

**Regents Academic Committee on Libraries  
Spring General Meeting Minutes  
April 5 – 6, 2018  
Amicalola Falls State Park and Lodge, Dawsonville, GA**

**Attendees:**

**RACL:**

Alan Bernstein, Valdosta  
Jeff Carrico Georgia, Institute of Technology  
David Evans, Kennesaw  
Mark Flynn, Columbus State  
Sonya Gaither (Chair), Gordon State  
Toby Graham, University of Georgia  
Debbie Holmes, College of Coastal Georgia  
Sharon Kelly, South Georgia State  
Tamatha Lambert, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College  
Barbara Mann, Georgia Gwinnett College  
Bede Mitchell, Georgia Southern University  
Kara Mullen, Clayton State University  
Agnes Muriuki, Fort Valley State University  
Deborah Prosser, University of North Georgia  
Brenda Seago, Augusta University  
Bryan Sinclair, Georgia State University  
Andrea Stanfield, University of West Georgia  
Ru Story Huffman, Georgia Southwestern State University  
Susan Vines, Georgia Highlands College  
Saundra Walker, Georgia College and State University  
Melissa Whitesell, Dalton State College

**University System of Georgia / GALILEO / GIL:**

Lucy Harrison, Russell Palmer, Barry Robinson, John Stephens

**Guests:**

Dan Aldridge, Friends of Georgia Libraries

Chair Sonya Gaither called the meeting to order. Attendees introduced themselves to the group. The minutes from the Fall general RACL meeting which took place on Thursday November 16, 2017, were approved.

The group welcomed Dan Aldridge, representing the Friends of Georgia Libraries. He presented an overview of his organization and the services it can provide. Even though Friends groups are more widespread amongst public libraries, they can also help support academic libraries. Several RACL members were familiar with the FOGL work and spoke in support of the organization. Members were encouraged to reach out to Dan if they needed additional information or assistance.

Lucy Harrison provided a GKR governance update. The Georgia Knowledge Repository (GKR) was formally launched in 2013 ([www.gaknowledge.org](http://www.gaknowledge.org)). Members include many USG and private higher-ed GALILEO institutions. After the launch and completion of the grant, the GKR became a GALILEO initiative

with leadership from RACL, and a GKR Coordinating Committee was established. Subcommittees report to that group. However, the GKR Coordinating Committee has not been meeting regularly. While the GKR itself is in a place where it is fairly self-sustaining and does not require much oversight for normal business operation, there is a need for some ongoing guidance and direction. Lucy recommended that the current governance be streamlined and simplified, and that the GKR committee report to the same GIL Coordinating Committee as the other functional committees. This will bring the GKR in line with other governance processes. Unlike other GIL committees, the GKR does have non-USG representation, but that can be managed within the existing processes. Lucy walked through the necessary changes to the GKR governance language, and RACL approved the changes.

The group then discussed the existing GIL committee nomination process, and whether there was a need to make any changes to that process. Some members have asked that the process be more inclusive, in order to reach all RACL institutions to look for committee members. RACL agreed that for this next round of committee appointments, emails will be sent out from GALILEO to RACL and other lists, encouraging library staff to talk to their director about applying for one of the committees. However, the nomination itself should still come from the library dean or director, and should include:

1. Name of staff person
2. Name of committee of interest
3. Brief description of the skills/experience this person would bring to the committee

GALILEO will gather the nominations and share them with the committee chairs, who will then recommend membership. Chairs should attempt to find a good representation of diversity of institutions/members, necessary skills, and experience.

Lucy Harrison provided an update on the GUGM (GIL User Group Meeting) planning. GUGM is scheduled for Friday, May 18th, at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education on the UGA campus in Athens. There will also be a pre-conference workshop offered the afternoon of Thursday, May 17: "Cataloging in Alma/Primo: A Year Later". The conference is moving from Macon to Athens this year to allow a larger number of attendees to participate. The conference itself will be \$75, and the pre-conference will be \$20.

Bede Mitchell (Georgia Southern) provided an update on the "College 2025 Initiative" that he has been working on with other USG representatives. This group has been working since summer 2017 on a five-to ten-year academic roadmap to the future of higher education in Georgia, and includes representatives from the faculty, staff, and students of various USG institutions, as well as from the business community. The group has looked at the emerging higher-ed and business environment, identified essential skills, and made recommendations for the future around four broad themes: adaptability, essential skills, lifelong learning, and partnerships. The full report and additional background information is now available on the College 2025 website (<https://www.usg.edu/college2025>).

Barry Robinson (GIL/GALILEO) updated the group on GIL/Alma progress and issues. Ongoing projects include the data sync with GIL Alma and OCLC holdings; bringing Georgia Tech back into GIL Express; adopting the Primo New User interface; the consolidations between ABAC/BSC and Armstrong/GaSouthern; and the GIL Committee's work towards the strategic goals that RACL asked them to work on in 2017-18. Barry walked the group through the progress towards those goals as well as the ongoing work addressing everyday issues and concerns in Alma.

Barry also provided a special update on HathiTrust. The USG entered into a system-wide contract for HathiTrust in 2017, but it is a complicated service. HathiTrust includes digitized copies of open access/public domain titles, out of print and lost/brittle/damaged titles, and some locally digitized works. All USG institutions can search the full HathiTrust catalog and access public domain and open access works, and can have HathiTrust added to the GALILEO A-Z database list. But currently, only a handful of USG institutions meet the HathiTrust Authentication Requirements (SAML + InCommon membership) for full access. HathiTrust may also be activated in EDS. GIL is still working through the technical requirements and configuration options for HathiTrust and will continue to update the group as they learn more.

Two new GIL/GALILEO staff members have been added: Natalie Henri-Bennett, USG Cataloging Coordinator and Original Cataloging Librarian; and Sean Boyle, GALILEO/GIL Systems Librarian.

Russell Palmer provided an overview of the OpenAthens project which will soon be underway. He walked the group through what OpenAthens is, how we expect to use it, and the advantages of the service over the existing authentication. He ran through the implementation basics, outlining expectations and needs. The OpenAthens staff will be visiting GALILEO and meeting with stakeholders in a user experience visit April 23-27. An implementation plan and timeline will follow that. GALILEO already has some institutions that have volunteered to be OpenAthens pilots, but more volunteers are welcome. More information will be shared as we have it.

Lucy Harrison reviewed the GALILEO Activities Report. She then provided an update on the initial investigation into Primo/Summon vs. EDS. The analysis is expected to cover comparisons between the back-end indexes; functionality; usability; management capability; reports and analytics; and cost. The E-Resources Committee will be involved in the initial analysis, and a report will be provided to RACL Exec when complete.

Lucy reported that the GALILEO Annual Conference will be held July 12, 2018 (10:00 – 3:15) at Middle Georgia State University in Macon. The theme will be Lifelong Learning – “GALILEO for Life!” Keynote speakers will be John Horrigan, Senior Fellow at the Technology Policy Institute, and John Bracken Executive Director of DPLA. There is no registration fee for this event, so staff are encouraged to sign up early.

John Stephens gave an update on the work of the Electronic Resources Committee. The committee held its first meeting in January, and now meets monthly. In January, they outlined their main goals as a committee, and in February, they discussed detailed requirements for a survey, discussed plans to evaluate indexing of discovery platforms, discussed trends for new resources, and presented the committee webpage. The survey (actually, three surveys) was finalized at the March meeting, where the committee also discussed potential new resources and determined a method for monthly evaluation of vendor inquiries. RACL discussed the work of the committee and asked how they are planning to evaluate the USG-specific portfolio of resources. Since this committee is made up of representatives from multiple stakeholder groups, it may be desirable to have a USG-specific group to look at the resources that are USG-specific. This will be a topic of future discussion.

Lucy Harrison provided a brief update on the Courier/UPS RFP. Unfortunately the RFP is still in the negotiation phase, so little can be shared except the status in the process. Viki Timian from UGA also represents the USG on the negotiation team. More information will be shared as the RFP is completed.

Lucy walked the group through some potential ROI (return on investment) and success metrics for GALILEO.

The group discussed their experiences with the CAR (Comprehensive Administrative Review) to date. Some libraries have already completed their review; others are in the middle of it; others have not yet started. RACL will be interested to see the results, and how they may impact their ongoing work on system-level library initiatives.

There was a brief discussion of the recent Elsevier price increases that have affected some institutions.

The group then adjourned for the day.

When the group reconvened, they discussed the strategic goals that had been identified for FY2017-18. Lucy Harrison provided an update on the work that has been done in support of the goals so far, and the group discussed whether there were any changes that needed to be made for FY2018-19. For example, Goal 2 (Content and E-Resources) may need to be updated to reflect RACL's desire for the current portfolios to be fully assessed and updated as necessary.

Sonya Gaither led a discussion around the results of the RACL survey on promotion, tenure and advising that was completed in March. Most USG libraries offer faculty status, and some provide tenure for employees. After discussion, RACL approved the following statement of support on promotion and tenure:

Whereas the faculty consist of the corps of instruction (BOR Policy Manual Section 3.1) and academic librarians are included in the corps of instruction (BOR Policy Section 3.2.1.1); and

Whereas the Corps of Instruction consists of the ranks of lecturer, senior lecturer, instructor, assistant professor, associate professor, and professor (BOR Manual Section 8.1.1.1) or comparable rank; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, The Regents Academic Committee on Libraries (RACL), on behalf of its members: supports the importance of librarians (1) having faculty status; (2) pursuing promotional paths as full-time faculty; (3) and receiving institutional support for continued professional growth and development.*

Tamatha Lambert (ABAC) discussed the need for a communication portal that could help RACL members. Options currently provided for ALMA work teams and those interested in the general ALMA topics other communication portals used by GALILEO/GIL Support would be investigated.

RACL then voted to elect the following officers for terms beginning 7/1/2018:

- Vice Chair/Chair Elect: Ru Story-Huffman, Georgia Southwestern State
- Secretary: Melissa Whitesell, Dalton State
- At-Large: Tamatha Lambert, ABAC (replacing Alan Bernstein, whose term ends 6/2018)
- At-Large: Mary Jo Fayoyin, Savannah State ((replacing Kelly Ansley, whose term ends 6/2018)
- At-Large: Kelly Ansley, East Georgia (filling Ru Story-Huffman's term through 6/2019)

David Evans of Kennesaw State will take over the RACL Chair position when Sonya Gaither's term ends in June.

Sonya Gaither provided some final comments about her term as chair, and was thanked by the group for her service.

There were no announced retirements. However, Deborah Prosser was thanked for her service as the Dean of Libraries at the University of West Georgia as she was leaving the USG to become the new Dean of the Library at Rollins College in Florida.

The group adjourned.