

Meeting Minutes/Summary
October 2007 Members Council Meeting

Group Name: Government & Special Libraries & Consortia & Museums
Prepared and submitted by: Ginny Browne

Has this report been reviewed by the group chair? Yes No

Attending: Eleanor Frierson, Chair; Cathy Norton, Arthur Smith, Gayle Palmer, Lynne Siemers, Gregg Silvis, Kendall Wiggin, Sandy Yee, Suzanne Ryder, Catherine Dhérent, Lamar Veatch, William Crowe, Chew Leng Beh, Larry Olszewski, Roberta Shaffer, Phyllis Post, Anne Van Camp, Lynn McDonald

Meeting Minutes/Summary:

The group identified ideas and potential services that they want to see OCLC address, without significant discussion of any of the topics. The topics identified were:

- Excitement in unifying and simplifying systems
- Concern for accessibility for the blind, deaf, & learning disabled
- Data about how people perceive information
- Ability to get CONTENTdm data into WorldCat easily
- Tools that can convert websites into accessible formats
- Focus on user profiles – self defined – for customization/personalization
- What's happening to get archives into the public eye
 - description
 - digitization
 - The first level of information should be freely accessible – with possible fees for full content
 - OCLC should help libraries/museums develop a revenue stream from their unique items
- Overcome resistance to putting information into WorldCat
- Issue: you have to pay to be in Open WorldCat – it is an impediment to participation
- Bandwidth is still an issue in many places – both overseas and within the US & Canada
- There are huge security/privacy/firewall issues for special libraries. OCLC should work with IT and government officials about security issues and provide a “safe space”
 - We need a safe domain to work in
- In all these things the conversation matters – the ability to talk with one another
- Hard work is involved in classifying public vs private data as we try to make systems more open
- We need to remember that building virtual social networks involves working with real social networks
- Work on security & advocacy issues rather than making posters
- OCLC should develop a flexible model

Recommended Agenda Items for Next Meeting: none