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## Orbis Cascade Alliance Newsletter - Spring 2019

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Orbis Cascade Alliance <info@orbiscascade.org>

Fri, Apr 5, 2019 at 12:13 PM



### *Alliance News - Spring 2019*

**Happy National Library Week (April 7-13) to all our members!**

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#### **Greetings from the Board Chair and Interim Executive Director!**

The Alliance Newsletter is back! During a transitional time for consortial staff and strategy, it's more important than ever for our members to know "what's going on" with the Alliance.

The Alliance Board and Council are embarking on ambitious efforts to guide the organization through our leadership transition and set up the organization for success in the future. We have many organizational practices that have been in place since before the Alliance's incorporation as a non-profit. These include the Board election process and the model used to calculate membership dues. Much has changed for the consortium and our members since that time. At this point in our organization's life cycle, we must examine our practices and make needed changes.

To this end, the Board is launching task forces on Governance, Dues Allocation, and Membership Criteria this spring. The Governance group will assess our governance structures and clarify the roles and responsibilities of Board, Council, and Alliance central staff. This work will inevitably result in changes to our bylaws and election process. The Dues Allocation task force will analyze the monetary value of Alliance membership to

member institutions, and assess the current dues allocation model in light of members' perception of value. The task force will develop alternative allocation models that might better match that perception. The goal is to have any recommended changes to the model go into effect with the FY22 budget. Finally, it may not be widely known that the Alliance has been closed to membership applications since 2015. During this time, the Executive Director has fielded inquiries about the timeline for accepting new member institutions. In preparation for a July Council vote to consider opening for membership applications, a third group has been formed to revisit the membership criteria. In addition to these projects, the Board and Council will begin the search process for the new Executive Director later this spring.

Meanwhile, Alliance Teams and staff have all been hard at work implementing our new strategic plan. In April, we will begin calling for new Team and Working Group members who will work on initiatives to improve core services and begin work on exciting new initiatives.

We recently welcomed two new staff members to the Alliance: Bryan Vogh is our new Program Manager for Systems. Formerly at the University of Wisconsin, Bryan relocated to Vancouver, WA this winter. Bryan has taken on leadership of his program, as well as strategizing for member and staff IT support needs, and doing some much-needed cleanup of our website. Angeline Schoonover, also a Washingtonian, was previously a part-time contractor for the Alliance and was hired full-time as Electronic Resources Specialist at the end of 2018.

Look for another issue of our newsletter in early summer - In the meantime we are eager for any feedback about member communication. Please contact Maija Anderson, Interim Executive Director at [manderson@orbiscascade.org](mailto:manderson@orbiscascade.org) with your ideas and questions.

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## **We're Hiring!**

The Alliance has two recruitments open for Program Manager positions. Program Managers are leaders in the Alliance community, working with Teams to shape and continually improve our services.

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The Program Manager, Resource Sharing & Fulfillment brings unity to Alliance resource sharing activities, and creates efficiencies which enable libraries to easily share materials across our region.

The Program Manager, Unique and Local Content coordinates consortial work around archives, special collections, digital assets and repositories, and OER.

We have convened search committees made up of members who represent the diversity of our institutions, and who are committed to an independent, inclusive, and rigorous search process. The search committee for the RSF Program Manager is Jesse Holden (Alliance; Chair), Erin Bledsoe (CWU), Cassie Franks (Washington County Cooperative Library Services), Tricia Bender (Chemeketa CC), and Adebola Fabiku (UW). The search committee for the ULC Program is Maija Anderson (Alliance; Chair), Trevor Bond (WSU), Cheryl Oestreicher (Boise State), Rachel Thomas (George Fox), Pam Pierce (OHSU). Thanks to our members for their contributions to these searches!

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## **Alliance Resource Highlights**

Alliance central staff are bringing you some pro tips for making use of resources offered to members. This time around, Bryan Vogh (Systems Program Manager) will tell us about Ex Libris Idea Exchange, and Elizabeth Duell (Events Manager) provides a run down of our discussion lists.

### **Bryan Vogh:**

Did you know about Ex Libris Idea Exchange? The Idea Exchange is a way for individuals to vote for ideas that improve Ex Libris products like Alma and Primo.

Each email address gets twenty votes for each system that can be allocated to ideas. Votes are returned to you when an idea is reviewed, and then you can add them to another idea. An individual can add up to a maximum of three votes to an idea. Anyone can post an idea to the Ex Libris Idea Exchange. When an idea has enough votes, a Product Manager at Ex Libris will review the idea and provide comments, or may ask for use cases for what is being requested. Even if you use all of your votes you can still comment on an idea that you support. Many ideas from the Idea Exchange have made it into Alma. For example, in the April 2019 release of Alma there are three ideas that became enhancements: Update Library Opening Hours, Local Authority Record Edit Option, and Additional ID for Hold Request Management. When Idea Exchange items are implemented they are noted in the release notes.

You can access the Idea Exchange via the menus in Alma. Login to Alma, go to the upper right of the screen and click on the question mark icon. Select suggest an Idea from the menu and you will be taken to the Idea Exchange. Login or create an account using your email address and then you can begin voting. To go directly to the IdeaExchange bookmark <https://ideas.exlibrisgroup.com/>. We encourage Alliance members to allocate votes for projects that help us meet our goals.

### **Elizabeth Duell:**

Do you want access to the expertise of other people in your areas? Join our discussion e-mail groups!

**announce@** (General push notification for the Alliance)

**disc-discussion@** (Discovery & User Experience)

**rsf-discussion@** (Resource Sharing & Fulfillment)

**courier@** (Courier information and announcements)

**primonui@** (Primo New User Interface Discussion) sys-

**discussion@** (Systems)

**ts-discussion@** (General Technical Services  
discussion)

**ts-eresources@** (Technical Services E-resources  
discussion)

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**ts-resourcemanagement@** (Technical Services Resource Management discussion)  
**ulc-community@** (Unique & Local Content discussion)  
**ulc-dcm-discussion@** (ULC Dublin Core Metadata discussion)

These lists are open to any Alliance member staff, using their institutional e-mail. Please contact Elizabeth Duell (eduell@orbiscascade.org) to be added to any of these lists.

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## Summer Meeting Returns!

Summer Meeting is a one-day professional conference for all Alliance members. Registration is free for Alliance members. Our last Summer Meeting was held back in 2016, so we're very excited to bring it back!

Summer Meeting will be held July 10th at Hotel Murano in Tacoma. The Program Committee is developing a slate of presentations and activities that will include something for everyone. There will be an all-attendee reception to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Orbis Cascade Alliance.

Thanks to the Summer Meeting Program Committee: Elizabeth Duell (Alliance), Mary Greci (UO), Molly Gunderson (PSU), Merri Hartse (EWU), Kate Jones (SOU), Holly Kubly (UO), Jada Pelger (UPS), Pam Pierce (OHSU).

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## We've Moved!

The Alliance office has a new address in Eugene! We are now at:

2300 Oakmont Way Suite 112  
Eugene, OR 97401

Other Alliance contact information is unchanged. The address is updated on our website, and we are updating other communications going forward.