

Ex Libris Users of North America (ELUNA)

2009-2010

Annual Report

to

International Group of Ex Libris Users (IGeLU)

Ghent, Belgium
29 August, 2010

Leadership:

Steering Committee

The Steering Committee saw the need to make some changes in to the organization's structure to try and add some consistency to the leadership. After some long discussions, this is what was decided:

- Automatically extend the term of the Chair Elect to include the years necessary to serve as Chair and Past Chair.
- Change the Past Chair for Ex Officio to Voting member.
- Extend the term of all Steering Committee members from two to three years.
- Change the name of our Product Group to Product Working Group
- Allow for use of a management company
- Made the Regional User Groups an official part of ELUNA, and provide some funding for their annual meeting.

The membership then voted on these, and all changes were approved.

The Steering Committee also had five seats coming open this past spring, for which we had five worthy candidates come forward to fill. We held elections, and all candidates were elected. The new ELUNA Steering Committee took office following the ELUNA 2010 meeting May 11–13 in Fort Worth, Texas, USA. The current composition of the Steering Committee is:

- Bob Trotter, University System of Georgia, Chair, SFX PWG Liaison
- Laura Morse, Harvard University, Chair-Elect, Verde PWG Liaison
- Pascal Calarco, University of Notre Dame/Michiana Academic Library Consortium (MALC), Past Chair, DigiTool PWG Liaison
- Kristine Hammerstrand, University of Illinois/Consortium of Academic & Research Libraries of Illinois (CARLI), Liaison to ELUNA 2011 Planning Committee

The newly elected / re-elected members of the Steering Committee are:

- Edward M. Corrado, State University of New York (SUNY) at Binghamton, Webmaster, Liaison to MetaLib PWG (re-elected)
- Gary Johnson, College Center for Library Automation (CCLA), Primo PWG Liaison, Communications (re-elected)
- Suzanne Julich, University of Iowa, Treasurer, Aleph PWG Liaison (re-elected)
- Janet Lute, Princeton University, Secretary (re-elected)
- John Greer, University of Montana, Voyager PWG Liaison

Product Group Chairs:

The following were elected or continued as ELUNA Product Working Group Chairs at the ELUNA 2010 meeting:

- Aleph: Jean Phillips, University of Florida/FCLA
- DigiTool: Pascal Calarco, University of Notre Dame
- MetaLib: Bennett Ponsford, Texas A&M University
- Primo: Dale Poulter, Vanderbilt University

- SFX: Mark Needleman, University of Florida
- Verde: Abigail Bordeaux, Harvard University
- Voyager: Ted Schwitzner, Illinois State University

ELUNA Status: 2009-2010

Membership

ELUNA dropped again this year, down to 298. These 298 represents a total of 1,179 total member libraries (out of around 2,100 who license Ex Libris products), as we have 35 consortia members of which some are very large. The loss is mostly attributable to individual libraries also having ELUNA membership when they were part of a consortium. This year, ELUNA is planning a another major membership drive to increase our membership in smaller libraries that are not yet ELUNA members. We have developed a glossy brochure and related marketing materials that we can use for new Ex Libris customers in North America, existing customers who have never joined ELUNA, and vendors to seek sponsorship at future ELUNA meetings. We are hoping to get this distributed at the Regional User Group meetings that many of these smaller institutions attend.

Annual Meetings

ELUNA 2010 drew approximately 475 attendees, which was only a slightly less than the previous meeting in Richmond, VA. This number included 48 non-US (and non Ex Libris) attendees from 14 different countries (Israel, Canada, UK, Portugal, Sweden, Germany, Australia, New Zealand, West Indies, South Africa, Brazil, Belgium, Trinidad & Tobago, and Jamaica). We had a record number of sessions at 115 with 118 presenters.

ELUNA 2011 and the Ex Libris Technical Seminar will be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, May 9-13, 2011. The Program Committee will be chaired by Sherrie Kristin, Purdue University-Calumet and the Local Arrangements chaired by Ewa Barczyk of the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, with assistance from UW Madison.

Regional User Groups

One of the changes to our By Laws this year was to recognize the Regional User Groups as an official component of ELUNA, and in doing so validated our partial funding of their annual meetings. There are currently eleven sanctioned ELUNA Regional User Groups that have held at least one meeting in the last two years. Whenever possible the ELUNA SC sends a representative to these annual meetings and provides an update to the RUG on ELUNA and its activities.

Organizational Issues

ELUNA will be focusing on several organizational areas this year, some of which started previously and some will be carried over into future years:

- Improving communication with our membership
- Securing a longer-term Treasurer for organizational continuity
- Strengthening relationships with Regional User Groups, supporting them and integrating them

- into ELUNA
- Continuing to enhance our web presence in terms of content, usability and access

Web Presence

Our WebMaster migrated the ELUNA website from Drupal to Wordpress, and we now have a much cleaner site that is much easier to navigate. During this process a document repository was implemented using ePrints, and all of the content was moved from Drupal to the new repository, where it is, again, much easier to navigate.

Voyager-L list

The Voyager-l listserv, which has been supported at Shippensburg University since it's creation, has been move to Notre Dame, to be consistent with the rest of our member lists.

Joint Efforts Between ELUNA and IGeLU

In our ongoing effort to increase interaction, communication, and collaboration with IGeLU, members of the Steering Committee and Chairs of most PWGs attended the IGeLU meeting in Helsinki, Finland last September. The PWG Chairs met with their IGeLU counterparts, and also with the Ex Libris Product Managers.

NERS

Development continued during the summer and fall of 2009, and the first round of voting took place in late December / early January. The Primo groups were the lucky ones who basically were the Beta testers for NERS. There were some definite problems that came up which needed fixing along the way, but overall it went well. The developers met with them afterward and got some good suggestions for improvements. The DigiTool groups also had a vote during the early spring, which went a little better, but also got more suggestions from improvements.

All along the way, we have been working with Ex Libris to be able to get exports of requests from Pivotal to be imported into NERS. This process is still ongoing, and we hope to be able to get all the details needed by the NERS system so that All requests get voted on whether they were entered in NERS or Pivotal.

Collaborative Testing and URM Focus Groups

Collaborative Testing has continued to be a huge success. This relatively new method of testing new releases of products, worked out with coordination between ELUNA, IGeLU, and Ex Libris, puts actual end users in the same room with the developers to work out any remaining issues with a soon to be released version of one of the products. This past year (or so), end users for Aleph, Primo, and Voyager have had this opportunity, and helped Ex Libris put out cleaner releases.

The URM Focus Groups have been combined into one group, and several ELUNA SC members opted to remain on the combined group.

Pivitol/SupportWeb/DocPortal

We have finally seen the inclusion of SupportWeb in the Ex Libris DocPortal. ELUNA SC members have assisted Ex Libris in working out the final details about what goes and what doesn't, and then finding a location for the content that wasn't suited for the DocPortal.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert W. Trotter,
Chair, 2010-2011
Ex Libris Users of North America (ELUNA)