

Proposal to ALI Board From Licensing Task Force January 26, 2005

Resolution for vote by ALI Board

That the ALI Board of Directors authorize the Licensing Task Force to develop a Request For Information and to prepare a preliminary letter of agreement for review by the ALI Board. Following the approval of the preliminary letter of agreement the LTF will prepare a final letter of agreement for the Board's review and approval.

Background

Proposal for the establishment of a center of activity within an existing organization to provide services associated with collaborative purchase of electronic resources by members of Academic Libraries of Indiana (ALI).

Academic Libraries of Indiana wishes to establish a center of activity that will undertake the following tasks on behalf of the library members of ALI who are participating in the collaborative purchase of electronic files --databases, full-text files, online periodical subscriptions or other online resources.

- Maintain a database of the databases, full-text files and online periodical subscriptions subscribed to any ALI members. This database will be built on one previously created by Indiana University on behalf of ALI.
- Solicit annually, or when particularly interesting acquisition opportunities appear, from member libraries their intention to participate in the joint purchases in which ALI proposes to engage.
- From time to time explore members' interests in new databases, full-text files or online periodical subscriptions
- Negotiate pricing and contract details with vendors and/or publishers.
- Process invoices from vendors/content providers and re-invoice participating libraries.
- Conduct other activities associated with the above projects.
- The work of the center of activity will be directed by an ALI advisory committee appointed by the ALI president and the Board of Directors.

To establish this center of activity ALI will solicit proposals from ALI member libraries and other library consortia that might be interested in providing these services.

The Licensing Task Force (LTF) will, based on these proposals, negotiate a contract via a letter of agreement to be approved by the ALI Board of Directors.

The initial letter of agreement would be for three years and in the third year the project would be reviewed prior to renewal of the agreement.

This proposal does not dictate the nature of the center of activity proposed above. The staffing might be a dedicated part-time employee or it might be the shared work

of a multi-person office. It is important however that the level of work for ALI be transparent and that the ALI advisory committee has an effective role in advising on the center's activities.

To establish this center of activity ALI proposes to charge member libraries of ALI a fee for these services at a level sufficient to cover the costs of this center of activity. The mechanism for charging the fee will be developed by the LTF and recommended to the Board and the ALI membership for approval.

The time line for this implementation is as follows:

January 26th ALI Board meeting: Review this proposal and with agreement approve.

February - March: LTF solicits responses to the RFI.

March 31 ALI Board meeting: preliminary report on responses to the RFI

April: LTF prepares preliminary letter of agreement and obtains review by legal counsel.

This letter includes a budget for the center and an estimate of the member service fees.

April 28 ALI Board meeting: review preliminary letter of agreement.

May 12 ALI Membership meeting: review preliminary letter of agreement and get approval of the service fees.

May - June LTF finalizes letter of agreement.

Next ALI Board meeting: approve letter of agreement.