

**Sailor Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 19, 2009
State Library Resource Center**

Attendees: Audra Caplan, Chair, Irene Padilla, Kathleen O'Connell (via video), Jennifer O'Halloran, David Paul (via video), Stuart Ragland, Nancy Roderer, Ann Smith, Mike Walsh, Jim DeArme

Welcome and Introductions: The meeting was called to order at 10:20 a.m.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the December 11, 2008 meeting were amended to include attendees Craig Abresch and Stuart Ragland. Nancy Roderer moved to approve the minutes and Stuart Ragland seconded. The minutes were approved as amended.

Sailor Network Report: Mike Walsh updated the group on the status of the network and the continuing effort to increase redundancy and reliability. The group should be aware that a power upgrade for the Network Operations Center is scheduled for Sunday, March 22. The entire network will not be impacted due to the network redundancy mentioned redundantly above and interruptions to service will be brief.

Sailor Network Managers Group: Stuart gave an overview of the February 3, 2009 SNMG meeting and highlighted the group's discussion of PacketShaper software that can be used to give higher priority to mission-critical data. This can be useful for networks that are reaching bandwidth capacity. There was a discussion of the new Merlin web design (www.merlincommunity.org) and the particular usefulness of online information sharing and training as budgets tighten. Audra Caplan will arrange a demonstration of the new Merlin at our April 16, 2009 meeting. Irene Padilla will pursue similar demonstrations at future meetings of the Maryland Association of School Librarians (MASL) and the Congress of Academic Library Directors (CALD). Irene will also discuss strategies for marketing Merlin with Nini Beegan and Paula Isett.

Database Updates – MLC / MPERL: MLC has been working on business plan for the cooperative purchase of databases. A draft of the plan has been developed. Irene will send a copy of the plan to the group and we will discuss it at our next meeting. Ann Smith will check to be sure that Sally Ladd is invited to the March 10 MPERL meeting.

Budget Update: Pratt has lost \$3.2 million in funding from the city and state funding for SLRC has been cut by 10 percent. MLA is asking the governor to defer or eliminate the state cuts using the federal stimulus funding. Irene has been sharing available information about the potential impact of the federal economic stimulus legislation with MAPLA. She will check with Denise Davis to highlight the link between libraries and MSDE's Science, Technology, Engineering and Math education policy agenda.

Other: Irene alerted the group to the program currently in place in Alabama. It allows members of the military who are deployed overseas to communicate with their families at home using videoconferencing (Skype) software that has been made available in public libraries. This is a high profile, high impact service that Maryland could offer relatively easily, particularly through public and possibly academic libraries. Issues of staff training, the ability to provide a private

location, and potential volunteer support were brought up as things that should be considered. Irene will ask Nini Beegan and Paula Isett to pursue this service with potential partners including Harford and St. Mary's county public libraries. She will be interested in other partners in the state as well.

Director's Requests: There were no director's requests submitted since the last meeting.

Sailor Quarterly Report: Stuart reviewed the Sailor Project FY 2009 Second Quarter Report and highlighted the explanatory notes on web site and database statistics that are now included in it. Ann will distribute the database statistics included in the report to the MPERL group. Irene will ask Ann Yurcaba to talk to Sally Ladd to ask her to include schools in the database tests that MPERL conducting.

Adjournment: Jim DeArmey moved to adjourn the meeting and Stuart Ragland seconded. The meeting ended at 11:40 a.m. The group reconvened for a tour of the Sailor Operations Center.

Agenda items for the April meeting:

- Demonstration of Merlin – Nini Beegan
- Discussion of the MLC draft Business Plan for cooperative purchase of databases.
- Demonstration of new technology (gizmo show) - David Paul

Future Meetings:

- April 16, 2009
- June 18, 2009

All meetings are 10:15 a.m. – 12:00 noon and are currently scheduled in the Poe Room of the State Library Resource Center.

Committee documents and other useful information is available on the Sailor Advisory Committee web site at: <http://www.soc.lib.md.us/sac/>. To reduce wasteful printing, Committee members are requested to take responsibility for printing copies for themselves.