

Liaison Report to the BOT from the DA Meeting of 4/5/04

Items of Action for MHLS Staff

- A large part of the debate over databases stems from the fact that MHLS cannot give the individual libraries statistics for their patron usage. Can Mid-Hudson have libraries authenticate using the first few digits of their library barcode? This needs to be looked into further to quell database debate.
- Now that the membership has agreed to the disbanding of the rotating mystery collection, a procedure should be put in place to distribute them.
- The responses to the Children's Services survey of useful services provided to member libraries should be compiled and distributed.

Items of Action for DA

- Member libraries should pay particular attention to the price sheet for databases, as a decision will be made regarding whether or not to upgrade databases and to which. This decision will affect all budgets of member libraries.
- The e-rate technology plan is due for any library filing above the basic rate. Please send it to MHLS ASAP.
- Trustee Award nominations must be submitted by June 30th. The winning trustee's library gets \$200.
- The new default website hosted by MHLS was unveiled at the meeting. If member libraries need to deviate significantly from this format but still wish MHLS to host, contact them with changes. Be aware that MHLS will be charging for this service in the future.
- A vote will be held at the next meeting regarding the decision to clear the last patron field on a quarterly basis to protect patron privacy.
- A vote will be held at the next meeting regarding a library's ability to email another library's patron regarding Millennium issues.
- Due to numerous mistakes by patrons, from now on the library where an item is dropped off should make the first attempt to contact the patron for missing components.
- By July libraries should have uniform call # statements for all periodical holdings.

Submitted by

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