

## **BC Electronic Library Network Business Meeting Minutes December 2, 2011**

### **In Attendance:**

Gohar Ashoughian, University of Northern  
British Columbia; Small Universities

Debbie Azaransky, Ministry of Advanced  
Education

Melody Burton, University of British Columbia  
(alternate for Ingrid Parent)

Gregg Currie, Selkirk College; Rural Colleges

Charles Eckman, Simon Fraser University

Mary Anne Guenther, North Island College;  
Chair

Sybil Harrison, Camosun College; Urban  
Colleges

Todd Mundle, Simon Fraser University Officer;  
AskAway Advisory Committee Chair

David Pepper, British Columbia Institute of  
Technology; Regional Universities

Marnie Swanson, University of Victoria

Venessa Wallsten, Quest University; Associate  
Members

### **BC ELN Staff:**

Anita Cocchia

Megan Crouch

Heather Morrison

Sunni Nishimura

Reece Steinberg (recorder)

### **Regrets:**

No regrets.

### **1. Adoption of Agenda**

The agenda was adopted without additional items.

### **2. Items for Discussion**

#### **2.1 BC ELN Budget Process 2012 – 2013**

A. Cocchia invited feedback on BC ELN's Innovation and Success report. D. Azaransky stated that previous years reports have been in line with where the ministry and government are heading, and underlined the importance of accountability. The professionalism of the document, and its response to outcomes and successes, as well as its value were noted by committee members. Several people discussed adding student success stories and anecdotes, tying the ministry into the context.

A. Cocchia said that the administrative office would move forward with producing an Innovation and Success report again this year, following the same protocol as before of submitting an outline to the ministry, a draft to the Steering Committee, and final submission by January 31, 2012.

#### **2.2 Further Articulating Strategies continued**

H. Morrison asked for feedback on the approach of the Further Articulating Strategies exercise.

Comments included minor constructive criticism related to timing and room acoustics, and positive feedback about the Google Docs method of recording.

Bold Step #4, “Ensuring a Relevant, Responsive and Sustainable BC ELN”, was not included in the exercise. Input on this area was requested. One suggestion for improvement was having BC ELN FAQs easily available on website.

One member shared that he had recently had an inquiry about resource sharing in the province, and that the BC ELN webpage on resource sharing was useful. Participants agreed on the benefits of having a one-pager aimed at academic presidents and vice presidents for other BC ELN core services.

There was a question regarding OutLook functionality, and changes needed to improve ILL to meet contemporary needs. Resource sharing is one of BC ELN's largest existing core services. In 2009 H. Morrison conducted a series of Resource Sharing Consultations to inform the BC ELN strategic plan. Resource Sharing was not specifically included in the strategic topics discussed today. An investigation of changing needs, perhaps using a survey tool, was discussed and agreed to.

### **3. Items for Information**

#### **3.1 WriteAway – Update Response**

The importance of sustainability was discussed – the need to think about the total cost and continuity, and the costing model. S. Nishimura responded, saying that the costing model will be developed by the Concept Committee. The discussed approach includes writing centres providing hours of service, in addition to a financial commitment. These are preliminary discussions and participating institutions will be consulted.

Another committee member stated that the need for writing help is huge, and the length and cost of the transaction will likely be greater than AskAway; potentially the service could be heavily used, and of interest beyond the post-secondary sector, to secondary school students and adult learners.

The committee discussed the differences between WriteAway and AskAway models, including that writing is less similar across institutions than research/library needs.

Areas of interest to committee members included:

- Repeat visits to tutors
- Who would provide the service
- Source of funding, including private/public partnerships
- Relationship with AskAway

#### **3.2 Associate member interest – University Canada West**

University Canada West has made membership inquiries. BC ELN has responded and will keep the Steering Committee informed of future inquiries.

### **4. New Business**

There was no new business.

### **5. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be a teleconference in February.