey.

The test survey will take place in October. Suzanne Miller will contact the pilot states about the release of the E-metric Pilot Survey. Kim Miller will compile and distribute the state responses to the taskforce members. The Pilot taskforce will select 2-4 of the items from the test to recommend to the Steering Committee. Barratt Wilkins will poll the Steering Committee prior to January 1. The Steering Committee's recommendation will be presented to the COSLA Research and Statistics Committee and if approved, to the COSLA members present at the January COSLA meeting at ALA Midwinter. The data items approved by COSLA will be sent to NCES and Census by February 1.

Training possibilities discussed were: offering a concurrent session at the annual FSCS conference to reach approximately 25% of those responsible for responding to the survey, approaching FSU for help with WEB training, and create a crosswalk table indicating what each major vendor calls the data item on the vendor reports.

A panel was appointed to address definition questions and resolve e-metric data questions. Suzanne Miller will chair the group. Other members of the group will be: Denise Davis (ALA), Elaine Kroe (NCES), Cindy Sheckells (Census), and Alan Zimmerman (state respondent). The panel will address all questions and make an official response, which Cindy Sheckells (Census) will post. There will be a link on the Survey to the FAQ's.

Recommended Policy Issues for StLA Survey: Issues discussed included the 3 purposes for use of LSTA, the issue of LSTA competitive grants VS use of LSTA for operations of the State Library Agencies (Statewide programs), and emergent literacy (ages 0-5). There was a brief discussion of the ALA president-elect's misconception about the use of LSTA and the role of competitive grants. Peggy Rudd and Suzanne Miller will work on emergent literacy data elements using the same process as that used by the E-metric Taskforce.

NCES Update: The 2004 StLA Survey E.D. Tab is scheduled to be released in October. There will continue to be separate publications for the E.D. Tab and the Supplemental Tables Report but they will be released simultaneously. This is two months earlier than the release of the 2003 data E.D. Tab and supplemental tables.

The FY03 Public Library Survey data file was released in June. The E.D. Tab is scheduled to be released Thursday, Sept. 22. This is 5 months earlier than the 2002 E.D. Tab was released.

Academic Survey. There was an 88% response rate for the FY04 Survey. NCES has received the un-imputed data from Census. The 2002 E.D. Tab is in final processing stage. Data file and E.D. Tab should be released in November.

School Library/Media Center Survey, managed by Barbara Horton, is conducted every 4 years as part of the schools and staffing survey. The 2004 sampling of school library/media centers excluded private school libraries. Barbara Horton is the survey manager. A 50-year historical report which, includes a summary page for each state, has just been released. There was a discussion of AASL's efforts to have school library/media centers recognized as part of the "no child left behind" program.

NCLIS Update: Trudy Bellardo Hahn introduced Neal Kaske and reported on the re-design of the NCLIS website which is scheduled to be unveiled November 1. NCLIS is gearing up for the 2006 Awards for health information program with judges in each state. Libraries are being encouraged to self-select. Each of the ten semi-finalize will receive \$1,000. The grand prize-winner receiving \$20,000.

A one and a half day symposium on Libraries in Transition will be held in March 2006 in cooperation with the University of Michigan.

School library impact on education achievement conference is being planned in cooperation with a commercial publisher. Plans include recognizing an outstanding school library of the year a National School Librarian of the year. Laura Bush has expressed interest.

Neal Kaske reported that he is becoming familiar with the various surveys and asked for ideas about changes needed.

IMLS Update: Mary Chute will serve as Acting Director of IMLS until a new director is appointed.

The House and Senate version for the 2006 budget are about the same and are less than the amount needed to implement the new base formula. The 2007 has been submitted to OMB.

The Book Festival begins Saturday.

The Fall Annual Conference for State Programs will include State Librarians, Directors of Library Development and LSTA Coordinators. The focus is on the 2nd 5-year evaluation. Amy Owens will provide the keynote address. Keith Lance and Alan Zimmerman will be providing a session on using NCES data. Stephen Abrams, SIRSI VP of Inovation, will also be a speaker. An OBE Taskforce program will present information about the outcome base tools developed to evaluate Summer Reading Programs.

The announcement of the National Awards for Museum Services and National Awards for Library Service have been delayed because of Hurricane Katrina. Plans were to make the announcements in November but the announcements may be postponed until January.

States impacted by Hurricane Katrina will receive extensions for end-of-the-year reports. IMLS is providing support for the states impacted by Katrina with links to information on web site.

Michele Farrell has been appointed to serve on the statistics committee of IFLA

IMLS is developing an analysis of the impact trends of museums and library service of IMLS grants to identify best practices. Oct 27 White House Conference on Youth will include impact information of IMLS grants on both youth at risk and youth in general.

National Leadership grants will focus on different areas each year. This year the focus is be on youth, advancing learning communities, and digitization and research, providing an opportunity to highlight what SLA's are doing at the local level. IMLS plans to focus on

different areas each year. The identification of areas for the focus for next year is underway and a productive aging population is being considered.

New web site (scheduled for release in October) will make resources available on grants that have been awarded and make products available.

IMLS in collaboration PBS will present a program on “How to Partner” on November 30 2-3pm.

IMLS is identifying trends and best practices in the area of youth services, advancing learning communities and research and demonstration focused on youth as part of the Nation of Learners Initiative.

COSLA Research and Statistics Committee Update: Peggy Rudd reported that she and Suzanne Miller are serving as co-chairs of the Research and Statistics Committee. She also reported on COSLA’s concerns regarding the timeliness issues and interest in the e-metric pilot.

Census Update: The 2005 StLA Survey is scheduled for release in early October. The software will go live on October 17. The deadline for the Lorenz Award is January 17 and close out will be February 15.

ALA Update: Denise Davis distributed a written report. She announced the receipt of the IMLS National Leadership Grant to study library networks, cooperatives and consortia. Year 1 will be the development of the universe and with the survey scheduled for Year 2. Peggy Rudd and Neal Kaske expressed interest in being involved.

She also announced that the ORS national sample web-based survey of public libraries to determine the impact of the recent downturn in the national economy will go live on October 3.

ORS will provide follow-up contact with SDC’s for states identified with library closures by Dean Jue and Christie Koontz’s study of Public Library Openings and Closings, 1999 – 2003.

Terms of Appointment for StLA Survey Committee: A spreadsheet showing Steering Committee make-up and dates of appointment for filled positions was reviewed. There was a discussion about filling vacant positions. Barratt Wilkins agreed to continue serving as chair of the Steering Committee for another year. The following slots need to be filled: 3 vacant COSLA voting positions and the FSCS Data Coordinator slot currently held by Libby Law. Suzanne Miller will communicate the need for appointments to Jeffrey Williams.

New Business: Peggy Rudd reported that COSLA appointed a taskforce to work with IMLS on the identification of 6 crucial data elements for inclusion on the FSCS Public Library Data Survey and the State Library Agency Survey. George Smith will send the 6

identified crucial needs to members of the steering Committee. Barratt Wilkins appointed Peggy Rudd, Denise Davis, George Smith, Neal Kaske, and Elaine Kroe to review the current surveys and identify who is currently collecting the data, and to recommend who should collect the data.

The charge to the e-metric definition panel was expanded to include the responsibility for addressing all data definition and edit issues.

The meeting was adjourned.

To Do List

Definition Panel: Address survey definition questions, e-metric questions and edit issues. (Members are: Suzanne Miller (chair), Denise Davis, Elaine Kroe, Cindy Shekells, and Alan Zimmerman)

Neal Kaske: Serve of the E-Metric Taskforce and assist with analysis of the survey results.

Kim Miller: Compile and distribute the results of the E-metric Survey to members of the E-Metric Taskforce.

Suzanne Miller: Contact E-Metric Data Collection Pilot States about the release of the E-metric Pilot Survey.

Suzanne Miller and Peggy Rudd: Present the Steering Committee's recommendations about the addition of e-metric data items to the 2006 StLA Survey to the COSLA Research and Statistics Committee and to the COSLA members at the January COSLA meeting.

Suzanne Miller and Peggy Rudd: Develop emergent literacy data elements using the same process used by the E-metric Taskforce.

Susanne Miller: Send Definition Panel's official response to Cindy Shekells for posting to the web.

Cindy Shekells: Post official responses to definition and e-metric questions and edits to the Web site.

George Smith: Send the 6 data elements identified as crucial needs to members of the Steering Committee.

Peggy Rudd: Survey Review Taskforce - review existing surveys to find which, if any, are currently collecting the 6 data elements identified as crucial needs. Members of the taskforce are: Peggy Rudd, Denise Davis, George Smith, Neil Kaske and Elaine Kroe.

Peggy Rudd and Suzanne Miller: Present the Steering Committee's recommendations about the addition of e-metric data items to the 2006 StLA Survey to the COSLA Research and Statistics Committee and to the COSLA members at the January COSLA meeting.

Peggy Rudd and Suzanne Miller: Develop emergent literacy data elements using the same process used by the E-metric Taskforce.

Barratt Wilkins: Poll the Steering Committee for vote on E-Metric Taskforce recommendation prior to January 1.

Barratt Wilkins: Send e-metric data items endorsed by COSLA to NCES by February 1.

Alan Zimmerman: E-Metric Taskforce will identify 2-4 items from the pilot survey to recommend to the Steering Committee.