IDS Library Staff Meeting

Wednesday, August 5th, 2009

Group C, 8:00 – 9:30

Jon Penn, NYLINK, Facilitator

David Clendinning, Notetaker

This is an open discussion, with prompt questions supplied by Sonja Landes. Goal: to share as much information as possible.

1. How do you feel about the IDS project and what has it done for you?

2. Is the IDS website helpful? How can we improve it?

3. The Technology Advisory Group is looking for feedback on IDS Search, and other issues.

Other topics?

4.Questioner is having difficulties with the IllIAD listserv, which is now set on digest. Too many non-substantive messages, including lots of HTML tagging, etc. How to reduce noise to clutter? Ideas: Set listserv to individual message. Or have your email send it to a separate folder so it can be read all at once.

5. Question is on 3 ILL listservs. IDS useful, Illiad less so, general ILL less so. Lots of messages saying “I’m down for a day.” Lots of people carrying on private conversations on whole list. Answer: ILL practitioners are by definition helpful, collaborative types. Learn to hit the delete key.

1. How do you feel about the IDS project and what has it done for you?

For small CC, IDS has definitely improved ILL service. Reduces amount of thought required. IDS libraries all at the top of the borrowing string, so it’s all easy. IDS has changed processing workflow which will improve turnaround time.

Q: have you used the IDS toolkit?

A: Yes, and we use the weekly tips that Tim sends out. Our processors think about IDS first, then everybody else.

Jon: Others using toolkit?

A: One suggestion—have more examples from more places. Wants to see lots of examples.

A: Coming from a private (Nazareth) library—it’s nice to be part of a bigger group and get ideas and sharing from others. Other privates should join.

A: Mentor system is great. Good training, don’t have to read the manual all the time.

A: From mentor part: it’s cool to go out and see what others are doing. Mutual sharing of ideas.

Jon: Are there any downsides?

A: At Binghamton we saw a small increase in lending. And we no longer charge folks that we used to charge.

A: Lending gone up, but that’s not a negative.

A: I think it’s great—makes me feel comfortable in doing ILL.

Sonja: IDS is getting larger and more diverse. We don’t want to get too big and lose sense of community?

A: Might reach a tipping point with geographical range.

A: Been such a good experience, it would be a shame to make it an exclusive club.

Sonja: Yes, but if we doubled, it might not work. But growth is good, and the diversity is good. NYPL joined, and maybe one day a museum might join. Lots of possibilities. Do you think there’s still room for growth and still keep the flat organizational structure?

A: Sure, room to grow, but no idea what the ceiling would be. Maybe we could make sub-groups?

Jon: What you would lose in terms of intimacy you would gain with the strength of collections. No more small conferences every year, but if increased access to additional collections, there’s a trade off. Pros and cons to everything.

Sonja: Any questions to bring back to the Geneseo group?

A: Is it still a “project?” That makes it sound like an experiment

Sonja: Not really, but through with the branding. But it used to be the SUNY IDS Pilot Project. Now it’s the IDS Project. But we’re not really a “project” anymore.

Jon: In terms of growth, is physical distance the main barrier to expansion beyond NY?

Sonja: Right now LAND (NY based) is a requirement. But in the future we may say that we want anyone who can meet the standards, no matter their delivery system. But for now we’re still NY based, and there are lots of NY libraries left that aren’t members. So having a common delivery system is a major factor.

Q: What is the impact at Geneseo if so many people are spending so much time on it?

Sonja: There is a huge impact. Several staff members work on it. Ed is retiring in 3 years more or less. We need to have full-time project manager. Programs and other services at Geneseo may not be growing properly since we have to do so much with IDS.

Sonja: IDS is currently almost 50 libraries. If each paid $1k, that’s still not enough to hire a project manager. It’d likely cost $60-80k. But how would member libraries feel to be charged a couple thousand dollars per year?

A: IT’s ultimately cost effective, so folks would likely stay in.

A: Perception: if you charge money it seems to be worth more. And it would still be cheaper than RAPID or Connect NY.

Jon: Maybe for folks that don’t find it cost effective, maybe have junior partners that would be maybe article only members. (Thus saving the LAND fee.) Vassar and Ithaca are interested in that kind of thing.

A: With UPS costs going up, this is still very cheap.

Sonja: But we’ll keep on doing it the way we’re doing it for as long as we can. We want it to be sustainable.

Q: If you had to charge, would it be prorated on volume of use?

Sonja: It’s so complicated. But the idea of charging is so abhorrent to us that we haven’t even discussed it. It would likely have some sort of formula.

Q: For non-IDS-ers. Who do you use? UPS or lib bulkrate?

A: Mostly UPS, but slow and very expensive.

New topic: IDS website.

Q: Could there be examples of ILL customization templates put on IDS website and/or UTube?

Jon A: ” There are some from ATLAS and on UTube, but homegrown and ad hoc.”

A: **Maybe we could find a list of topics that need addressing and get members to make the videos and post them on the IDS website.** (Action item)

Sonja: I notice there are fewer conversations with tips and techniques at the conference this year. Is that because folks are more comfortable?

A: I’m a newbie and still learning.

A: I’m a relative newbie, still lots of tips out there to explore.

Feedback for Technology Advisory Group? (Rep in room: Adam)

What do you think about IDS search?

A: Really impressive. Still in rough stage, so some of the fields (promised turnaround time) are still fluid.

Adam: Does anyone have any “wouldn’t it be cool if…”

A: If in ALIAS if the pdf it can go out and grab it and deliver it. (???)

Adam: we’re working on it already.

Michelle (Parry): At Oswego, when students place request from a database we have it set up to go through openUR, which gets the accession number from database. Incredibly useful.

A: if Serials Solutions always imported the correct info into the record, including the last page record.

Adam: Lots of problem with SS, Ebsco, individual databases, etc.

A: if you include patron info when you send request out, there are privacy and copyright issues if patrons manipulate the transaction number information.

Adam: Yes, this is an ILLiad issue. We’re working on security and talking with Atlas.

Evaluations.