

**Technology Committee
Minutes of meeting 12/12/08**

Committee Leigh Mihlrad not available, stuck in bad weather in Albany.

INTRODUCTIONS

Shelly Warwick

Jenny Pierce

Kary Heller

Diane Schwartz

Rosemary Figorito

Elizabeth Kettel

Gregg Headrick

After his introduction Gregg talked about how he has reformed the committee after a break.

TECHNOLOGY POSTS FOR THE MARQUEE.

Gregg would like to create a monthly schedule. These are not articles but rather informal posts to generate discussion on technology issues. Posts do not have to demonstrate technical savvy or be complicated. They are to create a sense of what people are dealing with out in the real world. First one would be in January. He asked for volunteers.

- Jenny volunteered for January. Her post would be on a project using LibraryThing.org
- Shelly volunteered for February. Her post would be on librarians becoming teachers and leaders in technology outside the library and what kind of influence that can create in the hospital.
- Dianne volunteered for March. Her post would be on the creation of a high tech conference room, by one program, within the library space and the issues that creates.
- Beth volunteered for April. Her post would be using web 2.0 tools and how their use has led to good results in her library.

CAN COMMITTEE MEMBER LIBRARIES APPLY FOR GRANTS?

Yes. Gregg will arrange the grant reviewing process so no one is reviewing their own grant. This brought up the issue of authorship.

There was concern that knowing who wrote the grant might influence how the grant is reviewed. Gregg says it is possible to remove identifying information and will do so from now on.

Gregg will excuse himself from grant reviewing.

TECHNOLOGY IMMERSION AWARD

Review of first draft for new award for 2009.

Gregg said he knew content was very generic. The language is not targeted enough. The idea came from the MAR strategic plan. Based on the concept of a technology sandbox where libraries can play with new technology. This had been requested by librarians at MAR, similar to what exist at PALINET. See <http://forums.nelinet.net/sandbox/>.

There was a lot of discussion on the grant.

Possible proof of concept grant. All results should be easily replicable. Resulting in a best practice paper. Results could be scalable to allow other libraries to participate.

Shelly said the populations listed were confusing. Perhaps they should be removed. Idea is not to build from ground up but use existing technology to create some new or use it in a new way.

Shelly-innovative use of existing technology, new application, new use. Development of new technology or new service

When you think of shaping the award who would apply? What libraries are going to go for it?

Another idea would be to have a full explanation of existing technology (example-DSpace Forum at PALINET)

Diane-for \$25,000 you could hire someone, a part time student, to all for tech knowledge to come into the library. There is a financial incentive. Time investment would be large.

Then there was discussion of switching to a RFP or contract instead of grant. With that everything is predetermined-the outcomes and evaluation. Gregg was unsure that would be useful.

Gregg suggested we review the language, review PALINET site, think about it and come back in January with ideas.

REVIEW AWARDS LANGUAGE FOR TECHNOLOGY IMPROVEMENT AND INNOVATIONS AWARDS.

These awards will be open again in 2009. Please review the text as it stands. There was a suggestion for easier editing the text will be placed in Google Docs. Editing can be tracked there.

COMMITTEE MEMBER ISSUES

Diane-She applied for (and received, thank you!) several awards. The online form is difficult to use. Content can only be uploaded once, review format is crowded and difficult to read, there is no way to edit online, can only work on application when screen is active.

Suggestions were made but Gregg stated MAR is limited to software available. One possible solution is downloadable forms in both Word and PDF formats. Another is a downloadable package of technology explanation/instructions for the applicants to use before they start the process.