ACRL Virtual World Interest Group
MidWinter 2013 Meeting Minutes

Seattle, WA
January 2013

Date: Sat. Jan. 26, 3pm - 4pm

Location: W Seattle Hotel Great Room 2BC and simultaneously in the virtual world of Second Life (American Library Association on Info Island)

Welcome and Introductions (Valerie Hill and Tina Coleman)

ACRL VWIG Current Convener, Valerie Hill; Past Convener, Marcia Meister; Co-Conveners Elect, Esther Grassian and Joe Floyd
VCL MIG Leaders Rhonda Trueman and Carla Pritchett
ALA Membership Chair, Tina Coleman

In attendance: 22 people (8 physical, 14 virtual)

ACRL VWIG Report (Valerie Hill)

- Accomplishments and programs sponsored in 2012 (see below)

- Future plans for topics and events (a panel on MOOCs and Librarians, a virtual world book discussion, continued "gridhops" to other virtual worlds)

CVL Member Interest Group (RhondaTrueman and Carla Pritchett)

- Overview of changes and consolidation of SL spaces (The Community Virtual Library will move to Imagination Island in March 2013)

- Goals for 2013 (Monthly meetings will be announced. The new CVL Reference Desk area is about to open on Imagination Island and an exhibition area is built nearby.)

Q&A Open Discussion- Newcomers were given information on the history of the Community Virtual Library and instructions on entering virtual worlds.

Events of 2012

Meetings for 2013 are tentatively scheduled for Sundays at noon (SLT Pacific Time) but will be flexible.

July 22, 2012 11AM A book discussion with authors Aaron Barlow and Robert Leston "Beyond the Blogosphere: Information and Its Children" was held in Second Life at the Community Virtual Library Auditorium. A machinima (video shot in a virtual simulation) can be viewed at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aJxWiFNwWw8&feature=share&list=UUrxwLEmZILcl74lwKx2wJSQ

Authors Aaron Barlow and Robert Leston with Valerie Hill, ACRL Convener 2012-2013 on July 22, 2012

August 12, 2012 11AM The ACRL VWIG "gridhopped" (which means jumped from one virtual world to another) from Second Life to Inworld, which is built on open-source program code.. A lecturer at San Jose State University School of Library and Information Studies, Heather Ebey, and colleagues built a library in the virtual world of Inworldz and shared exhibits and resources. Although Second Life is recognized as the most widely used virtual world for education, many individuals and institutions are using other virtual worlds since the education discount was revoked in 2010. The ACRL VWIG has begun exploration of other virtual worlds. A machinima can be viewed at https://vimeo.com/43742003

Librarians touring the Inworld Library on August 12, 2012 at the ACRL VWIG meeting grid-hop.

September 23, 2012 11AM Continued exploration of other virtual worlds included a grid-hop to Jokaydia (another open-source program based virtual world based in Australia and used by numerous educators). A SLIS doctoral student, Barbara Jansen, led a tour of her virtual Lifelong Learning Library. A machinima can be viewed at https://vimeo.com/50100853

ACRL VWIG grid-hops to Jokaydia for a library tour on Sept. 23, 2012.

October 21, 2012 11AM An International Literacy Panel was jointly sponsored by the ACRL VWIG and the Center for Information Literacy Research in the UK. Panelists were from the USA, Poland, Chile, Greece, and the UK. A slideshow with photos can be viewed on animoto at http://animoto.com/play/Cdf0k490YFkSbN58v9JCLw

The panel was recorded on livestream at http://livestre.am/4bIEl

A global event jointly sponsored by the ACRL VWIG and the CILR (UK group) on Oct. 21, 2012.

November 18, 2012 Research on the adoption of the innovation of virtual worlds by librarians was presented by Dr. Valerie Hill. Her dissertation research, based on Everett Roger's Diffusion Theory, found virtual worlds to be complex for many individuals, but to have advantages and compatibility with librarianship. A livestream recording can be viewed at http://www.livestream.com/openworkshop/video?clipId=pla_41f8561c-e0de-43ff-b953-fcae1176b5a3

Upcoming Plans for 2013

Additional jointly-sponsored events are planned for spring 2013. Topics to be addressed are MOOCs (massively open online courses), other virtual worlds to visit, and emerging trends in libraries.

Membership Summary (as of December 2012)

Second Life Librarians Google Group 665 members
ACRL in SL Google Group 51 members
SL Librarians (inworld group) 826 members
ACRL in SL (inworld group) 118 members

ACRL VWIG Status

In June 2012, at the ALA annual convention in Anaheim CA, the ACRL Board approved the request to renew the Virtual Worlds Interest Group with its original charge. This renews the Interest Group through the end of the 2015 Annual Conference.

Informational links:

ACRLinSL@googlegroups.com
Send email to request an invite

This is the ALA Connect link for the ALA Virtual Communities and Libraries Member Interest Group (VCL MIG)

http://connect.ala.org/node/6632

This is the for ACRL Virtual Worlds Interest Group on ALA Connect:
http://connect.ala.org/node/78930

There is also an ACRL Virtual Worlds Interest Group on Facebook.
(Alexandra Janvey has been posting events there).
http://www.facebook.com/groups/21504303227/