

Business Reference Sources Committee

June 16, 2002

The meeting commenced at 2:10 p.m. to provide attendees time to locate the room change.

ATTENDANCE:

Members: Luise Weiss, Chair, Pinar Arcane, Doug Doremus from S&P, David Flynn, Nels Gunderson, Doreen Harwood, Sylvia Ortiz, Colleen Seale, Win Shih, Irene Weiner, Eve Wider

Guests: Chris Connor and Michelle Harper from Proquest; John Campbell, Cynthia Churchwell, Sue Goshorn, Curley Jones, Steve Greechie from McGraw Hill

1. Welcome and introductions were initiated by the Chair.
2. A reminder was made about the BRASS dinner Monday night at Gordon Biersch.
3. Judy Nixon would like to be notified of new publications by members. A submission form is on the BRASS web site at <http://www.ala.org/rusa/brass/bmplform.html>
4. Lydia LaFaro will be the new Chair and Gary White will be the new Vice Chair of BRASS. David Flynn will be the new Chair of BRS.
5. Minutes from the January 20, 2002 meeting were approved with the following changes. For clarification, under *Old Business*, Item 3, the *Action* should include "Department of" before "Commerce." Under *New Business* the URL for GTIS should read: www.gtis.com/gta. Under *New Sources* the first *Action* should be "Kalorama," and the second *Action* was approved to be changed to *Working Group* from *Subcommittee*. Under *Publishers Forum 2003*, the second *Action* should be changed to Mediamark Research Inc
6. Michelle Harper and Chris Conner from Proquest provided a brief demonstration of access features for Proquest *Historical Newspapers* and answered Committee questions. Arrangements were made by Irene Weiner. The database, an ongoing project, is intended to be an historical archive of leading papers in North America. The first newspapers in the initiative are *The New York Times* (late edition in microfilm), *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal* (Eastern edition) and *The Christian Science Monitor*. Searches can be by keyword, Boolean or other advanced techniques, and entire issues can be browsed. Users search clean ASCII. Full page images and article images are provided in PDF format. Although ads and photos can be searched, logos are not recognized.

BEST BUSINESS REFERENCE SOURCES

There was discussion regarding the proposal presented by David Flynn from the BRASS Outstanding Business Reference Sources Working Group for a RUSQ Column. He said the result would be a committee product rather than a working group product and therefore participation would be from the Committee as a whole and that the project should be ongoing. It was clarified that BRASS does Best of the *Best Business Web Sites* and MARS does *Best Free Reference Web Sites* covering all subjects, and RUSA RSC does *Outstanding Reference Sources* on all subjects.

Volunteering for Column Editor was David Flynn and for Column Nomination Coordinator was Nels Gunderson. Committee members are asked to nominate titles. Specifics for these two positions, as well as for other Committee members are outlined in the proposal. Regarding the question of subject categories, David Flynn suggested using those listed on the BRASS *Best of the Best Business Web Sites* <http://www.ala.org/rusa/brass/besthome.html>

Sue Goshorn offered encouragement to use the project to place more content on the web and to create a column in RUSQ. Committee members suggested trying the procedure for one year. Sue Goshorn will determine from the Executive Committee what the next step is. David Flynn would like to move forward with the proposal and said he will make sure all members on the BRS Committee are aware of the project.

PUBLISHERS FORUM

The Committee considered the possibility of using some sources mentioned at the BRASS Discussion that morning such as Mergent, Economist, Harris and Factiva. The topic could be broadened to international. World Markets has country coverage on political, economic and security risk.

Suggestions include:

Directories: Harris, D&B Million Dollar Databases and InfoUSA

Countries: Euromonitor, Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)

Market Research: Simmons, Mediamark, MarketResearch.com

Topic: The Committee decided on market research reasonably priced for libraries as a first priority and country data as a second priority.

Action: Irene Weiner offered to contact Euromonitor; Eve Wider will contact Simmons and Mediamark, and David Flynn will contact MarketResearch. David Flynn said he will email the Committee for questions for the publishers once they are established.

WILSON PERIODICAL INDEX

Luise Weiss asked if anyone on the Committee is interested in helping to revamp the Wilson Periodical Index. Wilson offered to bring the volunteers to New York. Although the time frame is open-ended, Wilson wants the work to begin soon. The contact person is Mark Gauthier, Director of Indexing Services. email: mgauthier@hwwilson.com or phone: 1-800-367-6770 x2281

Action: Eve Wider, Colleen Seale, Irene Weiner, and Luise Weiss offered to contact Wilson to find out more about the project and to see if they are interested. David Flynn should be notified if there is interest. He will also open the opportunity to BRASS and find out how best to do this.

OLD BUSINESS

Registered Agents

Luise Weiss contacted the Department of Commerce. We could ask a U.S. trade commission that represents a country to obtain the foreign representatives.

Action: Luise Weiss offered to look further for a more complete source.

Value Line

Luisse Weiss reported that Value Line offers IP access and there is a trial for us to use at their web site: <http://www.valueline.com> The Logon is INST and the Password is green. A pricing list for Value Line was passed around.

Ebsco

Sylvia Ortiz said Ebsco is in the process of creating a thesaurus of controlled vocabulary and they are interested in feedback. They will work with their thesaurus specialists on feedback received. Sylvia has the list in an Excel spreadsheet. She said she had her students go through ABI and Ebsco lists and they determined unique titles for each database.

Action: Sylvia Ortiz will send the list and evaluation to David Flynn and he will send it to BRS Committee members.

Action: Irene Weiner is willing to look at the list and see if she is interested in being a reviewer.

CIS

Eve Wider inquired and found that CIS has revised their interface, which looks better. She passed around a copy of pages from the new interface.

Industry Outlook

Pinar Arcane received an email from the Office of Trade & Economic Analysis, International Trade Administration (ITA). The last printed edition of U.S Industry & Trade Outlook is 2000, and there are no current plans to provide Outlook in print. The possibility of online access is being evaluated for feasibility. Pinar offered to be a beta tester and will apprise the Committee of the test results when she is notified by ITA.

S&P

Doug Doremus from S&P reported that *S & P Industry Surveys* is an important product and they are working on the possibility of expanding the product line to match NAICS codes, as well as to add more industries.

NEW BUSINESS

CorpTech

Action: Luisse Weiss will talk with them regarding the need for an improved web product.

Morningstar

The cost for the print product has increased dramatically.

Action: Doreen Harwood will contact them regarding an online product with IP authentication.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Doreen Harwood