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
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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