

MARMOT LIBRARY NETWORK

Strategic Plan

2013-2015

May 23, 2013

Mission Statement

Marmot hosts an integrated library system, maintains a union catalog of 1.5 million titles, and delivers related information technology services to public, academic, and school libraries in Colorado.

Tagline: “Library Systems, Services, and Sharing”

Introduction

The 2009-2012 Strategic Plan began as a brainstorming session by member library directors and key staff during the annual Council meeting at Powderhorn May 8-9, 2008. Shelley Walchak of the Colorado Library Consortium facilitated that session. The plan was refined by the Executive Board, reviewed by the membership, and adopted.

This 2013-2015 Plan was built on the foundation of the 2009-2012 Plan. Sharon Morris of the Colorado State Library facilitated sessions at the annual Council meeting in Palisade May 1-2, 2012. The planning format was similar to that of 2008 with these differences: “Goals” and “Strategic Directions” stated in 2008 were reviewed, validated, and updated; and “Actions and Timetables” were refreshed with new ideas for the next three years.

Executive Director Jimmy Thomas reformatted flipchart sheets as a word doc and distributed it to Directors May 11, 2012. He then recast the content as a spreadsheet with specific activities and timelines, and distributed it to Directors July 16. The Executive Board reviewed this draft in their quarterly meeting July 27. Task Forces and Committee members attending the Marmot User Group meeting in Grand Junction September 20-21 were asked to review the Plan and provide input. In meetings from October to March, Task Forces and Committees reviewed and improved specific sections. The Plan was published for the Council to approve at the annual meeting April 22-23, 2013.

As Marmot is a member-based organization, the greatest appreciation is due to member library directors and staff for their participation in the process.

Executive Summary

Marmot has set these strategic goals for the next three years:

- Discover, develop, and implement appropriate new and emerging technology.
- Foster collaborative learning by sharing expertise in meetings, training, and task forces.
- Support members in planning and implementing IT infrastructure.
- Make the business case for Marmot organization & membership.
- Continuously improve the primary service: the best possible ILS and Union Catalog.

Specific ideas, programs, and activities in support of these goals have been organized in the attached spreadsheet as follows:

- The “Goals & Programs” column consolidates ideas recorded on flipcharts at the Council meeting of 2012. The term “program” broadly includes measurable objectives as well as ongoing programs and project proposals. In most cases, flipchart bullets from the Council meeting were consolidated, restated, and prioritized by Committees and Task Forces.
- The “Review” column identifies Committees and Task Forces who reviewed and improved sections of content in web meetings from Dec 2012 to Mar 2013.
- Columns “2012 July-Dec”, “2013”, “2014”, and “2015” list specific activities designed to accomplish these goals. Prioritization of activities was not attempted by the Council in 2012, but most of the Committees and Task Forces did attempt to prioritize goals and programs within the sections they worked on. Timeline columns also imply priorities in that higher-priority tasks are usually scheduled sooner.