

May 26, 2011

## Acquisitions/Serials Task Force for Evergreen

### Initial report and findings:

Overwhelmingly we are confused and frustrated. From the initial training, which we felt was severely lacking, and through various attempts on our own to try and learn these modules, the committee finds that these modules are nowhere near where a consortium of our size and various needs have to be in order for us to work with this system at this time. We all find the language confusing. We also agree that there is a lack of functionality, as well as a complexity in basic commands and procedural steps, that we wonder whether or not this isn't just an attempt to reinvent the wheel. We also don't believe that we will have enough information nor feel adequately trained enough in either system to be able to recommend, in any way, the use of either module for the county by July.

At this point in our discovery, we cannot tell enough about what Evergreen does have to be able to know what it is lacking.

We've been attempting to read and practice through wiki links to various documents and Evergreen sites, Evergreen client, but understanding that these are the newest and least developed of the open source modules, find helpful information serious lacking.

Issues with Acquisitions – difficulty in setting up and using various funds; detail in the funds we have in Millennium does not seem to be there in Evergreen; difficulty in finding order records due to lack of simplicity - using ISBN alone does not seem to bring results every time; there are questions as to how this works with various vendors; creation of “dummy record” for patrons to view as order records do not show in the OPAC concerns us, as a possible duplication of effort.

Issues with Serials – this module has been too confusing to figure out yet; most of the committee has been spending time working with Acquisitions for the moment.

We would like to know how or if the various modules work together in any cohesive manner.

This committee will continue to work through our issues and attempt to discover more about these modules in the coming weeks. We have a potential conference call meeting in the near future with King County people regarding Acquisitions to talk through some of our questions.