CYBER-INFRASTRUCTURE STEERING COMMITTEE (CISC)
Meeting Minutes – February 16, 2011

Present
Grace Agnew, Chair        Rhonda Marker
Kalaivani Ananthan        Chad Mills
Isaiah Beard              Tibor Purger
John Brennan             Carla Zimmerman (guest)
Lind Langschied

Excused
Ron Jantz
Jane Otto
Mary Beth Weber
Ryan Womack

AUL Update
Agnew spoke about the American Library Association’s (ALA) request for support for the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). There is pressure on Capitol Hill to eliminate funding for IMLS, a vital granting agency for museums and libraries and one which has supported numerous Rutgers University Libraries (RUL) initiatives over the years. She pointed out an email is available on the ALA website (http://www.ala.org/) which can be sent to your senator or congressman urging the continuation of funding for IMLS.

Agnew updated the committee on the work of Kuali-OLE. The project is in the first year of Build stage. The software is being developed using the existing Kuali-Rice platform. The first module will be Acquisitions, scheduled for delivery during the summer of 2011.

The Kuali-OLE team recently came to Rutgers and gave a presentation on the status of the project. Rutgers was a critical participant during the Design phase of the project and instrumental in the final design proposal. Kuali-OLE indicated they would be happy to have Rutgers and VALE’s participation during the Build. A few days after the Kuali-OLE presentation the VALE-OLE Steering Committee met and discussed the pros and cons of participation. No decision was reached.

Agnew asked CICS for its feelings concerning the potential benefits and pitfalls of becoming involved in the Build. Among the topics discussed were financial implications, risk assessment, workload management, and RUL priorities vs. Kuali-OLE priorities (from a software development point of view). Agnew will present to Cabinet to further flesh out these issues.

Digital Exhibits
Brennan and Zimmerman provided an update on Digital Exhibits. The goal is to debut Digital Exhibits on April 7 at the Milton Lecture. They showed the current iteration of the exhibit display tool developed by Mills. A few minor tweaks were noted including moving the link to the complete record to a more discrete location on the screen since many visitors would not be interested in it. The committee liked the presentation format and commended Mills on the work done thus far.

The discussion shifted towards the second release of the tool, targeted for later in the year. One of the primary objectives will be the ability to display “Section” information which will help put individual objects in better context within the exhibit. This is similar to a display case in a physical exhibit where all of the items in that case relate to a specific aspect of the exhibit.
In order to accomplish this the infrastructure must support a multi-hierarchical structure which can facilitate multiple needs for the use of objects. (e.g.: An object is displayed in two digital exhibits, each in a different context. The design must be able to distinguish which information to display for the object in each separate exhibit.) For now we can use a work-around in the Workflow Management System (WMS). The long term goal is to make this more seamless. Additionally, individual objects which will be linked (e.g.: title page of a book and the full digital copy of the book) will be ingested into RUcore as two separate objects.

During the discussion the committee reviewed a draft flowchart developed by Brennan, Zimmerman and Langschied which illustrated the Section concept. Changes to the flowchart were brought forth, including changing the some terminology from literal to abstract (e.g.: Context Service instead of Digital Exhibit Facility; Context Map instead of Virtual Collection). It was also noted Sections are contained within the Context Map, not as distinct stand alone entities as displayed on the original flowchart. Finally, as Repository Collection Manager, Marker is responsible for developing a collection structure which will also support Digital Exhibits.

Submitted by John Brennan
February 25, 2011