2018 Southern Conference Resolutions

Nashville TN

1. The Southern Conference of Librarians serving Blind and Physically Handicapped people (SCLBPH) expresses its gratitude to the following:
   1. Tennessee Regional Librarian Maria Sochor and her staff for planning local arrangements to welcome (or welcome back) the network to Nashville, and for providing an interesting tour of the Tennessee State Library.
   2. MaryBeth Wise for all her hard work organizing another successful and instructional conference, as well as all NLS staff who participated both behind the scenes and in presentations.
   3. Maureen Dorosinski (FL) for her enjoyable presentation on teambuilding.
   4. Craig Hayward (NC), Miles Lewis (TX), and Barbara Penegor (KY) for their informative presentation on analog to digital conversion.
   5. Departing Executive Committee members Shellie Zeigler (MS) President, and Leticia Gittens (VI) Member-at-Large, for their service to SCLBPH. Best wishes in their future endeavors!
2. The members of SCLBPH are grateful to NLS for its national television, internet, and radio ad campaign, and we congratulate NLS on the effectiveness, as libraries have seen a noticeable increase in contacts and applications.
   1. We encourage NLS to continue such wide-reaching campaigns, and recommend they produce similar ads aimed at children and young adults aired on sites and stations they are likely to frequent.
   2. The Southern Conference requests that NLS study the impact the campaign success will have on supplies and resources necessary to serve the desired increase in patrons, and plan accordingly.
3. As 4 of the 6 libraries who participated in the WebReads Duplication on Demand Pilot are Southern Libraries, and as Texas has very recently become one of the first large libraries to transition to WebReads, the Southern Conference extends a formal “thank you” to NLS and Data Management for developing and implementing WebReads Duplication on Demand circulation.
   1. There are multiple advantages for both patrons and libraries, and we urge NLS to expedite the transition of more libraries to DOD so resources used on physical books can more rapidly be deployed towards other projects.
   2. As more innovations are planned by NLS and implemented by Data Management, and as more and larger libraries transition to WebReads from other automation systems, current and future WebReads libraries request that Data Management adjust resources as necessary to maintain efficient and friendly customer service.
   3. We advise NLS to devise a plan for which libraries may efficiently return DB collections made obsolete by DOD.
4. SCLBPH thanks NLS for the changes to the Recall for Reuse program (R4R), which eliminate the need to count book copies and enter shipments on an online spreadsheet. We also welcome the decision to allow libraries to re-use white cartridges for local DOD circulation, and anxiously await implementation.
5. SCLPBH librarians request that NLS grant network libraries the ability to forgive overdue or lost MOC magazine cartridges in order to facilitate resumption of service for readers.
6. Libraries of the Southern Conference implore NLS to follow the example set by similar organizations and allow qualified educational professionals to certify applications for those with a reading disability. Any definitions of those professionals should take into consideration that educational agencies and professional titles vary from state to state.
7. While the RUB (Rating Unrated Books) is an admirable project undertaken on a volunteer basis by several libraries, it requires each library to manually update each book record as it is rated. The Southern Conference requests that NLS incorporate committee rating results into the NLS book record so libraries may import the updated files, therefore streamlining the task and eliminating duplication of effort.
8. Let it be known that the Southern Conference of Libraries Serving Blind and Physically Handicapped users formally recognizes audio books as a valid form of reading. Braille, print, and audio, used alone or in combination, contribute to knowledge and literacy whether used for recreation or education, and the resulting informed and literate individuals benefit their families, communities, and society.