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**COPPUL Collections Committee Meeting**  
Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Room 2200  
Simon Fraser University, Vancouver Campus, Harbour Centre  
Vancouver, BC

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** G. Ashoughian (Regina), J. Blackburn (Vancouver Island), D. Braun (COPPUL) – Secretary, D. Breyfogle (Manitoba), L. Burrige (Brandon), K. Cooley (Victoria), R. Croft (Royal Roads), H. Empey (Northern British Columbia), N. Gick (Simon Fraser), T. Goshulak (Trinity Western), P. Haggarty (Thompson Rivers), A. Homanchuk (Winnipeg), J. Horner (Manitoba), K. Isaac (Fraser Valley), L. Jacobs (Lethbridge), D. Kichuk (Saskatchewan), J. Kirchner (British Columbia), D. Koufogiannakis (Alberta) – Chair, D. Mirau (Concordia), J. Newyear-Ramirez (British Columbia), L. Petrachenko (Victoria), P. Resch (Regina), S. Schafer (Athabasca), S. Slade (COPPUL), A. Waller (Calgary), P. Wilson (Fraser Valley).

**GUEST:** C. Sorensen (Saskatchewan)

**1. Introductions**

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. on November 22.

D. Koufogiannakis welcomed everyone. Introductions were conducted around the table.

**2. Call for Additional Business**

Two items were added to the agenda: Project MUSE archiving (D. Kichuk) and the OCLC FirstSearch package (S. Slade).

**3. COPPUL Preamble and Review of Office Procedures (S. Slade)**

S. Slade reviewed the history of the Collections Committee. The Committee's role is to act in an advisory capacity to the COPPUL Directors and to provide guidance to the COPPUL office. The Committee is not a decision-making body.

The COPPUL office is a one-person operation (S. Slade) with two contractors: licensing coordinator (D. Braun) and bookkeeper (K. Carter).

S. Slade explained the roles and responsibilities of COPPUL staff as they relate to collections. S. Slade handles all operational aspects; D. Braun handles both new and

renewing offers and negotiates license agreements; K. Carter handles invoicing and all bookkeeping duties.

There are two COPPUL listservs dealing with collections issues: (1) Collections list; (2) Electronic Resources (ER) list. The first is a general list that includes affiliate members and representatives of other consortia. The ER list is restricted to the Collections representatives from the full member libraries.

#### **4. Processes for Renewals and New COPPUL Offers (S. Slade and D. Braun)**

S. Slade and D. Braun reviewed processes for renewals and new offers.

Renewals: invitations generally are not sent out. Each member is responsible for reviewing the COPPUL licenses and subscriptions on the website. Twice a year, S. Slade sends to the listserv the subscriptions renewing in the next six months (January to June; July to December) to remind members that they have an opportunity to join a subscription if they are interested.

Renewals are processed automatically unless the annual increase is greater than 6%.

Mid-term joins are welcome. Members may ask COPPUL or the vendor for a quote. Always copy COPPUL if going direct to vendor.

Invoicing: the vendor usually invoices the library directly for mid-term joins. Except for King's University College, all members are part of the advanced invoicing system. Products renewing April 1 are excluded from the advanced invoice because it is confusing as to the fiscal year in which they should be invoiced. Generally speaking, if there is no benefit to COPPUL (such as discounted pricing), then the vendor is asked to do the invoicing.

Consortia Canada offers and renewals: COPPUL members should respond through their provincial consortia, except for SK and MB members who should respond through COPPUL.

Cancellations: it is the member's responsibility to notify COPPUL.

3-Year Agreements are encouraged whenever possible to achieve the best possible pricing. Upon renewal, participants are polled to confirm that they are interested in another multi-year agreement.

Cost-splitting: OCLC FirstSearch is the only subscription left using COPPUL's cost-sharing formula. For all other subscriptions, vendors supply per-institution pricing.

New offers: S. Slade outlined the general guidelines for offering new products. The COPPUL wish list is no longer active. Unsolicited offers are reviewed by the Collections Advisory Committee. If a member is interested in a product and they believe it would be beneficial for COPPUL to license it, they should post their

suggestion to the ER listserv and ask for feedback. COPPUL will pursue the offer if three or more libraries express interest in the product.

**Problem Products:**

- OCLC FirstSearch Base Package. COPPUL cannot sustain this subscription in its current form beyond 2009. This item will be discussed later in the agenda.
- Nature. Individual Nature-branded and academic society titles are added to COPPUL's renewal each year. These have become problematic because the titles added to the package change every year, which has resulted in COPPUL taking on the role of a serials vendor. Possible solutions were discussed without resolution.

**ACTION:**

S. Slade will discuss workable solutions with Nature.

General Comments: It is important to observe deadlines because offers are promptly wrapped up and paperwork sent to vendor. Please advise COPPUL if you are unable to respond by the deadline so the wrap-up can be delayed.

**5. Update on CRKN Developments & DCI Implementation at COPPUL Sites (D. Koufogiannakis)**

J. Kirchner and D. Koufogiannakis, members of the CRKN Resource Negotiation Team, reported on the digital content infrastructure (DCI) Project for the humanities and social sciences. The \$48 million project is a partnership of the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) along with 8 provinces and 67 Canadian universities. Funding breakout is approximately 40% from government, 40% from provinces; 20% from individual institutions. The goal of the DCI project has been to enable interdisciplinary research through seamless and equitable access to a vast array of digital content comprising a variety of formats - fulltext e-books and e-journals, primary source collections and multimedia resources.

With some leftover funds, it is hoped that a second round will focus on digitization initiatives of Canadian materials.

Focus groups on e-books were held at the September meeting in Montreal. A subcommittee was formed to provide a list to major link resolvers.

CRKN is considering its role in alternative publishing initiatives and open access publishing. Nothing concrete has been determined.

Collection Committee members raised the following points for discussion:

- The CRKN license should be reviewed and updated to reflect both the current state of purchasing of electronic resources and emerging areas such as research funding agencies' open access policies, perpetual access rights, and federated searching.
- CRKN's website needs updating to add contact information, a list of available databases and subscription dates, license agreements, links to vendors.

- Terms of use information should be available on the website, especially for e-books.
- Presently there is no vehicle available for CRKN to communicate information to members or for members to communicate among themselves.
- Securing deep discount prices for print is problematic.
- DCI content – how can duplication with existing approval plans be identified and handled?

#### **6. Update on Private LOCKSS Network (D. Koufogiannakis)**

D. Koufogiannakis gave an update on the private LOCKSS network.

The COPPUL Private LOCKSS Network aims to preserve electronic collections of local interest that are not already being preserved through any other means. As collections are put forward by participating institutions, all eight members will preserve them via the private network in order to have a distributed method of preservation for collections that are of importance to the provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. The 8 participating institutions are Athabasca, Simon Fraser, Alberta, British Columbia, Calgary, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Winnipeg. A Collections Policy has been established with guidelines to help member institutions identify collections that are appropriate candidates for preservation via this initiative. All members have been asked to identify content to be preserved. The OJS journals hosted by member institutions will be the first collection to be preserved. The initial collection size will be limited to 1 TB.

All 8 members have a LOCKSS box configured and functioning, the first of its kind in Canada.

D. Koufogiannakis indicated that although the pilot project is proceeding smoothly, it is important for institutions to begin looking at long-term sustainability and set achievable/selective goals.

A wiki has been set up in order to facilitate communication and act as a central housing spot for documentation.

COPPUL Directors agreed that LOCKSS would be a 2-year trial project. There is no ongoing funding within COPPUL after year 2. New members are welcome but would need to pay their own LOCKSS Alliance membership fees.

S. Slade reminded those present that the LOCKSS initiative came forward through the Collections Committee and that if there is interest in moving digital preservation initiatives beyond LOCKSS, the Collections Committee should put a proposal forward to the Directors.

D. Koufogiannakis explained that PORTICO focuses on preserving mainstream journal content from commercial publishers; our Private LOCKSS Network focuses on preserving local and specialized digital works.

## **7. Demonstration of Serials Analyzer from U Saskatchewan (C. Sorensen)**

C. Sorensen related the experiences of the University of Saskatchewan regarding the removal of print back-runs of electronic journals to storage. She demonstrated the Serials Analyzer, a tool they employed and customized to identify print/online duplication to help decide what to keep, discard or move to storage.

The Serials Analyzer draws information from a number of sources (III, SFX, Portico, local data, ERM and 3<sup>rd</sup> party data) together into one interface to facilitate the review of journal titles by subject librarians. Overlap between print/electronic is based on ISSN. Challenges were encountered when bib records were missing ISSN's, the ISSN was incorrect or the record lacked the 090 field.

Information can be filtered by a number of factors including subject, access provider (ACM DL, JSTOR), print location (branch library), status (current, non-current, keep, discard, store), or format (print, microform, electronic).

Search results were sorted by call number and reviewed by subject librarians. Their recommendations (to keep, delete, move to storage) and the rationale for their decision (e.g., quality of illustrations, missing issues, etc.) were recorded on each record. In addition, each journal's print back run was measured so there was feedback to the subject librarian on the shelf space recouped.

The toolkit is flexible and allows for modification as the project proceeds.

The entire process took one year to complete. The project started in the Spring 2006, the tool was developed over the Summer 2006, decisions on titles were made over the fall semester of 2006 and then selected print back runs removed to storage and the collection shifted in Spring 2007 while the academic term was still in session.

The analyzer has become a permanent part of the library's toolkit due to its many benefits (it allows for informed, collaborative decision-making, provides opportunities for consultation with faculty, takes minimal time, and maintains a record of actions taken).

Possible enhancements to the serials analyzer include adding more information (such as perpetual access information from licenses, e-journal usage data), improving usability (such as Boolean operators within categories, and improved navigation).

## **8. Update on COPPUL Resource Discovery Initiatives (D. Mirau)**

D. Mirau provided an update on COPPUL's Resource Discovery Initiative and gave a PowerPoint presentation on some of the features of resource discovery software.

A Working Group composed of Kenton Good (U Alberta), Karen Hunt (U Winnipeg) and Dan Mirau (Concordia U) looked at several resource discovery tools that might

fit into COPPUL's organizational structure and recommended WorldCat Groups which was supported by COPPUL Directors.

Features of WorldCat Local:

- new discovery tool to delivery service
- configured to interoperate with existing local systems (multiple ILS providers, OPAC interfaces)
- delivers access to WorldCat database and local collections
- allows for customization to local library and real-time availability for document delivery
- configurable features (library branding, relevancy ranking to show local holdings first but can also include consortium member holdings, and global holdings)
- single search access to multiple resources (library catalog, WorldCat database, digitized materials, e-book collections, electronic journals)
- allows for integration with local delivery systems (request/place hold via local circulation system, place ILL, direct access to full text)
- no need for central implementation (hardware, staff time)
- costly for non-hosted products
- allows for variations in provincial planning

Features of WorldCat Group:

- a better model for COPPUL
- similar to WCL but instead of 3 tiers of search results (local, consortium, all of WorldCat), there are 2 tiers (consortium and all of WorldCat). After a title is selected, the patron is presented with holding libraries but no status or specific holding information (call number, shelf location). The patron needs to click on a library's holdings to get that information from local catalogs.
- pricing is based on FTE

**ACTIONS:**

- schedule another OCLC webcast for the first week of December for those who missed the first two webcasts
- review pricing for WorldCat Group
- post a call for participation in a WorldCat Group license to COPPUL members
- if the license goes ahead, form a COPPUL group catalogue implementation team.

**9. Disposition of Print Journal Holdings (All)**

K. Isaac reviewed decisions taken at the COPPUL Directors' Fall 2008 meeting held in Saskatoon on Sept 11-12. Directors described what actions, if any, were being taken at their libraries to dispose of or store print materials also available in electronic format. SFU, UBC and UVic are investigating ways of developing cooperative print repositories. It was recommended that COPPUL's role in member's journal de-selection decisions, if any, be discussed at the upcoming Collections Committee meeting and recommendations on possible actions be presented for discussion at the spring Directors' meeting.

### **ACTION:**

- A Task Group, formed from members of the Collections Committee with representation from each province, will consult with colleagues in their respective provinces regarding the disposal or storage of print journals and the need for a distributed “last copy” repository. Members are Donna Breyfogle (Manitoba), Gohar Ashoughian (Regina), Jo Anne Newyear-Ramirez (UBC), and Leona Jacobs (Lethbridge). The Task Group will make recommendations to COPPUL Directors whether there should be a role for COPPUL in print disposition or storage. Comment: Is BARD an option for a print repository? D. Koufogiannakis noted that BARD is quickly reaching capacity.

It was suggested that a Portico Task Group be formed to make look at deep archiving issues. COPPUL’s role should be unique and not duplicate initiatives in other provinces. A question was raised as to savings to members with Portico. It was noted that CKRN is a Portico member and member libraries get a 10% discount on membership, which includes everything, not just on what is purchased through CKRN. In view of this information, no action will be taken on the Portico suggestion at this time.

D. Koufogiannakis remarked that U Alberta has been accepted as a CLOCKSS archive node. CLOCKSS is a joint venture between the world’s leading scholarly publishers and research libraries whose mission is to build a sustainable, geographically distributed dark archive to ensure the long-term survival of Web-based scholarly publications.

Project MUSE cannot deposit with Portico.

## **10. COPPUL’s Role in Licensing in Relation to Other Provincial and National Consortia (All)**

COPPUL’s role in relation to the other provincial (e.g. ELN, Lois Hole) and national (i.e. CRKN) licensing initiatives was raised at the COPPUL Director’s Fall meeting and added to the Collections Committee meeting agenda as an item of clarification.

A brief summary of activities of other consortia started the discussion with the following members speaking to the following initiatives:

K. Isaac - BC ELN

D. Koufogiannakis - HKN, TAL, LHCADL, and CKRN

D. Braun – MLCI (Manitoba)

D. Kichuk – MDLP (Saskatchewan)

Discussion revealed that COPPUL’s licensing activities fill a gap that CRKN and other provincial consortia don’t fill. Provincial consortia tend to license products more general in nature or products with a wider appeal to meet the needs of a multi-type library membership (such as MLCI and MDLP). COPPUL members are generally more interested in products of a research nature. CRKN has the capacity to take on a limited number of products.

## 11. Formulating a Consortia-Level Collections Plan for E-Books (All)

Prompted by the upcoming withdrawal by U Alberta (and others) from the COPPUL group purchase of NetLibrary e-books plus the fact that the NetLibrary e-book model has changed, a discussion followed to gauge interest in group purchases of other e-book collections.

Some issues and questions raised during the discussion were:

- Interlibrary loan is generally not permitted under the terms of an ebook license. If vendors would introduce technology to allow for interlibrary loan, libraries would not all have to buy the same titles.
- Libraries do not have the opportunity to purchase individual titles from vendors; the e-book is often linked to a platform.
- E-book packages (e.g., Springer) are easier to acquire.
- Perhaps COPPUL could negotiate a price with a vendor so that individual libraries could select their own titles at the negotiated price.
- COPPUL should encourage NetLibrary to upgrade its platform.
- There are no provisions for sight-impaired users. Some platforms and some readers are better than others but it depends on the end user's software.
- CRKN and LHCADL both have a strong preference for e-books.
- Should a document similar to [COPPUL's Best Practices for Electronic Plus Print Collections](#) be created for e-books to identify criteria that a vendor would be expected to include in an e-book offer?

### **ACTION:**

A Task Group will develop criteria that COPPUL would consider when evaluating new proposals for collections of e-books. Task Group members are Jo Anne Newyear-Ramirez (UBC), Jean Blackburn (VIU), Dan Mirau (Concordia) and Denise Koufogiannakis (Alberta). The Task Group will survey members to see if there is a preferred e-book platform. Before the end of February, the Task Group should draft a document, share it with the Collections Group, and incorporate feedback into a final version. If the Task Group has recommendations for COPPUL Directors, these should be sent to S. Slade by the end of February 2009.

## 12. Other Business

### **Project MUSE Archiving**

D. Kichuk raised a concern regarding perpetual access to Project MUSE.

As long as a library continues to subscribe to Project MUSE, their perpetual rights are guaranteed. However, if the library cancels their subscription, they have access to the previous 12 months of data only *unless* they had actively been requesting an archival copy to load locally at the end of each subscription year.

Project MUSE does not have permission to deposit to Portico because they are a 3<sup>rd</sup> party.

LOCKSS is available for archiving the Project Muse content. However, a “trigger” event (such as PM going under or ceasing to carry certain content) has to occur before the content would be made available via the LOCKSS system. A library cancelling their subscription is not an acceptable reason to access the backfiles via LOCKSS.

**ACTION:**

Investigate if Project MUSE content is archived in CLOCKSS.

**OCLC FirstSearch Base Package (S. Slade)**

S. Slade reviewed the history of COPPUL’s OCLC FirstSearch license.

- COPPUL has licensed the OCLC FirstSearch Package since before 2001.
- The package consists includes WorldCat, OCLC ArticleFirst, FirstSearch Electronic Collections Online (bibliographic index only) and OCLC Union Lists of Periodicals, OCLC PapersFirst, OCLC ProceedingsFirst, ERIC, GPO, MEDLINE and The World Almanac databases.
- Eleven members plus 1 affiliate share 16 simultaneous users.
- The cost is shared using COPPUL’s cost sharing formula.

COPPUL’s FirstSearch subscription with simultaneous users or ports is a legacy agreement which is no longer available. OCLC now offers unlimited access only which means that COPPUL’s pricing would increase significantly if the group moves to that model. 2009 pricing for the existing subscription is 20% higher than last year.

U Alberta decided to upgrade to unlimited access in September 2008 while remaining in the COPPUL subscription for 2009. In January 2010, U Alberta will leave the COPPUL subscription. At that time, the remaining libraries will need to share the \$20,000 that U Alberta currently pays. As a result, it is not practical to continue the existing COPPUL FirstSearch subscription beyond 2009 and the group will need to move to unlimited access or cancel.

S. Slade distributed a spreadsheet which contained per-institution pricing for unlimited access to the FirstSearch package. If 10 or more libraries subscribe to the unlimited access model, there will be a 10% discount off the prices listed on the spreadsheet.

The options are:

1. continue the legacy subscription for one more year (2009). A decision will be forced when U Alberta withdraws in 2010.
2. proceed with unlimited access for 2009.

The spreadsheet also contained pricing for COPPUL members to license WorldCat Groups which was recommended by the Directors’ Resource Discovery Task Group. In order for a library to acquire WorldCat Groups, it needs to have an unlimited access subscription to either the FirstSearch Base Package or WorldCat by itself.

**ACTIONS:**

- S. Slade will ask OCLC to schedule another webcast on WorldCat Groups, during the first week of December, for those people that missed the first two..
- Members should advise S. Slade by December 12:
  - a. if they are an existing FirstSearch package subscriber and willing to upgrade to unlimited access for 2009.
  - b. if they are seriously interested in participating in a COPPUL license for WorldCat Groups.
  - c. who is the key contact at their institution who will make these decisions.

Libraries should note that if COPPUL decides to proceed with WorldCat Groups, the legacy license to the FirstSearch package would be discontinued.

**13. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 PM.