Education Committee Meeting Minutes from ALA Washington, D.C., June 1998

From GODORT

GODORT Education Committee

Minutes of the GODORT Education Committee

1998 Annual Meeting
Washington, D.C.
June 28, 1998
Present:
Committee Members Trisha Cruse (Chair) Bert Chapman, Debora Cheney (IDTF), Sherry DeDecker (FDTF), Jan Oberla, Amy Spare
Friends of the Committee Sally Lawler, Michael Levine-Clark, Sheila McGarr, Mike McCaffery-Noviss, Wen-Hua Ren (ALA Education Assembly), Larry Romans, Ann Roselle, Grace York

Liaison Reports
ALA Education Assembly: Wen-Hua Ren reported on the activities of the Assembly which included the discussion of continuing education for librarians, distance learning, the establishment of a www clearinghouse for continuing education resources, and the accreditation of foreign library schools.
FDTF: Sherry DeDecker reported on the many activities of the FDTF, which included the establishment of an agency liaison program and the concept of congressional representatives linking to depository library WWW pages. Sherry also provided a synopsis of the FDTF sponsored panel discussion, "Preserving Electronic Government Information."
IDTF: Debora Cheney reported on IDTF's well-attended preconference, which generated a surplus of funds. Cheney also announced that the proceeding of the preconference would be published in some manner in the near future. IDTF is also investigating the establishment of a WWW page that will allow for the cooperative purchase of IGO datasets.
Continuing Business
Continuing Education Fund (CEF) Working Group: Amy Spare provided a summary of CEF's activities over the past year, which included an in-depth survey of the feasibility of providing a teleconference on the management of government information. The survey revealed that there is not enough funding or interest to hold such an event.

The CEF Working Group will now concentrate on their second proposal, the creation of an Electronic Government Information Website that will include the following two elements:

Public and technical services aspects of locating and managing electronic government information. These would include such topics as processing, cataloging, networking, collection development, providing access, staff training, working with other departments and staff, complying with depository program standards and technical guidelines, who to contact for help.
Guides for librarians on promoting the depository collection to library administrators, government and civic leaders, and the general public.
CEF will issue a call for proposals on August 1, 1998 in order to award eight $250.00 grants for the creation of web based tutorials that support the management of government information. Four award will be made the first year and four the following year. Review of the proposals will take place at mid-winter 1999.

Program Planning
Sally Lawler, Chair, Program Committee, Education & Behavioral Sciences Section (EBSS), ACRL, attended the Education Committee's meeting to seek ideas from the Committee on the 1999 annual program, Promoting Citizen Participation and Advocacy: What Does it Mean in the Information Age. GODORT is a co-sponsor of the program. EBSS was particularly interested in information on program promotion and potential speakers. The Committee came up with several ideas for speakers that would focus on citizen's rights.

New Business
Certificate in Government Information Librarianship: Mike McCaffery-Noviss presented an idea to the Committee on granting a certificate in government information librarianship. Mike will be teaching at the University of Toronto Library School beginning in the fall. The Library School is very interested in web-based education and Mike proposed that the Committee participate in the creation of a WWW course for government information librarians. The Committee endorsed the idea and looks forward to a proposal further outlining the course and the level of participation of the Committee. Mike will bring a proposal to the Mid-winter 1999 meeting.
Education Committee WWW Pages
The remainder of the meeting was devoted to the discussion of the organization, purpose, and overlap of the Education Committee's WWW Pages. The Education Committee has three unique WWW products on their page that highlight the work of the committee:

Models of Government Information Pages: Debora Cheney
Clearinghouse for Government Publications Web Sites and Information: Michael Levine-Clark
The Handout Exchange: Larry Romans and Grace York
The creator of each WWW page explained the contents of their page, how materials were obtained, how the page was kept up to date, and the future of the page. The Committee also discussed what was missing from the pages. After a lengthy discussion about the merits of each of the WWW pages the Committee agreed that each page has a purpose, but the pages should be integrated to facilitate ease of use. It was decided that the "Handout Exchange" and the "Clearinghouse" would absorb the "Models of Government Information Pages". The Committee was also impressed with the "add form" on the "Models" pages and would like to see that implemented in the "Handout Exchange" and the "Clearinghouse." The Committee will further discuss how to divide the work up on email.

The committee adjourned at 5 p.m.

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