

REGENTS ACADEMIC COMMITTEE ON LIBRARIES (RACL) 2024 FALL MEETING MINUTES

November 8, 2024

Virtual Meeting

ATTENDEES:

RACL Committee Members:

Joy Bolt, University of North Georgia
Dr. Lisandra Carmichael, Georgia Southern University
Meghan Crews, East Georgia State College
Angiah Davis, Gordon State College
Catherine Jannik Downey, Georgia Gwinnett College
David Edens, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College
Julius Fleschner, Georgia Highlands College
Dr. Sonya Gaither, Clayton State University
Barry Robinson for Dr. Toby Graham, University of Georgia
Debbie Holmes, College of Coastal Georgia
Miriam Nauenburg for CJ Ivory, University of West Georgia
Lynn Kelly, South Georgia State College

Tamatha Lambert, Middle Georgia State University
Frank Mahitab, Fort Valley State University
Dr. LaVerne McLaughlin, Albany State University
David Owens, Columbus State University
Robert Quarles, Atlanta Metropolitan State College
Dr. Leslie Sharp, Georgia Institute of Technology
Jeff Steely, Georgia State University
Felix Unaeze, Savannah State University
Dr. Shaundra Walker, Georgia College & State University
Brad Warren, Augusta University
John Wilson, Georgia Southwestern State University
Melissa Whitesell, Dalton State College
Laura Bell Wright, Valdosta State University

University System of Georgia/GALILEO/GIL/DLG:

Lucy Harrison, Russell Palmer, John Stephens, Jeff Gallant, Joy Woodson, Mike White, Deena Anderson, Sean Boyle, Seamus Narron, Josh Wier, Brad Baxter, and Sean Purcell.

Guests:

Jessica Osborne, Georgia Highlands College
Jennifer West, Savannah State University

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

Chair Joy Bolt welcomed everyone to the meeting and called the meeting to order. Lucy Harrison conducted roll. The agenda for the meeting was moved to be approved by Dr. Leslie Sharp, seconded by Dr. Sonya Gaither, and approved. The minutes from the 2024 Spring RACL meeting held in person at Georgia State University Library on April 12, 2024, were moved to be approved by Tamatha Lambert, seconded by Dr. LaVerne McLaughlin, and approved.

BUDGET UPDATE:

Lucy Harrison provided a budget update, including a reminder of the partial restoration of operating funds cut in 2021 and approval for one-time purchases from FY24 Funds (PQ eBooks; UMich eBooks; Sage Research Methods (Basic); Sage Business Cases; UP content), the new

GALILEO position (reworked existing line that's been vacant), a new GIL position, and the K-12 Budget Update.

COURIER VS. FEDEX UPDATE:

Lucy Harrison reminded the group that RACL voted at their Spring meeting to stay on the Courier for one more year, so we plan to move to FedEx in July 2025. The Fulfillment Committee does not anticipate that much lead time is needed, so we will communicate further at Spring RACL, including a discussion on what to do with potential savings.

IPEDS SURVEY UPDATE:

Lucy Harrison noted that last Spring, NCES proposed the removal of library data from the IPEDS survey. After a 60-day comment period ending May 3, 2024 (748 comments received), NCES responded that they understood, but still can't support it and it's not being used sufficiently. After an additional 30-day comment period: (581 comments received), they responded that they are still getting rid of it. This will take effect with the 2025-26 report.

DIGITAL LIBRARY OF GEORGIA (DLG) UPDATE:

Lucy Harrison reminded the group that Sheila McAllister has now retired. Nicole Lawrence will provide high-level oversight. Will be hiring a new DLG Program Lead position soon and establishing a new advisory committee. Working through an accessibility review.

AFFORDABLE LEARNING GEORGIA (ALG) UPDATE:

Jeff Gallant stated that ALG has saved \$173 million in textbook costs since 2015, impacting 1.3 million USG students. Grant Round 26 just closed (reviewing now) and Round 27 deadline is March 10. An informational meeting for interested parties will be held January 13. Inclusive Access expansion is on hold until we know more about its direction at the federal level.

GALILEO ANNUAL CONFERENCE:

Joy Woodson informed the group that the Conference will be held in-person at Middle Georgia State University June 3-4, 2024 (tentative). For the first time that we are considering a half-day before the main event. Call for proposals will go out January/February and registration will open in the spring. The Conference has always been free, but we are discussing a possible nominal fee.

2024 GALILEO ANNUAL SURVEY:

Joy Woodson said the Annual Survey takes place Nov. 1-17 and will be posted to the top of GALILEO website. LISTSERVS have received information regarding the survey and we will send a newsletter e-mail next week as a reminder. The report will be available in December.

K-12 ADVISORY GROUP:

Joy Woodson provided an update of the K-12 Advisory Group. Joy will contact interested parties (including parents) in November and December. The Focus Group will likely convene beginning in January to review interface changes and advise the GALILEO developers.

E-RESOURCES UPDATES:

John Stephens provided a reminder of the E-Resources portfolio changes last year, and the FY23 and FY24 end of year purchases. John also discussed plans for the USG portfolio. Any changes this year would be cost-neutral centrally, with a goal to select resources that would provide better discounts and improved usage. Changes are projected to save local budgets \$150k overall.

John also provided status reports for several central subscriptions. He reminded the group that orders are currently in process for Atmire DSpace Repositories, Cambridge UP journals transformative agreement, Sage Journals transformative agreement, ACS Journals transformative agreement and Oxford UP Journals. We are also in negotiations with Elsevier.

GALILEO SUPPORT & DEVELOPMENT UPDATES:

Russell Palmer informed the group that the OpenAthens Reporting API is now available to all USG institutions. GIL/FOLIO teams are working to set up Panorama integration for institutions that chose it but the attributes that are released may need to be updated to get the full value. OpenAthens Reporting API is also available for diagnosing misuse.

Russell also provided demonstrations of the GALILEO Embeddable Bentos search and the Integrated LibChat for the GALILEO portal.

Current Development Priorities include GALILEO statistics, improving K-12 interfaces and AI experimentation. Recently added or renewed effort are to investigate A-Z list functionality, and the New Georgia Encyclopedia API based Bento.

Russell Palmer updated the group that the new Full Text Finder (“FTF”) is coming soon for primary EDS. This is the link resolver menu with full text options in the EBSCO environment (not to be confused with publication finder (Journals A-Z)). Changes include removing iframes that caused error messages, improved linking, improved metadata display, and aligning the FTF interface with new EDS/Ehost/Publication Finder.

New EBSCOhost will be released for everyone toward the end of spring. GALILEO is working on a training plan. Features include better personalization, simplified interface and language, and improved filters. Institutional customization is managed in EBSCO Experience Manager.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES:

Lucy Harrison updated the group on progress towards strategic goals.

Goal 1: User Experience: *“Create and maintain user-centered GALILEO environment(s) and interface(s) that are easy to use, customizable, personalized, powerful, and comprehensive in scope.”* We are well underway with most efforts, including:

- Adapt user interface to be more K-12 user friendly
- Improve discovery of GALILEO content on the open web
- Improve Bento interface

- Improved authentication (more paths to “yes”)
- Start implementing some low-hanging AI projects

The improvements to Georgia Historic Newspapers are complete, including migration from ChronAm (which is no longer maintained) to Open Oni, which developed and maintained by a community of libraries, archivists, and technologists, and runs on a current version of Python. This change offers improvement to usability and maintainability. Work on a GALILEO App has not yet started.

Goal 2: E-Resources/Content: *“Provide a robust set of electronic resources (open and licensed) that meet the lifelong learning needs of all Georgians, leveraging local and statewide purchasing power.”* We have efforts underway for:

- Improved access to university press content
- Improved options for lifelong learners
- More Open Access content
- Reduce annual subscription costs (especially if funding not restored)

One effort, to obtain research data sets and tools, is complete.

Goal 3: Awareness/Marketing: *“Raise awareness of GALILEO throughout the state of Georgia, aiming for every Georgian to understand what GALILEO is, its value, and how to access it.”*

Three efforts are ongoing:

- Improve marketing to K-12
- Increase data-driven marketing and communications
- Maximize reach to GALILEO stakeholders

One effort (outreach to elder Georgians) has not yet started. Another, to update the Marketing Toolkit, is complete (https://about.galileo.usg.edu/tools_training/marketing_toolkit).

Goal 4: Training: *“Provide comprehensive professional development services, resources, and training to increase usage, build knowledge, improve engagement with GALILEO, and improve teaching and learning.”* Most of these efforts are on hold, pending the potential hiring of a new GALILEO position. We have started discussions on several fronts.

Goal 5: Partner Tools and Services: *“Develop an evolving suite of tools and services to help stakeholders make better use of GALILEO.”* Several efforts are ongoing, including:

- Boost statewide partnerships with other library groups (and vendors)
- Continue to improve GALILEO admin
- Find out what others are doing with AI and partner with them
- Get access to and start playing around with AI

One major effort (to redesign the Stats Tool) will be a major focus this quarter. The GIL website was cleaned up as part of our FOLIO migration and will be revisited after that is complete. We are also looking to Panorama (and possibly MetaDB) as tools for collection analysis and sharing, as well as OpenRS for resource sharing across and beyond the USG.

AI (ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE) IN LIBRARIES DISCUSSION:

Chair Joy Bolt led the group discussion concerning AI in libraries.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 11:58 a.m. and reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

MEMBER UPDATES:

Various members shared updates about their respective institutions.

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

- **Book Clubs**. Dr. Sonya Gaither (Clayton State University), Dr. Leslie Sharp (Georgia Tech), David Edens (ABAC), Melissa Whitesell (Dalton State College) Debbie Holmes (College of Coastal Georgia), and Julius Fleschner (Georgia Highlands College) shared various experiences/issues with establishing and/or continuing book clubs at their institutions.
- **Friends Groups**. Dr. Sonya Gaither (Clayton State University), Angiah Davis (Gordon State College), Felix Unaeze (Savannah State University), and Melissa Whitesell (Dalton State College) shared various experiences/issues with friends groups at their respective institutions.
- **Coordinated Training**. Discussion on coordinated AI training for library staff.
- **FLSA**. Julius Fleschner (Georgia Highlands College), Dr. Sonya Gaither (Clayton State University), Dr. Shaundra Walker (Georgia College & State University), Laura Bell Wright (Valdosta State University), Barry Robinson (UGA), and John Wilson (Georgia Southwestern State University) shared various experiences/issues with FLSA at their respective institutions.

GIL/ALMA UPDATES:

Sean Boyle provided committee highlights:

- **Acquisitions**. Migration task to create Organizations Categories & Types. The committee discussed instructions drafted by Acq/ERM team members, presented to Inst Leads
- **Analytics**. Continuing to review presentations / information around FOLIO related analytics tools such as Panorama, MetaDB, etc.
- **Cataloging**. Configuration tasks related to Z39.50 and OCLC Connexion were presented to committee, approved, and submitted to Inst Leads
- **Fulfillment**. Committee members assisted in the planning and leading of FOLIO Circulation Open House sessions
- **GALILEO Portfolio Analysis**. Developed timeline for FY25 work
- **OPAC**. Committee reviewed GGC Bibliograph instance. Working with GALILEO to test provide feedback on new ehost UI
- **RACL Library Impact and Value**. New Chair volunteer
- **Special Collections**. Worked to align FY25 goal with USG FOLIO migration

The full GIL/Alma updates report is available [here](#). Sean Boyle provided updates on GIL Functional Committee Updates/Tasks, including a call for Vice-chair Nominees/Vacancies for several committees. Dr. Sonya Gaither also provided an update on the RACL LIV (Libraries' Impact and Value) committee. Sean asked attendees to save the date for GUGM 2025, May 12 and 13 at Middle Georgia. Sean provided details on the FOLIO Implementation timeline:

- **Fall 2023** - Training and data cleanup activities.
 - General cleanup reports/instructions on LibGuide
 - Committees handling area specific cleanup instructions and guidance
- **October/November 2023**
 - GIL/GALILEO gather OA attributes currently utilized by USG
 - GIL/GALILEO meet with EBSCO to discuss collected OpenAthens authentication attributes currently used by USG libraries
 - Discussion on pre-implementation test environments
- **February 2024** – EBSCO begin building out pre-implementation test environments
- **Feb 2024 – May 2024**
 - EBSCO delivered FOLIO pre-implementation environments
 - GIL/GALILEO begin initial work in FOLIO environments (data cleanup/migration)
- **May 2024 - Spring 2025**
 - GUGM
 - FOLIO member tenant implementation begins, including data extracts, iterations, ongoing acceptance testing, etc. leading into Dress Rehearsal
- **March 2025**– Dress Rehearsal – Full extraction of all data required
- **April 2025**– Pre-live training by EBSCO trainers or GIL Staff (for practitioners)
- **June 2025**- Go Live

Sean then reviewed the Institutional Lead tasks and deliverables, including a list of deliverables that institutions should have completed by the beginning of October. He provided a timeline for the OpenRS implementation, which is runs in parallel with the FOLIO implementation, and updates on Panorama and Bibliograph, which are nearing completion. The [LibGuide](#) will serve as the Knowledge Base for the project, with information, documentation, space for committee work, timelines, etc. RACL will receive monthly project updates with action items for each institution and should check with institutional leads periodically regarding progress.

COURSE RESERVES/CMS RECOMMENDATION:

Lucy Harrison reminded the group that the RFI concluded that the eReserve Plus solution met all our required and preferred features. eReserve Plus also provided a live demonstration to USG libraries earlier this week. Lucy asked the RACL group to decide how to proceed: posting as sole source; doing an additional RFP in FY2026; or not moving forward. Dr. Lisandra Carmichael moved to post as sole source, Dr. Sonya Gaither seconded, and the motion passed.

SPRING MEETING DATE/LOCATION:

Chair Joy Bolt led the discussion concerning potential dates and potential locations for the 2025 Spring RACL Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.