

Central Library Advisory Council (CLAC)  
Upper Hudson Library System (UHLS)  
November 28, 2005

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

Absent: Pat Sahr

Chair P. Hicok called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Meeting Room at UHLS. The minutes of the meeting on November 7, 2005, were noted and approved as written.

P. Hicok announced that J. Cannell had withdrawn the proposal that he had made at the October 4<sup>th</sup> meeting and the CLAC approved at the November 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. This means that we must now go back to the evaluation of the databases for 2006, assuming that we will have about \$74,000 to spend.

J. Benedetti reported that the Adult Services Advisory Council had met last week and discussed the proposed database subscriptions for 2006. ASAC decided that the EBSCO *Premier* product might not be worth the \$34,000+ since 80% of the usage is provided by EBSCO *Masterfile Select* which we get without charge from the NYS Novel project. Although it is not known how much full-text access we will lose by dropping down to *Select*, ASAC decided unanimously not to upgrade to EBSCO *Premier*. It was also thought that the pricing offered by Thompson Gale for their package (which includes *Literature Resource Center*, *Biography Resource Center*, *Book Review Index*, *Testing and Education Reference Center* and *Legal Forms*) is an excellent deal which we should accept. Finally, *Reference USA* is used quite a bit, and there was a general consensus to keep *Reference USA* in spite of the high cost. There was also a great deal of discussion concerning the genealogy databases. Since *Ancestry* has to be used in house, and since the New York State Library and most of our larger member libraries already subscribe to *Ancestry* and *Heritage Quest*, the ASAC thought that these products should not be a system purchase.

The ASAC recommendation was that we subscribe to the following databases for 2006:

<i>Reference USA</i>	\$29,828
<i>Children's Literature Comprehensive Database</i>	5,587
<i>Gale Package</i>	31,849
<i>American History Online</i>	4,935
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Total	\$72,199

There was a great deal of discussion regarding this recommendation, and a number of questions were raised. J. Benedetti agreed that she would attempt to obtain the individual library charges for *Reference USA* as well as a new price for the system purchase. She

will also obtain a price for purchasing only *Heritage Quest* rather than the package of *Ancestry* and *Heritage Quest*.

L. Zapala moved and B. Nichols Randall seconded that the CLAC accept the *Gale Package*, *American History Online*, and *Children's Literature Comprehensive Database* for 2006. This motion received unanimous approval.

J. Benedetti will send the other prices that she obtains to the CLAC by email. J. Cannell will send the proposed budget for the Central Library Development Grant for 2006 to the CLAC by email. Everyone will then vote by email on subscribing to *Reference USA* and on approving the Central Library Development Grant proposed budget.

J. Benedetti announced that she had arranged for *Overdrive.com* training during December 2005 and encouraged everyone to sign up for a training session.

No future meeting was scheduled.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

#### ADDENDUM:

12/8/2005 – P.Hicok notified P.Ritter that a majority of the members had approved by an email vote that we subscribe to *Reference USA* in 2006.

12/9/2005 – P.Hicok notified P.Ritter that a majority of the members had approved by an email vote the proposed budget for the 2006 Central Library Development Grant.