

Education City Library Directors Council (ECLDC)
Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2010

Present: S.C. Kumaresan (ABP), Ed Warro (CL), Bijan Esfahani (CMUQ), Frieda Wiebe (GUQ), Gill Westera (NUQ), Beverley Stubbs (QA), Fahd Al Demham (QFIS), Tracy Havlin (Sidra), Carole Thompson (TAMUQ), Dana Beth (VCUQatar), Ellen Sayed (WCMCQ)

Guests: Arend Kuster, Bloomsbury Qatar Foundation Journals Project
Rex Steiner, YBP/Blackwell
Erica Linke, CMU Pittsburgh

Regrets: Mohammad Hammam (Heritage Library), Aisha Al- Kelaifi (QFIS), Judy Higgins (TLCS)

Agenda items

10:00 Arend Kuster, Bloomsbury Qatar Foundation Journals Project

Introduction to BQF Journals Project which will develop scientific research journals and the BNRS full text repository, to be published as online (mostly) open access resources. Will be the defacto OUP of Education City. Published in English with Arabic abstracts. Online journals portal, will start with portal and spinoff journals later. Will list and track all publications derived from QNRF funded grants & projects (already 4000 exist.) Future grants may require deposition of pre-prints into the repository. Will need to attract good papers, by offering excellent editing and authors services. Expect to be profitable within four years. Will launch a service to authors for editing assistance, help with submission process – available only within Qatar. Will have an international Editorial Board. Will be taking charge of the QNRF newsletter.

11:00 Rex Steiner, YBP/Blackwell, Middle East Rep, Introduction

Blackwell no longer operates in N. America, ME or Asia, as part of the Blackwell/YBP strategic partnership. (Reversed for Europe, Africa.) Lindsey Croft is absorbed into Blackwell. David Smith will continue as a rep for Saudi, Egypt, etc, but Rex Steiner is the rep for Qatar, UAE, Kuwait and Oman. Some of the features of Blackwell's Collection Manager will be added to GOBI, in future versions of the interface.

11:30 ILL discussion Westera

At this time, ILL lending outside of EC libraries will remain an individual library policy. NUQL may decide to do a pilot project with QU, and provide input regarding experience and best practices.

Another note: Orders being stopped at Customs. Sometimes, incoming boxes of orders are being stopped at Customs as inappropriate for Qatar. This is hit and miss. Need to get high level clearance and say 'Qatar Foundation' in the delivery address.

General Reports & Updates

SIG subgroup on Jan 20 'formation event' Thompson

Nearly 50 people participated; very successful. Some groups already active. Group sites are being formed at wordpress.com.

World Book Day event Warro – Bloomsbury/ECCL co-sponsored event.

Now scheduled for the afternoon of April 12, venue to be determined, speaker is Laila Abou Laila (sp?) Ed (or someone) will distribute posters; would like us to put posters them up and help advertise the event in our organizations.

EBLIB (evidence-based librarianship) Sayed

Starting date is March 25, 6pm, then other meetings will be on Wednesdays. Participants from Qatar, NY, taught from Arizona.

Update on support for QU library staff exposure project Wiebe

“QU librarian/Intern” working out really well, especially now that they have implemented Millennium.

Update on Central Library Warro

The main design and major tender package has left ECCL staff. There is a minimum 3 month period when qualified companies can bid on it. May be moving out of existing offices in a couple of months to a villa near ROTA. Groundbreaking for the Central Library building is not imminent. Now able to send out purchase orders, and tender packages. Website is close to being launched. Still working through some organizational issues in various areas. QF has asked about interim services; CL will be looking at delivering virtual services such as Middle East News Bank, Proquest, and several children’s databases. Will continue to focus on hiring positions for infrastructure setup; public service hires will be pushed back closer to opening day.

Sidra news

Sidra offices are moving to the downtown towers in March
WCMCQ librarians are teaching Endnote to Sidra project staff

Announcements

Dana Beth will be leaving VCUQL at end of June.
Judy Higgins will be leaving TLC at end of June.

Next meeting: April 18, 10-noon. CMUQ will host.

Recorded by Carole Thompson, ECLDC Chair