

Anything Goes! Roundtable #15: NOTES

Joint Meeting

Thursday January 29, 2004.

Sacramento, CA

Participants: Lynn Fortney, Mina Davenport, Terri Ann Jankowski, Rosally Schwarzbart, Michael Bennett, Nicki Carter, Jeff Ward, Valerie Mersh, Kit Kennedy, Dorrie Slutsker (recorder)

Participants represented a wide range of perspectives: academic health sciences librarians, medium to small-size hospital librarians, online book, journal and database vendors, and a corporate biotechnology librarian.

Topics discussed:

1. Document delivery
2. Vendor perspectives
3. Solo librarian issues
4. Meetings

Document Delivery

Valerie Mersh - Lane Library (Stanford Univ.) will have a new building. Many print journals will be in remote storage. Lane intends to provide pdf delivery of documents from this stored collection as well as from external sources. The group discussed pricing models (differentiated or standardized), linking the online catalog to the document delivery services, and branding the products the library delivers. The Johns Hopkins distributed model was mentioned.

Vendor Perspectives

The vendors emphasized the importance of educating customers for better working relationships. They also stressed the importance of keeping up to date: taking classes and attending meetings. They especially mentioned the importance of live interaction.

Solo Librarian

Solo librarians need communication with their colleagues for sounding board functions and to counter isolation. They need to find ways to handle clerical work to allow time for professional activities. Having patrons use electronic tables of contents services from publishers rather than the librarian photocopying paper TOCs was one suggestion. The One Person Library Newsletter (<http://www.ibi-opl.com/newsletter/index.html>) was also recommended. There is a Solo Librarian Division of SLA (<http://www.sla.org/division/dsol/>) and many other resources for solo librarians on the web.

Attending Meetings

How to get funding for attending meetings? How do meetings get organized? How can groups recruit new people to do the organizing and, conversely, how can new people get involved in meeting organization? The group raised, but did not discuss in depth, these issues.