

23 July 2021

TO: RAILS Board of Directors

FROM: Committee chair: Paul Mills

SUBJECT: Committee reports – July 2021

Consortia Committee Report

The committee met on Monday, July 19, 2021

The committee discussed the findings from the ICOLC (International Coalition of Library Consortia) OCLC Task Force. RAILS Executive Director Deirdre Brennan and RAILS Director of Technology Services Anne Slaughter were members of the task force. The report identified concerns from its members worldwide with pricing transparency, interoperability with third-party products, and WorldCat sustainability. The committee members discussed thoughts on pricing equity and how changes in the current pricing structure could impact libraries both positively and negatively. It was noted that it would be nice to add a few new products to the OCLC bundle that the Illinois State Library negotiates. OCLC has since released a survey for a better understanding of the concerns and value on products and services.

The Consortia Committee approved a working group charge to establish a LLSAP Sustainability Working Group. The Working Group is charged with defining plans to ensure RAILS LLSAPS are self-sustaining and for RAILS support in capital investments in LLSAPs.

Working Group Members:

- Paul Mills (Chair)
- Scott Pointon, Thomas Stagg, Alex Vancina (RAILS Board)
- Carolyn Coulter, Rebecca Malinowski, Kendal Orrison. Aaron Skog (LLSAP representation)

The committee members shared post-pandemic plans on resuming services.

Next steps, activities, or follow up as a result of the meeting discussion:

- Invite ICOLC task force member to a future consortia meeting
- Obtain a breakdown of Illinois libraries OCLC costs from the Illinois State Library
- Possibly invite someone from OCLC to a future meeting
- Schedule the first meeting of the LLSAP Sustainability Working Group

Next meeting: Monday, October 18, 2021