MINITEX POLICY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
University of Minnesota – Twin Cities
18 Andersen Library
Friday, March 7, 2008
9:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Members Present:

Pat Akerman	Vanessa Birdsey
Karla Gedell	Carol Johnson (alternate for Dan Gjelten)
Mary Lukkarila	Susan Meyer
Suzanne Miller	Doris Ott
Anne Ryan	Dan Siebersma
Ruth Solie	Bill Sozansky
Linda Watson (alternate for Wendy Lougee)	Peg Werner, Chair for FY08

Members Unable to Attend:
Dan Gjelten
Wendy Lougee
Joan Roca, Vice Chair for FY08

Staff Present:

Bill DeJohn	Emily Kissane

Ex Officio Members Unable to Attend:
Todd Digby

Observers:

Cecelia Boone	Virginia Dudley
Stephen Elfstrand	Becky Ringwelski

1) **Introductions, Review and Acceptance of Agenda**
   Werner welcomed attendees, and Council members introduced themselves. The agenda was approved as distributed.

2) **Review of Minutes of Nov. 30, 2007**
   Solie moved and Akerman seconded a motion for approval of the minutes as distributed. The motion was approved.

3) **Minnesota Office of Higher Education Report**
   Kissane reported that Office of Higher Education Director Susan Heegaard has approved the revised Criteria for Participation in MINITEX for Minnesota academic and state government libraries. MINITEX staff will distribute the criteria to the appropriate libraries and post lists of compliant and non-compliant Minnesota academic libraries on the MINITEX website. Staff will be talking with Kissane and Digby about how to contact and offer assistance for non-compliant libraries. Werner thanked all those who had participated in drafting and preparation of the revised Criteria.

   Kissane thanked Miller for her help in identifying and describing a college financial aid scam that has had some visibility in Minnesota. Miller sent out letter and e-mail describing the scam.

4) **Minnesota Digital Library (Umbrella Concept)**
   MnLINK Gateway; ELM; Reflections

DeJohn talked about new functionality to allow ISP authentication for the MnLINK Gateway, saying it will be particularly helpful for schools without remote authentication. The system will also be able to sort the statistics to group cities within the correct regional library systems. Also, libraries can continue to be run statistics for ELM searches that go through their website. Gedell noted that CALCO libraries are working to reach out to state agencies that do not have their own libraries to highlight the availability and usefulness of ELM.

Reporting on MnLINK, Ringwelski noted that the MnLINK servers will be moved to OCLC's Dublin, OH, location over the weekend of March 15 and alerts will be sent to technical staff to remind them of the move. Also, she noted that MINITEX staff is continuing to talk with Amazon about functionality that would allow MnLINK to check Amazon for the cost and date of publications of possible ILL items.

Council members discussed issues related to lost ILL material and charges for lost items. Ringwelski said the MINITEX/MnLINK ILL Committee had investigated Minnesota libraries' policies about lost books and fees some time ago and had found that policies varied greatly. Some Council members reported that they charged their patrons the cost of the lost item, whereas others said they used a higher standard fee to encourage users to search out and return the items.

5) **Resource Sharing Developments in the coming two years**
Council members discussed topics concerning possible future developments for online catalogs and resource sharing for MINITEX-region libraries. Topics included:

Future development of OCLC's VDX and ZPORTAL software: Ringwelski and DeJohn reiterated information about OCLC's plans to enhance the VDX software used by the MnLINK Gateway and make it a primary ILL support software. Plans call for ZPortal to be replaced by a newer, stronger discovery tool. MINITEX staff will be tracking these developments. Currently, the option for a ZPORTAL successor product that would facilitate federated searching across separate library catalogers would appear to be the more logical option than creating a union catalog, but OCLC's planning is at an early stage. More information will be needed before a decision can be made.

OCLC WorldCat Local: Members discussed OCLC's WorldCat Local service as a possible front-end discovery tool for individual libraries or library consortia. The Dakotas and MnPALS have asked OCLC for quotes for WorldCat Local implementations for their consortia. Members discussed the costs of implementation and maintenance of WorldCat Local as possible barriers for some libraries. Also, the requirements of initial loading and ongoing reporting of holdings information to OCLC could be significant barriers for MINITEX-region libraries that are not OCLC participants. DeJohn reported on OCLC's beta testing of WorldCat Local, which highlighted a major problem for public libraries in that the system could not provide location information for library branches. OCLC is working on a solution.

Open Source Integrated Library Systems & Open Link Resolvers: DeJohn noted that these tools, along with greater interoperability among disparate systems, generally, may be of major importance for future resource sharing.

Funding issues: Members talked about the need for enhanced funding to meet future demands on libraries. Libraries should be described as major sources of support for workforce development. Access to information is important for residents of rural parts of the state and smaller academic institutions.

6) **MINITEX Director's Report**
DeJohn reported on plans concerning:

Discussion underway about branding and positioning of MINITEX services and product: He explained that MINITEX services and products had developed over time, and staff and a consultant are taking an overall look at service and product naming and other topics. Further reports will be made to the Council.

Open Source Integrated Library System Information Sessions: Staff is working to schedule information sessions about Koha and Evergreen later this spring.

Minnesota Library Access Center: The portion of MLAC allotted for receiving deposits from Minnesota libraries other than the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, is expected to reach capacity by the end of the calendar year.

Cooperative Reference Statewide Project (AskMN): This service will be launched soon and may be of help to academic libraries that don't comply with the MINITEX Criteria for Participation.

7) **Future Developments affecting libraries in the MINITEX Region**
Members discussed articles sent in advance and related developments.

8) **Member Reports & Other Issues**
DeJohn thanked members for their reports.

9) **Adjourn**
The meeting was adjourned.

Remaining meeting dates for FY2008: June 6, 2008.