SCDC Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 12, 10am-noon

Barbara Borst (CMU), Meg Brown-Sica (CSU), Diana Carney (Alliance), Dawn Combe (Regis), Beth Denker (Alliance), Melissa Desantis (UCHSC), Katy DiVittorio (Aur), Yumin Jiang (UCHSC), Rhonda Gonzalez (UCCS), Lisa Hughes (CMU), Diane Klare (USAFA), Jennifer Lawson (CSU-Pueblo), Jennifer Leffler (UNC), Kayla Lenkner (CC), Allison Level (CSU), Michael Levine-Clark (DU), George Machovec (Alliance), Deborah McCarthy (UW), Robert McDonald (CUB), Anna Seiffert (CSM), Tracie Seurer (CMU), Jenn Strayer (UW), Shannon Tharpe (DU), Gabby Wiersma (CUB), Tiffanie Wick (WCU)

1. Elsevier Freedom Collection negotiations discussion

·         Michael talked about updates – meetings back and forth with Elsevier & meeting with 5 libraries with most spend to gauge where are with removing pta titles. Gabby talked about maybe asking for larger discount on e-only and a discount on content fees to try to see if we could get further on that. Further discussions on what they might be able to do to help the libraries get to the discount needed.

·         Discussed a possible list of 1100 titles and whether the 7.5% reduction in price was worth it for that. And how we would get to that list of titles. Maybe a smaller list for a bigger reduction in price, but then the group needs to figure that out also. Elsevier told us in past that giving up PTA basically has no value. If you flip that statement then they are just making that all up. Elsevier might be trying to avoid a complete walk away with this version of the proposal.

In future, budgets will take a long time to come back. CSU thanked Gabby and Beth for extra work – they’ve heard from their faculty that don’t want to give up all PTA, but maybe some is more able to give up. Looking at other options they are open to.

·         Status of negotiations at this point: Libraries are trying to stick together. Think about where you are at with the current offer and we will share any info we receive. Everyone needs a larger reduction in cost and rate of rise as we are facing larger budget cuts in the next fiscal year.

·         Post Termination Access (PTA) selection (updated spreadsheet attached).

·         Unsub: It looks like sites are uploading their data. The consortial dashboard needs refreshing. Some modeling needs to be done at the consortial level. Gabby volunteered to look at it. Others also want access to the dashboard; Michael will provide access to them.

2. Elsevier ebooks offer:

Generally, the Alliance is not interested in the 5 year option. Perhaps a 3 year deal at no rate increase would be good, but we would need to negotiate subsequent year rate increases. Beth has not received any feedback on this. The offer includes all packages; Beth presented various pricing models. The models include ebook pricing and all-access and is for the first year only. Mines would be willing to commit to multi-year because it is important to their curriculum needs. The same with UNC. All-access might be off the table for UNC. Beth mentioned that all-access annual cost is $90,000. Split across 14 institutions, this is not a great deal of money; but reluctance for low usage sites is understandable. Please review usage to understand the value of all-access to your site. Michael believes we should combine the two negotiations (ebooks and FC). There is potential for greater leverage although they are under two separate contracts. The content is important to CUB, but they cannot commit to a five year deal. 3 years is the most they can do and they need a reduced rate increase. We also needs a strong financial exigency clause in case somebody needs to leave the deal and other sites would not be impacted. Typically, this deal requires passing the hat to make up the difference for smaller schools unable to afford the cost. This is important content for CSU and three years is likely the most they could do. Because their usage is so high, they would pitch in with larger institutions to make up the all-access difference. WY agrees with this assessment. Beth thinks we should shoot for a three year deal for ebooks and FC under separate contracts. She thinks that a 0% increase over the first two years and 2% in the third year would be manageable. Any rate of rise in a pandemic year is not going to happen. Additionally, the license needs to codify sharing via ILL; it is a requirement for the license and an email permitting this is not good enough.

3. Cambridge journals renewal

·         Includes open access transformative feature: Beth is waiting on slides from CUP before sending out their offer. Each site can participate or not in OA. OA is same price as before and is non-capped. CUB publishes the most, but the rest of the Alliance is heavily weighted toward read vs. publish. This works as follows: when someone from an institution has an article accepted; they can publish OA for free and at no additional cost to the library. We are basically paying a “read” fee. Beth and George think this is a great deal

4. Bloomsbury ebooks offer: Beth needs to work on this offer; it is complicated and she needs more time. A lot depends on sites having extra/enough money. Some DDA money can be redirected to a Bloomsbury purchase. She hopes to boil it down to something comprehensible to send out via email this week.

5.  SILLVR: Katy (AUR): The pilot group is ready to send letters to Films on Demand and Swank to participate in a second year of the pilot. They are asking FOD to extend to Mobius libraries. The Swank usage is so low that they are not asking them to extend to Mobius. They are also extending an invitation to Alexander Street to participate. If you are looking at negotiating with Alexander Street, see if you put in a word for SILLVR participation. The pandemic has thrown a wrench in this pilot especially because of the Prospector shut down. Usage is not what it would normally be.

6. fyi - Beth vacation week of Oct 19 – 23rd: She will not be engaging in Alliance business during this time.