

TRLN Committee on Information Resources
Annual Report
July 1999-June 2000

Membership

Deborah Jakubs (Duke), Chair; Eric Albright (Duke), Larry Alford (UNC-CH), Martha Barefoot (UNC-CH), Chris Filstrup (NCSU), Debora Hazel (NCCU)

Subcommittees

The Document Delivery Subcommittee submitted its report to the CIR in July recommending a trial of an expedited interlibrary loan service among TRLN member libraries to begin January 2000. The CIR forwarded the report, along with their endorsement, to the Executive Committee. The trial began in January and was originally scheduled for completion in June. At their June 2000 meeting, the Council of Directors accepted a recommendation from the Subcommittee to extend the trial through December 2000.

The CIR received the list of electronic resources that the Electronic Resources Committee recommended for licensing through the consortium. The CIR evaluated the list and TRLN licensed 4 major resources this year: Elsevier Science Direct, Science Online, Global Newsbank, and Chemical Abstracts SciFinder Scholar.

The Scientific, Technical and Medical (STM) Collections Working Group submitted a request to the CIR in December for a consortial purchase of the ISI Local Journal Utilization Report. The LJUR is a tool that reports journals in which faculty at the TRLN institutions publish and journals in which they are cited. The CIR worked with their individual institutions to provide the money for the consortial purchase of the LJUR.

The CIR reviewed the work of the six Collections Working Groups. The chairs of each group met with the CIR and reported on activities, projects, and information sharing from their meetings. The CIR agreed to drop the Law CWG, which had never been convened. The CIR added a CWG for the heads of reference from the main libraries, to be expanded over time.

Topic Meetings

Members of the CIR were key participants in the TRLN/NINCH Town Meeting on Copyright, Fair Use, and Distance Education.

In March 2000, the CIR hosted a forum for collection development staff. Kim Armstrong and Bob Nardini (YBP) presented a study they had completed that examined overlap in approval plan shipments to TRLN libraries. A discussion followed to consider whether cooperative approval plans for TRLN should be considered in order to reduce overlap.

Discussion Topics

Over the course of the year, the CIR met monthly and selected topics of discussion have included: electronic licensing processes at individual libraries, a last copy program to free much-needed shelf space, negotiations with vendors (netLibrary, Elsevier), TriSAC (Triangle South Asia Consortium) funding and implications for collections, an agreement to have NCSU lead the review of licensing language, and the need for sharing cataloging expertise for special languages.