ODIN Advisory Council Meeting, September 11, 2023

Agenda:

1. Corrections to June meeting minutes
	1. There were no changes, Chair declared the minutes approved as presented.
2. Interim Director of ODIN Report (Nicole Murphy)
	1. The last OAC meeting for 2023 will be December 11th at 10am. The calendar of meetings for 2024 will likely be decided at that meeting, so keep that in mind if the current schedule works or doesn’t work.
	2. ODIN Director search – The search is in its final stages, and we should have an announcement very soon.
	3. Library Director updates – There are a bunch this time around:
		1. Annie Craven – Kidder County Public Library
		2. Beverly Vilhauer – Wishek School/Public Library
		3. Jen Teruel – Midway School Library
		4. Brent Jacobson – Hope/Page Elementary and High School
		5. Jenna Kahly – West Fargo Public Library
		6. Miranda Suchor – Finley-Sharon School Library
		7. Malini Bhargava – Williston State College Library
		8. Laura Halvorson – Dakota College at Bottineau Library
		9. David Haberman & Jonathan Voight – Co-Interim Directors at UND Law
		10. Ashley Schafer – North Border Pembina School/Public Library
	4. Alma News-
		1. August Feature Release – August 6th, 2023. One of the new features was a new user interface for the PO Lines task list. Ex Libris has been slowly rolling out new user interfaces for a lot of the Alma modules.
		2. Feature releases are now quarterly. The next feature release will be November 5th, 2023.
		3. Premium Sandbox refresh – August 13th, 2023
	5. Polaris News-
		1. Polaris was upgraded to 7.4 in Production July 11th, 2023
		2. Polaris upgrade to 7.5 is expected later this year, but no date has been announced yet.
		3. The innovative status board is a great site for tracking upcoming features and those that were recently added to Polaris.
	6. OCLC Connexion Browser – FYI for libraries that use the OCLC Connexion Browser. This will be going away in April 2024. It will be replaced by the Worldshare Record Manager. The OCLC Connexion Client is not affected by this change. We will add links to the press release and training on the OAC webpage for this meeting.
	7. ODIN Booth at NDLA – ODIN staff will have a booth at NDLA annual conference (October 11-13). We will have appointments available for one-on-one sessions.
	8. New ODIN Library – McKenzie County Public Library is joining ODIN. They are scheduled to be live on Polaris in January 2024. The director is Ian Anguiano.
3. State Librarian Report (Mary Soucie)
	1. New Staff: Paul Ebach is the new Information Services Assistant with an emphasis on reader’s advisory for NDSL’s talking books program
	2. Carmen Redding, the Library Services Director, has retired this month. Mary is serving as the interim Library Services Director, which includes library development and cataloging departments.
	3. Library Specialists- NDSL has a group of library specialists that are assigned to different libraries or different areas. If you need some help reach out to your library specialist.
		1. Kathy Jo Cline – Academic, Special, and Tribal Library Specialist
		2. Monica Struck – Public Library Specialist
		3. Tammy Krueger – School Libraries
		4. Lexi Whitehorn – Literacy Specialist
		5. James Murphy – Grants Specialist
		6. Mary is excited about a project Lexi is working on. She is creating a climate literacy kit for different grade levels. One for grade school, one for high school, and one for adults.
		7. If you are writing for a grant and need assistance, you can contact James.
		8. You can contact all the specialists at ndsl-ld@nd.gov
	4. Library Coordinating Council –
		1. There was a meeting last month, and there are new members. Madding Cummings from Lake Region Public Library in Devils Lake is representing public libraries. Austin Lafferty is the new citizen at large and is president of the Morton Mandan Public Library Friends group. Tracy Lund is back on the council at librarian at large. Tracy is the director of Divide County Public Library in Crosby, and she’s also now the school librarian.
		2. At the meeting grants were awarded:
			1. 10 makerspace grants for a total of $38,950
			2. 6 programming grants for a total of $22,500
			3. 7 collection development grants for a total of $18,225
			4. The collection development grants were exciting because they were specifically adding new collections. They had to be collections that would circulate to the community as well as through interlibrary loan. The programming grants were creative as well.
			5. The makerspace grants were a follow-up to the libraries of things grants from this Spring. Libraries of things circulate, and makerspace items stay in the library.
	5. Librarian for a day – Mary wanted to remind everyone that she is willing to come out and visit your library. The day is yours for me to do what you want. There must be something related to the library within the day. Some past librarian of the day activities have been staff development presentations, presentations to trustees, preparation for summer reading programs, and technical support such as weeding, program ideas, and policies. Storytime, fundraisers, presentations to students on OLRs, fake news, and credible sources. The day is yours to craft as you want. It is an opportunity for Mary to get out and see North Dakota libraries. In addition, library specialists can come out as well.
	6. Conference: Stronger Libraries, Stronger Communities: was NDSL’s first in-person event in three years, and they are excited to be back again in person. They had 56 registrants. The keynote speaker was Jay Turner, who spoke about resiliency and getting it done. Attendees represented all library types, mostly school, public and special. NDSL plans to meet as a team to determine what continuing education will look like going forward. Maybe not for 2024, but the goal is to have an annual calendar of CE events available in the fall, so everyone will know when the webinars and events are for the year. Queston from Kelly- did you do an evaluation with the attendees? Did you have such a good turn out because of the time of year? They did do an evaluation, but they didn’t ask about time of year. They did have some pushback from school librarians that the timing wasn’t good for them. One of the conversations that they are having internally is if that is the right timing for a single conference event versus three individual events.
	7. NDLA Preconference – there will be a presentation on policy writing and then there will be a hands-on opportunity where you bring your policies in and you ask other attendees in the room how they are handling these issues, or you ask State library staff for help on a policy refresh. It will be presented by the Public Library Specialist, Monica Struck and the Patron Services Director Steve Hammel, and Mary Soucie. It will be free to any North Dakota librarian, library staff or trustee. Even if you are not attending the full NDLA conference, you can come to the NDLA preconference.
4. User Group Elections – User group chair elections are coming up in late November or early December for all user groups. The term is for two years. The chair runs the meetings, and an ODIN staff member facilitates those meetings with them. Nicole highly recommends anybody who is interested in chairing to please volunteer to get their name on the ballot, and then usually we do an online vote. The OAC chair election is also coming up. We need an OAC chair and vice chair, they each serve a two-year term. The OAC meets quarterly, either online or face to face, and the OAC meeting is led by either the OAC chair or vice chair. Kelly explained that it can take an hour or two outside the actual meeting and that ODIN staff help too. Tuya volunteered to run for chair, and Jenna Kahly volunteered to run as vice chair. Kelly will send out an email asking for volunteers for the user groups, the OAC chair, and vice chair, and let people know who we have already nominated from this meeting. Jason will create an online nomination form.
5. Library Updates (40 minutes mark)
	1. Kelly Kornkven, Mayville State – Mayville State has received $50 million to redo the old main building on campus, so for a year or two the building will be out of commission. Kelly contacted the people in old main that she would like to have temporarily in the library.
	2. Janet Anderson, Trinity Health – Just starting her 6th month with Trinity Health. She is continuing to learn Polaris, and not much to update.
	3. Marlene Anderson, Bismarck State – Tutoring has been located into the library. Tutor set up in the commons area, and the manager is in the office next to Marlene’s. So far it has been working out really well. They are seeing more traffic from it and the students seem to like it. BSC enrollment is up about 200, so that is good news. Last year they launched a “Library Power Hour.” The idea is to take an hour at the library to refresh, maybe get some work done, meet someone, sit and do a puzzle, whatever. They have a variety of games and puzzles out and they have some planned programming for it this year. Examples are book tastings, resume writing workshops, research database searching workshops, and movie days at the library where they will show some Films on Demand selections. Over the summer they spent a lot of time shelf-reading, reviewing materials, withdrawing, and updating.
	4. Rebecca Bichel, UND – Enrollment is up at UND, they are enjoying having students back on campus. They are expanding their affordability program. They are continuing OER adoption grants, but the new aspect is an intentional addition of textbook reserves for those courses where we have textbooks available. They are doing a significant expansion of outreach initiatives. They have a librarian focused on faculty outreach, and another librarian for community outreach. They have several librarians involved in both academic and social outreach, which enables them to do a great deal of expanded programming.
	5. Amy Carson, NDSCS – They didn’t get the NEH grant that they hoped to get, but they are moving ahead with relocating the archive to a new location. They are planning at prepping that project. They have started new library oriented student orientation. Amy is working on a LibGuide for that, and they have their student employees trained.
	6. Catie Palsgraaf, Supreme Court Law Library – The court system is in the early stages of doing a classification and salary study of all positions within the court system. Library positions will be included and they should receive the results of the study in December 2023. Then the personnel Policy Board will make recommendations to the Supreme Court. Any changes will ultimately be the Supreme Court’s decision.
	7. Tuya Dutton, University of Jamestown – Tuya has hired a technical services coordinator, a full time positon, and she just hired a part-time librarian position to support graduate and professional studies programs. With these positions filled, she feels she can take a breath now. This summer they did a summer reading challenge, faculty versus staff. It was a fun program with over 400 book submissions, and she would encourage anybody to do it too. In the Spring, the library will be doing a student research symposium for undergraduate students.
	8. Jenna Kahly, West Fargo Public Library – She’s the brand new library director at West Fargo Public Library, and she’s been there for two weeks. They just had their summer reading program and it was fantastic. One of their challenges is they are frequently running out of space because their events are so well attended. For example they will often have 70 people come to baby story time, and regular story times are occasionally in the 120 range in the summer which is difficult to manage. It is a wonderful problem to have, but also a challenge. They need a larger library.
	9. Jennifer Jenness, VCSU- They were able to hire a new research and instruction librarian, after Emily left for Maine. Hannah Beebe is the new research and instruction librarian, and they were able to jump right in and get ready for all the introductory sessions. They are also seeing students coming in and asking them for help with research. The library is co-sponsoring an event with Green Dot group on campus called Cats, Cookies and Consent. They will cats in the library in enclosed spaces, and information about the importance of consent and healthy relationships. And then also offer cookies. Because cookies make everything better. Also, they will be hosting a Haunted Library event for the global exploration club, this will be the third year. She feels like they hit the start of the school year at full speed and they have not slowed down yet.
	10. Jolie Greybill, NDSU- They have been welcoming students back to campus and its been really fun. They have added self checkout. They have a kiosk, but students are also able to check out from their mobile devices if they want to. They are doing some exciting stuff around weeding. They have started this summer and looked at the reference collection, and then they’re going to do a comprehensive weed of the collection using green glass. They are also looking at the organization chart. Since joining NDSU libraries she has been asking everybody for input and the org chart was one of the things that was top priority. They anticipate going from five departments to three. They will also be doing some recruitment for associate directors soon. They will be working on breaking down silos and see how that works and reassess after 12 months. They have had some staff vacancies and they are taking those salary dollars and doing some renovation projects in the libraries as well. So, things might look different if you come to see us in six months versus what you might remember of being in the NDSU library.
	11. Jane Laplante, Minot State – They received a State Library vision grant for programming. They are bringing Taylor Brorby, author of Boys and Oil to campus on October 19th. He’s already coming to the LGBTQ+ summit in Bismarck, so they were able to partner with the North Dakota Human Rights Coalition to partner on traveling fees. He will be on campus on October 19, and then he will be at the summit the 20th and 21st. The library will be giving out books to everyone who wants one, and there will be a book discussion and reading. He will visit a class and have lunch with some students. The library has provided a grant of $750 to two faculty to work with a librarian on a course. They are calling it a course improvement grant. They wanted more than just faculty saying, “come into our class, here’s my assignment.” They will work on developing an assignment together with the library in mind. So, this semester they’re teaching those classes and so far, it seems to be going well. It is an investment of scarce funds, but if you can get the faculty to take the time to work the library in a more meaningful way your instruction program will grow. They have upgraded their JSTOR to the archival journal collection. Up to this point they only had 117 JSTOR titles because they had the Arts and Sciences collection. Now they have 2860 journals and it only cost $200 more. Jane is also the parliamentarian for faculty senate this year.
	12. Michele Seile, Carrington City Library – They are recovering from summer reading program. Nicole visited them in August. They like to get the school librarians and the public library staff together once a year to talk about whatever they can to with each other. They are working on new programming. They have received some grants from the State Library, and the Department of Public Instruction awarded them $35000 for summer reading.
	13. Phyllis Kuno, Trinity Bible College and Graduate School – They have a new Academic Dean, and she is a great supporter of the library. More than half of their students are graduate or PhD students, so Phyllis’ job is changing. They are still housing the tutoring lab in the library, but they will probably move to their new facilities next fall and the library will turn that area into a new archive room. Trinity just celebrated its 75th year as a college and combined the celebration with the local AppleFest. Phyllis drove her VW Beetle in the parade and advertised the library and a book giveaway. They had a book signing at the library during their 75th and had a great turnout! Nine authors - mostly our staff and faculty authors. Phyllis is volunteering at our local public library and hoping to get them online and away from the card catalog this year! She has a full student staff and was able to hire Jessica back for 8 hours a week.
	14. Traci Lund, Divide County public library, and the elementary librarian – She also got the Department of Public Instruction grant, and they are going to use it for furniture, and so a renovation is coming sooner than anticipated which is really exciting.
6. Questions
	1. From Kelly – Mary, what happened with Universal Class? It was a contract issue, there were terms in the agreement that the State Library couldn’t sign. The State Library is exploring other avenues. It is unfortunate because usage has climbed since 2020, so she’s hoping they can find a solution. On the upside, the State Library has three new resources: Kanopy only for public libraries, they tried to get it for academic libraries they didn’t have the funds, Rocket languages, which has 14 languages and goes beyond the beginner level, and it includes American Sign Language, and Ethnic Newswatch which provides newspapers that serve ethnic communities in particular tribal nations.
7. Direct Holds/ILL between ODIN Polaris libraries (Mary Soucie) – The goal is to get items to patrons quickly. Many libraries within ODIN are still submitting their holds to the State Library, the State Library places a hold, the book is sent to the State Library from library A, and the State Library sends it on to Library B. There are different methods with this, for some libraries the State Library places it into “Transfer” status, and when the library receives it, they check it out. For some libraries, the State Library checks it out and sends it along with a due date. It is kind of all over the board. This is just the beginning of the conversation, and Mary would like some feedback. Steve is working on updating the Interlibrary Loan Manual with the hope that at minimum they can get consistent policies for the ODIN Polaris libraries. Ideally, they would like to get to the point where all ODIN libraries place the hold request directly with the lending library. The reason is that this will get the book into the patron’s hands the quickest. Traci checks Polaris first and if it is available, she places a hold, and if the book is not available in Polaris, she places an ILL request with the State Library. So, this proposal would not change anything for her. Nicole pointed out that this functionality is already available in Polaris, and there are quite a few libraries using it. ODIN is happy to do any training, and they’ve got information of the ODIN website. The State Library is happy to assist with training also. Jenna and Traci are in favor. One of the reasons the consortium moved to Polaris is because it randomized holds, so the large libraries didn’t receive all the requests. As a consortium member, your library is obligated to participate in interlibrary loan. You need to be checking your holds lists and you can’t always say no. NDSL really want to get the books in the patron’s hands as quickly as possible. Kelly asked if the OAC should have a vote on this. Mary said the next step is for the NDSL team to a have a conversation with the ODIN team and then go to the ILL user group, and then for NDSL and ODIN to draft a message to go out to the ODIN community. Kelly asked can the State Library come up with a list of libraries which aren’t placing their holds through Polaris? So those individuals can receive training. Mary thinks that would be possible.
8. Question about Lost Holds – Traci is finding that when she sends a book to another library to fulfill a hold sometimes it goes to “Lost”, and she doesn’t get notified. It gets billed to the other library’s patron account, but she doesn’t get a notification until she sees it on her overdue report. Michele asked if there was a way that an automatic notice could be sent to the lending library as well as the borrowing library? Michele has had the same kind of concerns. Nicole said that there’s a good chance that there will be a report that ODIN could build and have automatically sent, similar to overdues. Both Michele and Traci would like to receive a report like this.