Meeting: Friday, June 22, 2012  9:00 AM – 11:30 AM
Hilton Anaheim

Present:
Cathleen Bourdon (ALA-ORS), Joan Giesecke (ARL), Laura Hardesty (Census – phone), Bill Miller (At Large), Johnny Monaco (Census – phone), Rita Pellen (Academic libraries), Mary Jane Petrowski (ACRL), Pat Profeta (college – phone), Norman Rose (ALA-ORS), Cindy Sheckells (Census - phone), Chip Stewart (ACRL),

Guests: Kim Miller (IMLS), Deanna Day (Student-to-staff volunteer, Burke Memorial Library), Claudia Timmann (Library Director, Capella University)

ALS Convenors: Kathy Rosa, Director, ALA-ORS; Kit Keller (ALA Consultant)

Kit Keller called the meeting to order. Participants introduced themselves. The minutes of the 2012 Mid-winter committee meeting (Dallas) were approved.

Information Items

1. NCES update – (Handout from Tai in meeting packet) Cindy reviewed Tai’s updates, noting the reorganization of NCES, which is anticipated to be completed at the end of September. Tom Weko and Elise Miller left the Postsecondary division in May. The Acting Associate Commissioner during the interim period is Sharon Boivin. Jessica Shedd is serving as the team leader for IPEDS. She will be our point of contact for the 2014 survey process. Tracy Hunt-White is serving as team leader to the Postsecondary Sample Survey.

This will be Tai’s last involvement with the Academic Library Survey, and he will move to the IPEDS department. Tai will oversee the 2012 ALS through to completion. Census has been working with Tai on the 2010 survey data to update the files and publications due to an error with gate count and hours.

The NCES budget is being cut again, 30% for FY2013. Tai will try to attend the Seattle meeting. The 21,000+ school boundaries from the 2009-2010 CCD are available online at the SDDS site; they are going to add attributes from the American Community Survey with those boundaries later this year.

2. Census update (Cindy Sheckells):
   a. 2012 Survey: Received OMB approval for the changes to the 2012 Academic Library Survey, and these are being implemented now. Census is taking on the Web application that used to be handled by K-Force. It’s now on Census’ server and changes are being implemented in preparation for the upcoming data collection process. Changes will be seamless to users.
   b. Discussion of the latest data calendar: An updated calendar was included in the Census handout. Census will work with ALA to send a message to the LRs to
see if they want to serve again for the 2012 collection. They will also follow up with respondents to the last collection. In July and August Census will update the training Webinar. Notification letters will be sent out in October, first to the Chief Academic Officers, then to directors asking that a key holder be appointed. The collection will open on November 6, with a scheduled close-out of February 26, 2013. There will be an extension if an 85% response rate is not achieved at this time. There are a few changes to edits and tolerances. Edits are being added for the new data elements.

**Action item:** Recommendations for changes to existing tables, or for new tables, should be sent to Census by February 5, 2013. A discussion of these should be on the agenda of the January 2013 mid-winter committee meeting. If new tables are proposed, and submitted by February, there will be no delay in the reporting process.

**Action item:** It was proposed that ALAs July notification to LRs include a brief explanation of the incorporation of the Academic Library Survey data into IPEDS (starting in 2014). No changes can be made to the letters sent to Directors and Chief Officers because OMB has already approved the letters.

3. Other surveys and projects that do or could have an impact on NCES/ALS
   a. ACRL (Mary Jane Petrowski): ACRL has wrapped up their 2011 Academic Library Trends and Statistics Survey. The response rate is anticipated to be the same as in 2010, about 1,500 responses. A report was included with the more details. It is expected that some changes will be made to the survey next year depending on what ARL does with their survey. This may require additional support for respondents to assist with the survey changes. They are working on new trends questions for the 2012 survey.

   This year the survey asked about non-traditional or alternative forms of research that would be considered for promotion and tenure. There were also questions about weeding and about space (anticipated addition or loss of space), and questions about shifting print collections.

   b. ARL (Joan Giesecke): Martha Kyrillidou previously shared the update for the ARL Statistics and Assessment Committee as of May of 2012. This includes information about analysis tools, LibQQUAL+, MINES for Libraries, and others. ARL has been working on a major revision of the ARL Statistics annual survey with an emphasis on increasing its utility and sharpening its focus. The questions relating to collections include now total number of volumes, and total number of titles and dropped all the detailed questions on the different formats of materials, because this information is not as useful to decision makers any more. The survey will not separate out expenditures for electronic materials and print materials (already more than 65% of a research library’s budget is spent on electronic resources and the proportion is higher for non-ARL libraries). Expenditures will track one time materials expenditure and ongoing materials expenditures to capture the inelastic demand of the library budgets that makes them vulnerable to the monopolistic tendencies of the publishing marketplace and deteriorates their purchasing power. The public service questions have not changed much with the exception of adding
questions on the use of electronic resources based on the COUNTER code of practice.

The next iteration the salary survey will include job titles in order to capture a sense of the categories of new job titles being established, particularly in the digital area.

A question was asked about Lib-Value. Joan reported that this is part of an IMLS grant that is funding three or four libraries that are reviewing a variety of models to use assessment data to show the value of the libraries. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is one of the leaders of that activity. Some of the resulting assessment instruments are publically accessible and more are being added as the grant work is completed.

c. IMLS (Kim Miller): Kim reviewed the documents previously shared with the committee, highlighting specific activities. Justin Grimes has been recently hired as a statistical analyst. IMLS is exploring the possibility of fast response surveys from public libraries. The Public Library Survey data for FY 2010 will be uploaded to the Compare tools at the end of June. FY2010 PLS data is due to be released in early July, with a report released in August/September.

FY2010 StLA Survey data was released in October 2011 and the report was released in January 2012. No survey was conducted in 2011 but it will resume in fall for FY2012.

The Library Statistics Working Group met in Washington in June to discuss a variety of data-related projects.

IMLS OPRE is preparing, “The State of Libraries in the United States,” intended to provide a more holistic picture of libraries in the US. The plan is to have one page for each state and it will draw from a variety of data sources. This should be released in late August or early September.

d. ALA (Cathleen Bourdon): Dr. Kathy Rosa is the new ORS Director.

4. New business
a. IPEDS reintegration process update (Kit Keller & Mary Jane Petrowski): A small group met in Washington to review the process that is already underway. The questions have been developed and sample screens have been produced for the survey. The first time the questions will be live and part of the survey is 2014. The last census-based academic library survey will be done this year in 2012. The recommendation by the IPEDS staff is for Library Representatives to contact the key holder at their institution for IPEDS data collection so that they can be included in the dissemination and data collection and reporting for the appropriate parts of the survey.

The screens for the library questions will be included in the 2013 survey. They won’t be live, but will be included for informational purposes. The questions as they are now will remain set until such time as the IPEDS staff deem a revision is appropriate. At that time the process would be to convene a
Technical Review Panel and invite participation by experts in the field. There will not be an advisory committee for this process. At the Washington meeting it was determined that Dr. Rosa would be the point of contact an on-going collaboration with regard to changes in the library field. IPEDS is not as flexible an instrument due to the established process of review and revision. The question was raised as to how and when the library data would be publicly available. Laura Hardesty reported that NCES has a policy of publishing their data within 12-months of the closing-date. This would apply to IPEDS data.

There will be one more public comment period for the IPEDS library questions. News of this period will be disseminated on our listserv. IPEDS staff recommends that for additional information about academic libraries we should look to our own professional organizations to do that.

b. Future of ALS Advisory Committee (group): There was discussion of a process for ongoing discussion and sharing of data activities, data elements, and changes in the field. Continuing an advisory committee has budgetary implications. Cathleen Bourdon and Kathy Rosa will be in contact with NCES to arrange for continued support for the 2012 Academic Library Survey. The committee should plan to meet at mid-Winter and Annual 2013. Tai will work with the survey through the entire cycle.

The committee meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kit Keller
ALA Consultant

HANDOUTS SENT WITH THE AGENDA (EMAIL)
- AC Minutes, January 2012 (Dallas, TX)
- Committee Roster
- ALA-ORS update
- Minutes IPEDS/ALS meeting (Washington DC, 05.12.12)
- ALS NCES Discussion Agenda (05.10.12)
- Report and Suggestions from IPEDS TRP #35
- ACRL update
- ARL update
- Travel reimbursement form

HANDOUTS/REPORTS AVAILABLE AT MEETING:
- NCES handout(s)
- Census handout(s)