



NJVID Sustainability working group

Minutes of conference call held 12/10/09, 10am-11:30pm

Present: David Pinto, Grant Wilinski, Judy Jeng, Sheri Prupis, Sujay Daniel, Brian Gately, Ashish Rajadhyaksha, Tom Nemeth, Sandie Miller, Grace Agnew

Sandie said she was thinking about writing a new grant proposal to the IMLS. Grace advised using the grant to cover additional project development and refinement. For example, use another grant to add federated searching capability. This capability is central to facilitating a community repository of institutions statewide. David said that if there were a community ETD repository at NJEDge.Net, NJVid would benefit from it. Grace explained NJcore already is a community repository. She disagreed with the proposal to build an NJVid charge into the NJEDge fee, because she predicts institutions will not want to pay NJEDge directly to use NJVid.

The group discussed possibly introducing the NJVid fee into the VALE membership fee. David asked Sandie to explain to the group the added value that NJVid provides to VALE members to justify the increased VALE fee. Sandie explained NJVid would provide a central location to store and access an institution's digital videos. No other service provides that, considering all of the types of videos to which NJVid provides access and additional services it provides on top of that, such as the upcoming annotation tool. Sandie clarified that the VALE fee would cover sustainability costs rather than expansion costs, which a new grant would cover.

Grace recommended writing a sustainability plan into the next grant that would include hiring key staff to fine-tune the repository, interface, and workflow over a one-year period to make everything more robust. Sandie said she needs to work on this soon, because new grant proposals are due by February.

Sandie brought up the possibility of splitting an NJVid fee among VALE members and non-VALE members that are NJEDge members. Then the group considered introducing the VALE fee when OLE and Learning on Demand become available. The group decided the latter would be more palatable. Upon further consideration, the group decided not to introduce an NJVid fee through VALE. Instead, each participating institution will incur a particular charge to participate in NJVid contingent upon certain factors. The fee needs to cover maintenance costs at NJEDge and a supercollection manager's salary. Institutional factors may include size of the institution and its choice of which collections to participate in. The criteria will be decided upon further consideration by the working group. The fee will be presented upon all participating institutions, not just higher education institutions.

The group also agreed to work on determining the sweet spot – that is, how much to charge institutions so that the aggregate amount will be enough to cover operational costs but not so much that institutions will refuse to pay it.

However, it must be noted that NJVid is NOT a 501(C)(3) and, therefore, fees cannot be paid directly to them. Therefore, either VALE or NJEDge will need to manage the fees. David clarified after the meeting that, at this time, VALE is not a 501(c)(3) either.

Tom will work on putting these criteria on a pricing grid and then present it to the group after it has been reviewed by Ashish and Rajiv of the WPU Business School. The next conference call of this working group was set for January 22, 10am.

Call adjourned.