The Saskatchewan Multitype Library Board (MLB) held its most recent meeting on September 6, 2012 in Regina.

Dr. Alec Couros on Digital Media in Education

Susan Baer introduced Dr. Alec Couros, Associate Professor at the Faculty of Education, University of Regina, who has demonstrated expertise in the area of education technology and social media in teaching and learning. Dr. Couros delivered a presentation to the board on the impact of digital technologies and social media on education and libraries. He also shared insights about open education and networked learning.

Saskatchewan eBooks

MLB members had a May 16 meeting with the Saskatchewan Publishers Group about increasing the number of Saskatchewan eBooks in the province’s libraries as well as promotion and awareness of Saskatchewan titles. There were two focused conversations during these discussions: 1) Communication: PLLO is looking at a listserv to include libraries and publishers. The next step is to collect names and emails. 2) eBooks: eBook conversion is too expensive for small publishers, especially for their titles where sales might not cover conversion costs.

SMDI Update

The Board was given a preview of the user interface, including some screen shots. The University of Saskatchewan will host a launch event with the Minister of Education introducing the project during Saskatchewan Libraries Week (also Education Week). The SDA is working on a name for the portal [they chose the name Saskatchewan History Online (SHO) a week after this meeting].

MyLibrary Redesign

At the last board meeting, the Multitype Unit was asked to prepare a comparison between the Saskatchewan Libraries website and the Mylibrary.sk.ca site for the September 6 meeting. The Multitype Unit presented the comparison sheet at the meeting and Board members decided that it was unnecessary to maintain two sites.

MDLP Update

New additions of 27 eBooks have been added to the Gale Virtual Reference Library. Index to Canadian Literature and Canada Info Desk were removed from the Core Collection and Library PressDisplay was added. Library PressDisplay can now (as of September 2012) provide statistics for individual libraries. Six public libraries systems agreed to purchase TumbleBooks, which will be added to the Supplemental Collection.

The next meeting date is scheduled for Wednesday, January 9, 2013 in Regina.

Information on MLB is available at http://www.lib.sk.ca/Multitype-Library-Board Or contact the board’s secretariat:

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