

One for All - All for One: Library Consortia, Purpose and Function

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Definitions

➤ **“One for All, All for One”** *"Unus pro omnibus, omnes pro uno"*

All the members of a group support each of the individual members, and the individual members pledge to support the group

Definitions

➤ Library Consortium:

A group of Libraries who come together to fulfill a combined objective that requires co-operation and the sharing of resources

- ❖ Mission: A mutual goal in order to ensure success
- ❖ Objective: To deliver “more than the sum of the individual parts”

A library consortium could be local, regional, national and inter institutional level

Types

➤ Library Consortia are :

- ❖ specific to a type of library (ex. academic)
- ❖ multi-type: for mix library types (academic, public libraries, school and municipal)
- ❖ Specific to one project or to do multiple tasks
- ❖ Consortia can take many forms and names (coalition or network)

The focus of individual consortia may also change over time

Membership

- ❖ Commitment to the mutual objective (mission)
- ❖ Membership Fees or no Fees
- ❖ *Most importantly:* Staff time and administrative time working towards common projects

Governance

- ❖ *Board of Directors:* (generally consists of the directors of the member libraries)
 - ❖ *Governing Council:* Boards generally elect officers from among themselves
 - ❖ *Coordinator or Executive Director:* (Day-to-day management of the library consortia) The ED is in direct communication with all the member libraries and oversees the committee work performed by the member libraries' staff
- The Board of Directors sets the agenda for the consortium based on the needs of all member libraries for the greater good of the entire group

Conflict Resolution

- ❖ when consortium goals do not meet the goal of the individual library (ex. multi-type consortia, where different types of libraries must find commonalities)
 - ❖ in consortia where the members include a mix of library governance (publicly funded and privately funded university libraries)
- Conflict Resolution: Board of Directors develops a mission statement that articulates the group's philosophy

Purpose and Benefits

- ❖ Joined acquisitions
- ❖ Power of negotiating licenses (cost, terms and conditions)
- ❖ Preservation and archiving electronic resources
- ❖ Developing collaborative models for sharing print collections
- ❖ Streamlining technical services such as union catalog
- ❖ Interlibrary loan services
- ❖ Common bibliographic records (cataloging)
- ❖ Professional development and training
- ❖ Bringing recognition to libraries
- ❖ Providing advocacy for external funding
(CY government; Euro Economic Development. Council; Euro Economic Area)

Consortia Models

CONSORTIA OF CONSORTIUM: <http://www.library.yale.edu/consortia/>

❖ The consortia movement develop of the International Coalition of Library Consortia (ICOLC)

❖ Libraries came together to share information and to develop larger-scale agendas

Examples: <http://www.library.yale.edu/consortia/icolcmembers.html>

OhioLink : <http://www.library.yale.edu/consortia/OhioLINK.html>

HEAL-link : <http://www.library.yale.edu/consortia/HEALLink.html>

Ankos : <http://www.ankos.gen.tr/en>

Liber : <http://www.library.yale.edu/consortia/LIBER.html>

One for All - All for One

Why is this Important for Cyprus?

- ❖ Global Economic Crisis
- ❖ Advocacy
- ❖ National Responsibility

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