WiLS Cooperative Purchasing Advisory Committee Notes
February 13, 2024
3:30 PM via ZOOM

Committee Members

Michelle Byholm, Chequamegon School District

Beth Henika, Milwaukee Public Library

Page Leahy, Platteville School District

Emily Leonard, School Dist. of Menomonee Falls

Ashley McHose, Lakeshore Technical College

Cory Mitchell, UW-Stout (Chair)

Cheryl Nessman, Mead Public Library

WiLS Team: Jeff Brunner, Sara Gold, Nick Smith

Agenda Items

1. Welcome and Introductions (C. Mitchell)

2. Approve Minutes from November 13, 2023 meeting (J. Brunner)

   Additional documents: November 2023 Meeting Notes
           Page moves, Ashley seconds. All in favor.

3. Ideal License Terms Discussion (J. Brunner)

   Additional documents: WiLS License Agreement Review Definitions and Ideal Terms (sent via Basecamp)

   It's been several years since the definitions and ideal terms were reviewed, so we're continuing this big overhaul here. We had a first discussion last meeting and have incorporated the changes from that meeting.

   Cory doesn't see any immediate changes needed—is there a clause about metadata and data harvesting? Specifically terms that allow the institution's researchers to harvest info from the database to analyze for trends and such. Cory will look at UW wording and send it over as an example.

   Cory asks, is there anything we need to put in regarding AI and data scraping? Folks are generally unsure, but it may become something we need to look into soon—we'll keep our eyes out for big pitfalls going forward. Sara suggests asking ICOLC members how they are addressing it in terms of licensing.

   Cory asks for a section on accessibility and including requirements that vendors include accessibility best practices and are following ADA and other laws regarding this. Vendors tend to push back on this because it's more work. Jeff agrees. Cory will look at UW wording and send it over as an example. Cheryl suggests we take the year to figure it out more and make applicable changes next year. Jeff agrees, and reminds that this document is primarily for our own internal use, so there's no reason we can't or shouldn't make more incremental changes over time than we are right now. For

example, WPLC found out late that Libby wasn't up to accessibility standards for visually impaired users, and it took the threat of losing public funding for them to fix this, and they ended up putting in a lot of work to improving and becoming compliant. Unless someone points it out, this is easy for vendors and partners to overlook, and we will do better about this going forward.

Sara suggests we discuss what to do about vendors who refuse to comply with the ideal or minimum terms.

Next steps will polishing the language for final go-overs at the next CooPAC meeting and then putting these in stone and working to move licenses toward these standards. Going forward we'll check new licenses against this as well.

4. Updates Since Last Meeting (J. Brunner)

    a. Changes to Direct Order Vendors

       Document: [Direct Order Vendor Guidelines](#)

       Direct Order vendors are ones that sell physical products rather than e-resources. The transactions for these orders take place between our members and the vendors rather than WiLS acting as the billing agent. Our members get discounts, but WiLS does not uniformly charge vendors for participation. A couple of vendors, though, do pay us commissions.

       We've solidified a proposal for the benefits vendors receive through WiLS partnership and for paying a commission fee of 3% per quarter. We would look to review all existing partnerships in 2024 and move vendors over in 2025, grandfathering in those few vendors.

       We've really been working the last few years to clarify exactly what value we provide our vendors so we can leverage that to get more value and lower costs to our members.

       Cory brings up: will the language about grandfathering be put directly into the vendor agreements? We don't want to damage any existing relationships with vendors in a way that will be detrimental to the value we give to members. Sara and Jeff agree, we'll be using best judgement to determine if they should be grandfathered or cut off if they don't agree to a commission.

    b. New Vendors

       Sara's change to earmarking time for new business development has gone swimmingly! We've only been increasing the number of requests to become vendors with us, and it's been much easier having that processed centralized through her, and we've made excellent upgrades to our backend connections between our system and our website to smoothen onboarding.

       Some of our newest vendors:
       - [Educate Station](#) PreK through 5th grade curriculum content for schools, public libraries and homeschool families

- **Fiero Code** Fiero Code is a self-paced learn-to-code software for kids ages 8-18. Previously distributed by EBSCO.
- **GamestormEDU** (Direct Order) Educational games that empower students to become creators and strategic thinkers. Gamestormers allows for every student to become a game designer as they play. Doomscroll helps students develop social media literacy skills by allowing them to play the role of a social media company aiming to engage students in a feed addicting enough to sell ads.
- **The Juice** For grades 5-12, The Juice delivers each day 5 current events articles at 4 differentiated reading levels. Each article is linked to vocabulary builders and formative standards-based assessments.

   c. Orientation toolkits

We discussed the Academic Orientation toolkit last meeting, and we've finished the updates we made from that discussion to it and the K12 toolkit. Those will be sent out via Basecamp this week for any last comments and suggestions and we'll announce the Academic toolkit's existence on March 1.

Publics will be up next later this year as we get toward the big public renewal time near the beginning of next year.

5. Committee Sharing (Any)

Effordability Summit conference at UW-Stout, April 3-4 – two stellar keynotes this year, one of whom is Haben Girma, a human rights lawyer advancing disability justice, author, and the first Deafblind person to graduate from Harvard Law and the other is nearly finalized (AI related, someone from the west coast). **The conference is free and open to all** (non-academic folks and non-librarians too!) with virtual access for the keynotes! Please share the word out!

6. Adjournment

Cheryl moves to adjourn, no objections, adjourned 15 minutes early!

Next Meeting: 5/14/24 @ 3:30 PM