

NETWORKED DIGITAL LIBRARY OF THESES AND DISSERTATIONS

Board of Directors Meeting

Carolina Rediviva/Library
Uppsala University, Sweden



June 13, 2007

Attendees: Vinod Chachra (VC), Susan Copeland (SC), Scott Eldredge (SE: treasurer), Ed Fox (EF: director), John Hagen (JH), Thom Hickey (TH), Christine Jewel (CJ), Joan Lippincott (JL), Austin McLean (AMc), Gail McMillan (GMc: secretary), Eva Müller (EM, host), Ana Pavani (AP), Sharon Reeves (SR), Eric Van de Velde (EV)

Teleconference participants: Tony Carngnelutti (TC), Janice Rickards (JR), Samson Soong (SS), Hussein Suleman (HS), Shalini Urs (SU)

Began at 9:30 am. EM: logistics

Review minutes of December 6, 2006 (Fox)

See <http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/theses/NDLTD/20061206BoDmeeting/20061206BoDMinutes.pdf>

Without a quorum, the minutes as amended were approved. [JH moved, SR 2nd, all approved]

Skype (teleconference) participation: TC, HS 10 am.

Committee Reports

Awards Committee (Hagen)

Doubled amount for students--now \$800.

2 students attending, from Canada (Julie Lassonde) and Antioch (Luane Haggerty).

Requested that NDLTD pay conference registration for technical person who helped prepare the winning ETD.

Leadership awards: May move Awards to Poster Session if remote participants are amenable.

Provides more exposure than there is at the end of the conference.

Adobe gives \$5,000 each year for awards. We may be able to supplement this from NDLTD funds.

Will update Awards documentation that now lacks some policies, such as committee members being ineligible to win awards.

Susan Copeland leaving Awards Committee, Christine Jewell volunteered. All agreed.

Conference Committee (Reeves)

<http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/theses/NDLTD/BoD200706/ConferenceCommRept200706.pdf>

Found venue for ETD 2009 conference but it was difficult. It may be too much to expect a 3-year window. Will begin looking for a venue at the 2.5 year point. April 30 was the new deadline for proposal submission. Only WVU and University of Pittsburg submitted, but it was very comprehensive and got the enthusiastic recommendation of all committee members.

JL: Who is chair/host for this conference, i.e., who would serve on the NDLTD Board?

JH: He is co-chair with Rush Miller, University of Pittsburgh library director.

SR: The local conference committee and the NDLTD Conference Committee roles were clarified, e.g., continuity was lacking in previous years.

EM: Continuity plus Conference Committee documentation helped her plan this year's conference.

SR: Will update the documents that she and Suzie Allard prepared.

JH: 2009 conference will like be held June 10-13. Determined after looking at other spring conferences.

SR: We're looking at Latin American for the 2010 conference.
JL: TC mentioned encouraging China as a potential conference venue.

Development Committee (Hagen)

Met yesterday. ALA joined (check received). CNI and ExLibris also joined. Worked on NDLTD brochure, distributed draft yesterday, will have e-version soon. PS is contributing a development manual for distribution. Trying to improve West Coast participation. UNLV may be interested in a regional conference. OSI/Seros Foundation contributed \$7,000 (per EM). Will pursue others, e.g., World Bank. AP suggested pursuing the Organization of American States.

JL: CNI is not a new member; there has been confusion due to invoices coming from varying sources.

EV: UniLink Consortium will be joining from Australia, per TC.

JL: HS said a South African consortium will be joining also: National Research Foundation of SA.

Break 10:30-10:45 am

TC: JR, chair of the ADT Reference Group, isn't available to represent the ADT at this hour. He'll give us a brief **Australia report**. ADT has almost reach saturation point, i.e., active university contributions from Australasia. Seven out of eight New Zealand universities have joined the ADT. About 32 of 38 Australian universities are members. Australian federal government developed the Research Quality Framework whereby research funding will be distributed according to mandating digital repositories of knowledge output—a mix of open access, limited, and closed. UniLink is a consortium (he'll send details) and it will join the NDLTD and will be active in the NDLTD program.

Samson Soong, Hong Kong; Janice Rickards, ADT; Shalini Urs, India, joined Skype at 11 a.m.

JR: ADT report continued. Successfully harvesting Australasian ETDs by NDLTD. 40 active members, 13,300 ETDs linked in full text. Load from national database of over 138,000.

EF: Asian Pacific area needs to be developed for the NDLTD Union Catalog. Development Committee will convene this group: SS, JR, TC, SU, and a China Rep.

Finance Committee (Eldredge) [EF displayed SE's spreadsheet]

SE: Budget (estimates) Actual expenses and income.

Income: \$6,900 plus \$5,000 Adobe

\$225 Legal Fees (accountants)

\$2,500 taxes paid to IRS early

\$10,245.31 for Scholarships to the ETD conference 2007

\$3,015 sent to University of Capetown for Web maintenance

\$25 for corporate registration

Currently ~\$40,000 in NDLTD.

SE moved, EV 2nd: Budget approved.

ETD 2008 Conference Report (Copeland) [see also p.5]

SC distributed a document, re RGU wants clarification about any profits from the conference: split equally with NDLTD. If there's a deficit, RGU would stand the costs.

SE: University of Kentucky donated all profits, \$13,507, to the NDLTD.

SR: Will review the Conference documentation and add these elements.

JL: Moved that we endorse the RGU proposal, SR 2nd.

Nominating Committee (Lippincott)

<http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/theses/NDLTD/BoD200706/NominatCommRept200706.pdf>

JL: See her previously distributed report to the Board members who were present. 12 current Board members terms are up. All are available for reappointment, except SE (Treasurer).

JL will try again to get someone from CGS through a more personalized approach. Re China Xiaolin Zhang, National Science Library was enthusiastic to participate.

Discussion re adding another member from SURF, but we don't yet have a specific name.

Question re Bylaws requiring NDLTD membership for Board members, but this research determined that membership is not required.

Gerard van Westrienen, SURF representative, was recommended. He will be at this afternoon's European group meeting and can be clarified then. EM recommended him for his decentralized approach to national participation.

All agreed to the slate proposed with GVW's addition.

EF: Clarify officers

EV moved to reelect Ed Fox as Director and Gail McMillan as Secretary.

SC 2nd. Both were unanimously reelected.

EV: Internet banking can effect the role of the NDLTD treasurer.

JL: Credit card payments are another issue for institutions joining the NDLTD.

EF: Invited Austin McLean to be treasurer.

AMc: Agreed after he questioned ProQuest participation but he would be doing this as a private individual. He needs to be debriefed by SE. What would be the institutional home for the account so that it wouldn't be dependent on the individual?

SE: He handles everything through his university.

SE nominated Austin McLean to replace SE as treasurer. CJ 2nd. Unanimously approved.

EF: Thanked SE for his stellar role as the first NDLTD treasurer.

SC: Let's thank TC for offering to serve.

EF: Invited TC to serve on the Finance Committee.

SE: Will continue his service on the FC.

Implementation Committee (Hagen)

Yesterday AP mentioned difficulty in gathering statistics re number of ETDs at various institutions.

This will be done along with keeping current information and active links to members. It will improve networking too. Will promote the concept of regional conferences. Will emphasize development in Africa, Middle East, China, and India. SR proposed a May 2008 regional Canadian conference. She didn't expect this to have an impact on the international symposium in Aberdeen, as these would be different participants.

Thom Hickey (OCLC) arrived at 11:45a.m.

EF: Proposed a Services and Standards Committee to replace the Standards Committee and the Union Catalog Committee. Membership would include Joe Moxley, Jude Edminiter, Hussein Suleman, Thom Hickey, Vinod Chachra, Eric Van de Velde, Ana Pavani, Christine Jewel, and possibly proposed new member Gerard van Westrienen (SURF Foundation). AP and TH will co chair the Services and Standards Committee.

EV: moved. JH 2nd. All Approved.

Membership Committee (Van de Velde) [add online communities discussion per EF]

Sent invoices about one month ago, received 23 renewals so far. Please encourage your institutions to pay as soon as possible. Will send reminders in July when several institutions' fiscal years begin.

Proposal: Rebates for conference participation by NDLTD members. There is a problem when local organizers give rebates and how the NDLTD will pay for that? The proposal is: When the

conference ends in a deficit, the NDLTTD will pay the rebates to the host institutions. (If a conference makes a profit or breaks even, there is no rebate issue.)

EM: \$350/\$300 SEK is the rebate. This year 22 members are attending the conference.

EF: Therefore, ~\$1,000 is an acceptable amount, as would be twice that.

EV: moved. EM 2nd. All in favor.

HS: Is it possible to have multiple rebates for 1 institution?

EM: There is no maximum number of attendees per institution.

Travel Guidelines (Reeves)

Discussion item from ETD 2006 conference. At that time suggestion to add a clause that travel grant recipients submit reports following the conference. OSI requires these reports. It was very difficult to get these reports.

JL: What do you recommend?

SR: Awardees are required.

AMc: Recommends having a signed agreement.

EV: Recommends reimbursing rather than paying ahead of time.

EF: Conference Committee can determine the leverage necessary to get the reports.

JL: As a Board we must be responsible.

AP: Will contribute to the discussion.

Country Report: Latin America (Pavani)

http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/theses/NDLTD/BoD200706/LA_Report_Jun2007.doc

3 growing consortia: Brazil 59 institutions and growing, 44,000 ETDs. Chile. Venezuela. Brazil also has independent ETD projects. She found one institution in Columbia, Mexico, Peru. Her report has a list of issues. She has determined that if a server is down for 3 days, they cannot participate. She has told them that service is most important after having an ETD initiative. In her opinion, in Latin America people are concerned about local issues and lack a more global outlook.

EF: Services and Standards needs to look into gathering statistics re the NDLTD. The Development Committee also needs to look at other parts of the world in addition to China. Latin American subcommittee will include AP and JH.

GMc: Let's reestablish the contacts we had with the Organization of American States when representatives came to early Board meetings in DC.

Public Relations (Allard)

<http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/theses/NDLTD/BoD200706/AllardPRreport.pdf>

SA Asked for \$1000 to hire students for to help with the NDLTD outreach efforts. She has suggestions to help NDLTD, including a plan, opening communications channels, etc.

EF: This is a reasonable plan.

JL: 2nd. All agreed.

Canada (Reeves)

<http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/theses/NDLTD/BoD200706/CanadaReport200706.pdf>

Scirus (Fox)

Craig Scott, main contact, reports that ~10,000 searches per month and ~40,000 clicks per month.

These issues would be appropriate for the Services and Standards Committee. Scientific Commons is harvesting our content and providing some access. There is a report.

AP: Their work is confusing, harvesting multiple times and providing multiple links is confusing to the public/users. They should go directly to the local institutions rather than through other sources.

China Report (Soong)

Hong Kong University of Science and Technology recently endorsed his proposal to require ETDs beginning July 1, 2007. Has been optional so hard copies had been scanned. University of Hong Kong has ETDs also. There are eight public funded universities, but some have not opened their ETDs outside their universities.

Africa Report (Suleman)

<http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/theses/NDLTD/BoD200706/SulemanWebAfricaReports.pdf>

There is activity effecting everybody re institutional repositories and open access. ETDs must be linked to these activities also. Daisy Selematsela (from University of Capetown, HS's institution) is at this conference. National workshop is to be held.... {See his report} National funding agency has taken ownership of the project, so this is an important development.

Conference 2008 (Copeland) [see also p.3]

Public announcement will be made this afternoon.

Change of venue from last year's announcement. It will be held at Robert Gordon University. She will co-chair w/Dartington representative. Distributed fliers. Grant from Tourist Board Visit Scotland for this conference. SR provided very good and helpful information for her as a new conference planner. Hopefully, EM will add the Uppsala experiences.

12:15 Skype crashed and we lost remote participants.

ProQuest (McLean)

Multimedia will be available soon. 28 Open access works.

ETDs are citing web sites: preservation and accessibility. PQ wants to lock these sites so that when they disappear in the future, they will be available.

GMc: PQ did not previously archive the articles, etc. listed in theses and dissertations.

SR: Rights issues are a concern and why Library and Archives Canada has a dark archive.

Conference 2007 (Müller)

133 attendees, 70 paid full fee. 22 members, 1 student. 6 delegates for one day only. 17 on local organizing committee. 12 travel grants! 7 invited speakers through cooperation other regional conferences. 8 accompanying persons. Yet to compile number of countries, but at least 26 countries are represented at this year's conference. Usually it's only 1-2 persons per country. Iran is coming for the first time. Egypt, Russia, Latvia, Estonia, Czechoslovakia, Poland, West Indies in the Caribbean, India. She will provide the detailed report later. There were 48 program proposals, but room for only 36. 2 reviewers for each paper. Some became poster sessions.

EM is no longer at Uppsala University but is with the National Library of Sweden: information environment for all Nordic countries if focusing on ETDs. Persistent ID and resource harvesting. EM's department is focusing, among other things, on harvesting objects as well as metadata. Support from JISC and SURF for NLS's ORE project.

Standards Committee (Hickey) No report.

EF: During conference the new Services and Standards Committee can meet.

AP: What happened to our DOI discussion?

EF: SSC should begin by making a list of topics, including this one.

12:30 meeting ended.