

**Meeting Minutes/Summary**  
**February 2008 Members Council Meeting**

**Group Name: E-Content**

**Prepared and submitted by: Libbie Crawford**\_\_\_\_\_

Have the minutes been reviewed by the group chair? Yes  No

Meeting minutes should be concise (not exceed two pages), summarize major discussion points, and be reviewed and approved by the group chair. **Recorders, please email your meeting minutes to Bunny Gunderson (gundersb@oclc.org) by the close of business on Tuesday, February 26.**

**Attending: Ishwar Laxminarayan, Joshua Ranger, Rick Schweiterman, David Millikin, David Penniman, Arnold Hirshorn, James Pakala, Ariette Skolnik, Rich Van Ordern, John Teskey, Graham Jefcoate, Shirley Baker, Jane Ryland, Susan Colchin, Suzanne Ryder, Chip Nilges, Ellen Tise, Sandy Yee**

**Meeting Minutes/Summary:**

Three concepts surrounding e-content were presented.

- A. Library in a Laptop: Bundling E-content for Kids with Low-Cost Computers
- B. Project “Open Library”: Bringing Quality Information to Developing Countries
- C. Why Ship Books: On Demand Delivery.

The Library in a Laptop concept is an idea for a program designed to consolidate multiple language content in a variety of low-cost computers like the One Laptop Per Child program and to co-brand libraries and OCLC in providing needed information and support to young students in developing and developed nations. For example, OCLC EMEA in partnership with SABINET, the network, and libraries in South Africa could establish a library extension service powered by content servers and wireless, solar-driven laptops to make a basic package of education ad information materials available through the National Library of South Africa.

The Project “Open Library” concept based on Open-source software, open-access content, free quality content available world-wide, wireless connectivity, mobile phones in Africa, some cheaper computer equipment for Africa, special initiatives, e.g. Elsevier Health Information, Web2.0 applications. The project would be to bundle open services and content to build an “open library” for Africa. Assume simple equipment, little expertise and poor infrastructure. The project would develop a service that is free at the point of use, plug & play, low maintenance, uses exclusively open-source software and open access and/or free content and links with / support from volunteer / partner libraries in developed countries.

The “Why Ship Books?” concept is based on providing a digital surrogate of needed items based on current projects to digitize millions of titles. The first step is to define a new option for resource sharing by a) developing a fee structure, b) establishing acceptable turn-around times, c) link items from the various digitization projects to WorldCat. Other issues to consider: for items in the public domain—a) digitize the item at the source or the closest OCLC imaging center b) add digital copy to the providing institutions’ collection, c) make the digital copy available to the requesting institution/user. For items in

copyright—a) establish a new ebook unit, b) establish a new partnership with a print on demand supplier such as lightning source, c) new content selection process for NetLibrary.

**Recommended Agenda Items for Next Meeting:**

**Explore issues of advocacy surrounding the digitization of items for the above topics and feasibility of NetLibrary taking on some of the digitization.**