

**RACL Spring 2016 Meeting**  
**Brasstown Valley Resort, Young Harris, Georgia**  
**April 7-8, 2016**  
**Minutes**

Attendance: Debbie Holmes (College of Coastal GA), Lorene Flanders (University of West GA), Elizabeth McKinney (GA Public Library Services), Mark Flynn (Columbus State), Melissa Whitesell (Dalton State), Barry Robinson (GIL), Jason Battle (University of GA), Michael Luther (Kennesaw State), Gene Ruffin (GA Gwinnet), Jacqueline Vickers (South GA State), Christopher Davidson (GA Archives), Michelle Barsom (Bainbrige State), Joe Mocnik (GA College & State University), Deborah Prosser (University of North GA), Jordan Cofer (Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College) Susan Vines ( GA Highlands), LaVerne McLaughlin (Albany State), Mary Washington (Darton State), Brenda Seago (Augusta University), Kathy Davies (Augusta University), Sandra Bandy (Augusta University), Myk Garn (USG), Ru Story Huffman ( GA Southwestern), Toby Graham (University of GA), Alan Bernstein (Valdosta State), Catherine Murray-Rust (GA Tech), Kathryn Thompson (Lanier Technical College), Amanda McKenzie (East GA State), Merryll Penson (BOR, GALILEO), Lucy Harrison, BOR, GALILEO), Bede Mitchell (GA Southern), Jeff Seely (GA State), Gordon Baker (Clayton State), Yolanda Cooper (Emory), Sonya Gaither (Gordon State), Bobby Laurine (ITS)

**Day 1**

1. Welcome / Call to Order at 8:05 AM on Thursday, April 7 (B. Mitchell)
2. The Nominating Committee report was shared. (B. Mitchell)

The proposed slate of officers consist of

Mark Flynn, Columbus State – Chair

Sonya Gaither, Gordon State – Vice Chair / Chair-elect

Michelle Barsom, Bainbridge State College - Secretary

Elijah Scott, Georgia Highlands and Alan Bernstein, Valdosta State – Members at Large

Bede Mitchell, Georgia Southern – Past Chair

3. Executive Vice Chancellor Houston Davis was introduced. He appreciates what we do to help support the education of our students. He recognized our library personnel as a good network of people that is willing to work together. Vice Chancellor Davis also talked about the following:
  - competency based education initiative
  - techno structure (e.g., upgrade to network, authentication, technology related to OneUSG, and ADP improvements)
  - 20/30 taskforce charged with identifying weaknesses that need strengthening so we will be excellent
    - cannot continue decentralized distance education
    - investigate self-paced education w/ various paths

- investigate new tuition/pricing models
- continue to promote affordable learning tools/textbooks/resources
- meet Complete College GA (degree completion) – stackable credentials
- create more faculty development & support opportunities
- eCore initiative consists of eCampus which provides the system’s core curriculum online, and eMajor, which complements eCore with online bachelor’s degrees. Maximize Affordable Learning Georgia initiative to help reduce student textbook costs
- Lucy Harrison was introduced as new Assistant Vice Chancellor for Library Services & Executive Director of GALILEO and will officially begin on June 1, 2016.
  - Lucy wanted to hear from RACL on opportunities and challenges for GALILEO as well as for her personally.
  - Some suggestions for Lucy to consider during her 1<sup>st</sup> 100 days included becoming familiar with existing work flow, schedule campus visits, seek advice from colleagues, develop and grow new and existing collaborations, assist with growing library assessment efforts, and further investigate shared e-book collections.

#### 4. Next step for collaboration (Panel Discussion)

Panelists (Deborah Prosser, Jeff Seely, Toby Graham and Jacqueline Vickers) discussed future collaborative partnerships and ideas based on survey results obtained from library directors. Ideas for additional collaboration included shared e-resources, collection storage repository, annual/on-going assessment survey, shared budget analysis and accounting/reporting techniques, determining next directions after Alma, what’s next with the Discovery service, identify and prioritize user needs. Other topics were identified as important as well:

- Do we need an eResources position in Library Services?
- Do we proceed with USG shared e-book collection?
- How can we have an impact on affordability at our institutions? Libraries are encouraged to support open educational resources
- Libraries need space for study and innovation
- Libraries need to reduce collection space
- Do we need to consider USG repository & preservation (digitization)
- Revisit last copy in GA program
- What about shared collection development and selection as well collaborative technical services including outsourcing, staff efficiencies, centralized centers, and Alma opportunities.
- Compile business models, economic structures, and conduct study with consultant
- Define consolidation practices related to libraries
- Review weeding process & surplus policies/procedures
- Maximize partnerships (e.g., GA Archives rent space to state agencies in need of space)

- Do we share assessment efforts, tutoring and/or virtual reference services?
- How do we make user experiences better
- How do we assess and report library impact on learning?
  - Need effective measures for better collecting data on how users utilize resources and what resources are being used. How to best demonstrate our value on student learning
- Data management and digital curation
- Sharing best practices
- Resource digitization
- Scholarly repository (GKR)
- System-wide surplus materials program
- Is there a better approach to developing our strategic plan instead of being RACL Executive Committee driven?

5. Myk Garn, Assistant Vice Chancellor for New Learning Models (USG), provided a presentation on competency based education (CBE). Competency based education is a self-paced education using a team based model. VSU and Middle GA currently offer CBE courses. The message is to encourage exploration for other USG institutions to offer CBE courses and programs. AVP Garn also discussed what we need to do now. What do we need to do in order to disrupt now & determine next steps? A 65-member task force w/ over 500 participants were selected to “address the challenges to designing, developing, and scaling CBE degree programs.” Challenges including the pace of change and sources of learning will require further investigation. More information can be found online - <http://afternext.complettega.org>

#### 6. Next Generation Library System update (Robinson)

We are currently in the vanguard stage of the Alma implementation. The vanguard institutions are Georgia Southern, Valdosta State, and UGA. Time lines and testing scenarios for the institutional phase were discussed. The GATech/Emory collaboration was briefly reviewed. An overview of the project can be found online – <http://gil.usg.edu/alma>. The official Alma kick-off will be held at GUGM on May 19 and 20. The Go LIVE date for all institutions will occur in May 2017. Due to the Georgia State and Georgia Perimeter consolidation, their GO Live date will be May 13, 2016. Albany State and Darton State GO Live date is expected to happen on January 1, 2017 after their consolidation. All institution will continue to use the EBSCO EDS.

#### 7. Library Services Center: GA Tech & Emory (Cooper/Murray-Rust)

Participants learned about the project history of how the library services center came into fruition. The governance and finance structures were shared as well as the building features, current status, and viewpoints of Emory and Ga Tech regarding this huge collaboration.

## 8. GALILEO e-books (Flynn)

Mark presented the potential and challenges of obtaining e-book collections. Discussion was held regarding the e-book packages purchased for the consortium and how we might want to proceed in the future regarding purchasing and price models. We also need to determine how to evaluate these packages and investigate whether similar purchasing opportunities for other electronic resources may be an option. A small group will work to present a proposal at the June RACL Executive meeting.

## 9. Business Meeting Part I (Mitchell)

A. Elections – Chairman Mitchell reminded everyone of the slate of officers presented at the beginning of the meeting. He called for nominations from the floor and hearing none, the slate was unanimously accepted by acclamation. The 2016-2017 officers will be:

Mark Flynn, Columbus State – Chair  
Sonya Gaither, Gordon State – Vice Chair / Chair-elect  
Michelle Barsom, Bainbridge State College - Secretary  
Elijah Scott, Georgia Highlands & Alan Bernstein, Valdosta State – Members at Large  
Bede Mitchell, Georgia Southern – Past Chair

## B. GIL Express Recommendations

The GE Best Practices Committee asked RACL to consider two recommendations. These recommendations came as a result of a survey conducted in preparation for the Alma transition.

1: The most frequent patron complaint about GIL Express is being unable to renew if the book is overdue.

Solution: Allow renewals for items that are overdue but not in “lost” status.

RACL Decision: PASSED

2: The one thing a majority of GIL Express staff would change about GE is to stop automatically blocking patron accounts on the first overdue.

Solution: Block patron accounts when a book reaches ‘lost status.’

RACL Decision: PASSED

## C. Historical fines

Some institutions have asked if there would be any reason why legacy fines should not be removed during data cleanup as we continue to transition to Alma. Merryll will pursue implications for removing legacy fines from pre-Voyager/ Voyager to Alma.

## D. Special Interest Groups

Meeting at RACL allows members an opportunity to network. Members were asked if they’d like to break into smaller more formal groups to discuss specific topics whether new or discussed during the meeting. If so, those groups could meet during lunch or dinner or some other time

when the body was not in session. Continued conversations could encompass best practices or groups could divide up by institution type or topic areas. Anyone interested in a particular topic may organize and inform Bede then an announcement would be made for all interested persons to join the respective group. The hope was to continue this practice at future RACL meetings.

## Day 2

1. Welcome Back/Meeting reconvened and called to order at 8 AM
2. Big Data Presentation (Bernstein/Gaither/Luther)

Results from the 2014 Assessment Survey conducted by the RACL appointed Assessment Task Force were reviewed. Afterwards, an overview of assessment activities at Gordon State was presented. While preparing the SACS narrative, GSC library staff have determined areas to focus: 1) collection assessment including developing weeding criteria, 2) further develop instruction assessment beyond the freshman year, 3) define learning objectives for instruction program, and formalize the assessment plan and program. Kennesaw State has uses a library data cube to help determine effectiveness and their impact on student learning. Valdosta State uses many methods including LibQual, Student Opinion of Library Instruction, GIMLET, web usability focus groups, secret shopper, and Kindness audits to determine their value and effectiveness.

3. The USG' Chief Information Officer, Dr. Robert Laurine talked about student trends, and challenges and opportunities we face as a system. Those challenges and opportunities include 1) D2L and libray integration. 2) USG IT improvements, 3) USG data governance, 4) Peachnet growth and upgrade, 5) one USG update, 6) authentication & federated ID, and 7) Alma transition.
4. Georgia Public Library System update (McKinney)  
GPLS has had a lot of successes to share with the academic libraries. Some of those successes include 1) recognition of Dade County Public Library as Library Journal's "Best Small Library in America"; 2) \$2 million received for renovation/MRR projects; 3) \$2 million received for computers; 3) \$670, 000 received for merit raises; 4) \$7.8 million new construction projects; and 5) 25 cents per capita increase in materials budget. May 3<sup>rd</sup> is National Library Legislative Day. Everyone was reminded to contact your representative if you planned to attend. The Summer Reading Program will launch soon to kick-off the summer. GPLS inaugural awards were announced at the State Capitol. The PINES staff will develop its own strategic plan for the PINES system which has never been done before. Keep in mind that Evergreen is updated annually over the M.L.K. weekend and PINES partners with other agencies. If anyone has an idea for a partnership, the PINES staff is open to suggestions.
5. Technical College System of Georgia (Thompson)  
TCSG has 3 functional units: technical education, adult education, and workforce development. The system consist of 22 schools with 85 locations. There are 140,000

students with 600+ majors. All TCSG schools are SACS COC accredited. There have been 10 mergers since 2009 with the most recent occurring in 2015.

There are 3 strategic initiatives being addressed by the TCSG: Move On When Ready (MOWR), the Early Alert Management System, and the Strategic Industries Workforce Development Grant. MOWR allows TCSG to increase their student enrollment. The library is able to receive emails regarding students needing research assistance via the early alert system. The workforce development grant provides free tuition to eligible students who meet the identified criteria.

TCSG strongly interested in joining the transition to Alma. Funding is a challenge and they await a final decision regarding their participation. The TCSG schools also participate in a joint borrowing agreement but do not share the same management system. This poses lots of challenges for library personnel as well as users. There is hope that a decision regarding funding for Alma as well as increased staffing will be made in late April or early May.

TCSG has had a lot of growth in their libraries to include new buildings as well as renovated buildings. The next TCSG meeting is scheduled for May 15 and everyone is invited to attend.

6. Georgia Archives update (Davidson)

Chris Davidson, State Archivist and Assistant Vice Chancellor, gave a presentation on the Georgia Archives which is a part of the University System of Georgia. He also showed a promotional video on the Georgia Archives and services/resources provided. He would like to establish new partnerships and further develop existing ones. Everyone is encouraged to use the Archives. More information can be found online – <http://www.georgiaarchives.org> or go to their Facebook page. The Georgia Historical Records Advisory Council (formerly The Georgia Historical Records Advisory Board – GHRAB – <http://georgiaarchives.org/ghrac>) is responsible for making the public aware of the historical records available and enhance their preservation and care, as well as improve access to those records.

7. Business Meeting Part II

A. RACL would like to recognize and thank Julius Whitaker (Executive Director of Library Services, Georgia Perimeter College) for 23 years of services. We wish him well in his future endeavors. Julius retired March 31, 2016.

B. Allocation of costs models for Alma

There was a discussion on whether we should continue using the current Voyager budget model for Alma as we transition or do we define and use a new cost model. The current cost model comprises 3 parts:

1. Voyager cost (software) is based on the number of bib records
2. Hardware /maintenance cost
3. Staff cost

The total cost is determined by the following:

1. Institutions with undergraduate students only - 1 x undergraduate FTE
2. Institutions with graduate students – 1.3 x graduate FTE plus undergraduate FTE

There is one price for Alma instead of individual pricing per institution as with Voyager. A decision needs to be made at the FALL RACL meeting. Also, there should be a consideration for future consolidations.

Bede Mitchell, Mark Flynn, Lucy Harrison, and Merryll Penson will review the upcoming RACL agenda that will include a smaller group to review this issue and provide recommendation

8. Special Interest Group Meetings

There was an interest for having two SIGs during lunch after today's business session. Those interested are invited to meet on 1) assessment and 2) security.

Spring 2016 RACL meeting was adjourned at 1:30pm.