

Central Library Advisory Council (CLAC)
Upper Hudson Library System (UHLS)
October 4, 2005

Present: Paul Hicok, Jeff Cannell, Jane Minotti, Lenny Zapala, Pat Sahr,
Barbara Nichols Randall, Jo-Ann Benedetti, Phil Ritter (notes)

Absent: Deborah Canzano

Chair P. Hicok called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. in the Meeting Room at UHLS. The minutes of the meeting on September 13, 2005, were noted and approved as written.

J. Benedetti reported that UHLS had signed an agreement with OverDrive, Inc., and that initial training is scheduled for this week. The Selection Committee will also be meeting this week.

J. Cannell reviewed the Central Library Development Grant budget for 2005, noting the \$94,180 expenditure for "Database Access." He then proposed a budget for 2006 that would cut that expenditure by \$50,000 and add that amount to "Availability of the Collection" in the form of funding additional clerical positions that he already has on staff. That change would then leave \$44,180 for "Database Access" with \$20,000 of that amount already committed to purchase additional content for OverDrive. J. Cannell then proposed that if this change was approved, he would then spend \$50,000 of the Albany Public Library budget to purchase additional DVDs and would make all of the library's media collection available to all patrons within UHLS. Those items are currently "non-requestable" and cannot be borrowed by a patron at another UHLS library.

There was great deal of discussion regarding this proposal, but no decisions were made at this meeting. The usage statistics of the databases were reviewed again, and it was noted how expensive it is to subscribe to the databases and how low the usage is for each database. J. Benedetti was asked to obtain more specific statistics on the usage of the current databases, the cost of subscribing to all the databases with various levels of simultaneous users versus unlimited users, and the same information for those databases that have been requested and are under consideration for next year. Each member of CLAC was asked to discuss this proposal with the libraries that they represent and to be prepared to discuss this matter further at the next meeting.

The next meeting of CLAC will be at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, November 7, 2005, at UHLS.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.