Note: The parenthetical times shown are estimates only to aid in moving the meeting along. If an issue warrants, we will take as much time as necessary.

1. **Introductions and Overview.** *(5 minutes)*

2. **Approval of Minutes** *(5 minutes)*

   Attachment 2: Minutes of the Meeting of the ARL Statistics and Measurement Committee, May 2005

   Outcome: Approval of minutes

3. **ARL Board Statistics and Assessment Committee** *(50 minutes)*

   As part of the ARL Strategic Planning process, the ARL Statistics and Measurement Committee has been reconstituted as an ARL Board Committee and renamed the Statistics and Assessment Committee. The October 26 meeting is the last meeting of the ARL Statistics and Measurement Committee and a new charge for that committee will be decided by the ARL Executive Committee later in the year. The ARL Board Statistics and Assessment Committee will meet for the first time in May 2006.

   Attachment 3: ARL Board Statistics and Assessment Committee – Charge and Composition

   Outcome: Understanding and developing recommendations for the Statistics and Assessment Committee

4. **Update on current activities** *(60 minutes)*. The program has been leading and actively shaping library assessment over the last decade as ARL directors identify the needs and priorities that need to be addressed and program staff have successfully engaged in the development and deployment of library assessment tools and methods. In 1999, the ARL New Measures work was established and by 2003 a number of
activities were mainstreamed into the various organizational cultures of ARL member libraries. With the need for a thorough re-examination of the association’s priorities as reflected through the ARL Strategic Plan and the reconstitution of the Committee into the ARL Board Statistics and Assessment Committee, also emerge are issues related to the traditional measures of collections, to the need for community building around library assessment, and to the global and international influence of current assessment activities.

a. **New data entry interface for ARL Statistics, Law Library, Health Science Library and Preservation Statistics – Demo.** The annual surveys have not been changed this year but the instructions have been updated by incorporating information previously in a Q&A document into the regular instructions for the ARL Statistics. The main substantive change in the instructions this year is that serials purchased will not include both print and electronic subscriptions when the two are bundled. We used to request libraries to report the electronic separately under serials received and not purchased.

b. **New measures:**

   - **LibQUAL+™.** 240 libraries participated in 2005 and registration for 2006 is ongoing. A group of institutions from South Africa participated during the fall. This is the first year for year round participation. For 2006 and for the first time, LibQUAL+™ is sponsoring an in-kind grant program for participants in the 2006 LibQUAL+™ survey for a maximum of five awards. The computer infrastructure has been moved from TAMU to an external hosting facility and is now part of the StatsQUAL+™ interface.

   - **E-Metrics = ARL Supplementary Statistics.** The new ARL Supplementary Statistics now includes all the data elements that were proposed through the ARL E-Metrics project. The attempt to collect data from all ARL libraries was successful in that most libraries were able to report figures for the requested items. A preliminary report distributed to the ARL Survey Coordinators during their meeting in June revealed that the interpretations in reporting these data vary considerably from institution to institution. The report will be issued in draft form this year; not as an official ARL Supplementary Statistics publication. Staff will work with survey coordinators in January to facilitate a group discussion on the appropriate interpretation of these data elements.

   - **MINES for Libraries™.** The project with OCUL has completed its data collection phase, which took place over the course of a year. Demographic and use of resources data was collected on more than 20,000 users who had access to resources through the Scholars Portal at OCUL. Presentations about MINES were held at IFLA and during the 6th Northumbria conference. A final report is being prepared for the OCUL group with summary analysis. Institutional reports are also being provided to the 16 participating libraries. The data are also available
through an interactive data analysis interface developed by MaShana Davis at ARL.

- **DigiQUAL™.** The NSF/NSDL grant has recently been completed with five digital libraries testing the interface of the DigiQUAL+™ survey interface. The major challenge with the DigiQUAL+™ protocol is the voluntary basis of taking the survey usually by mounting a link on a website that invited people to take the survey. Users do not respond to the survey in large numbers though this way. A mandatory survey might be the only way to get a sizable sample of representative responses in an electronic/digital environment (see MINES for Libraries™).

- **Learning Outcomes Working Group.** At the Working Group’s last meeting at ALA Midwinter, members recommended that current descriptive measures may be useful in serving as surrogates for learning outcome measures. They also suggested that a research agenda for learning outcomes in research institutions (such as exists for information literacy) would be useful to pursue.

- **Project SAILS.** The Kent State University research team has been granted an extension by IMLS to complete their grant by 2006. Upon completion of their final data analysis, Mark Weber, Director at Kent State University Libraries, will consult with the ARL Statistics and Assessment Committee regarding the shape of the future collaborative relationship between ARL and SAILS.

c. **StatsQUAL+™ (Display).** ARL now has in place the technical infrastructure to support an extended set of database development projects with server space housed in an external hosting facility. This capability is currently housing the annual ARL Statistics surveys forms, LibQUAL+™, MINES for Libraries™, and DigiQUAL+™. The technical infrastructure is supported by Jonathan Sousa.

d. **Task Force on New Ways of Measuring Collections.** Preliminary reports were made to the ARL Survey Coordinators and the Heads of Collection Development Officers over the summer. The Task Force met in September and finalized the analysis of the interviews and developed a set of recommendations that are being submitted to the ARL Board for consideration.

e. **Making Library Assessment Work.** Jim Self and Steve Hiller have completed Phase I of their VPO assignment and are currently visiting ARL libraries as part of Phase II, which will continue till the end of 2006. A preliminary report from their findings from Phase I was presented at the 6th International Northumbria conference on Performance Measurement and Metrics in August.

f. **Library Assessment Conference – Sept 25-27, 2006, Charlottesville, VA.** In collaboration with the University of Virginia and the University of Washington, a library assessment conference is being planned to build on the work that Jim Self and Steve Hiller have been doing with ARL member libraries.
g. **Normative Data Project (Demo).** As part of ongoing efforts to monitor the environment for library assessment tools, Duane Webster and Martha Kyrillidou met with representatives from Sirsi who were interested in showcasing new tools for collection analysis and usage known as Normative Data Project. As a result of that meeting ARL has been given test passwords to their system until the end of October and are considering asking for an official demo from Sirsi for any interested ARL directors on Sunday morning of ALA Midwinter.

External Relations

A. **Academic Libraries Advisory Committee/NCES.** The Advisory Committee meets in conjunction with ALA chaired by Denise Davis, Director of the Officer of Research and Statistics at ALA. Brinley Franklin and Martha Kyrillidou are members of this Committee.

B. **ACRL Library Statistics.** Data for 2003-2004 have been published. ARL is working closely with ACRL to eliminate unnecessary duplication of effort by exchanging data with institutional permission. Brinley Franklin and Martha Kyrillidou are serving on the ACRL Statistics Committee.

C. **NISO.** The Library Statistics Standard, ANSI/NISO Z39.7-1995, is maintained by ALA. An advisory committee has just been formed and Diane Perushek and Martha Kyrillidou are serving as liaisons to this group for ARL.

D. **ISO Performance Measures and Statistics Standards Revision Process.** Fred Heath, Denise Davis and John Carlo Bertot are the U.S. representatives to the ISO committees.

E. **IFLA Statistics Committee.** Brinley Franklin, Colleen Cook, and Sherrie Schmidt are the U.S. representatives on this committee.
The Statistics and Measurement Committee discussed the priorities of the new ARL Steering Committees and the change of the Statistics and Measurement Committee to a Board Committee under the new structure. It reviewed the funding streams for this capability and brainstormed on the need for changing the committee name. The members also asked for a preview of the interim report of the Task Force on New Ways of Measurement Collections that Brinley Franklin, chair of the ARL Statistics and Measurement Committee, and Task Force Chair, was going to offer the following day at the ARL membership business meeting.

In reviewing the Statistics and Measurement as an enabling capability within the new ARL strategic framework, the members of the committee recognized the unique and important contributions and leadership the program has established both in the North American and international library communities. The program works closely with ACRL to survey all academic North American institutions using the same survey form—the ARL survey instrument. There are also close working relations with CARL. Statistics and Measurement has relations with important international organizations, as members of the committee are representatives at IFLA and often work at the international level conducting research of interest to the international community dealing with issues of performance measurement and assessment in libraries. For example, members of the committee attend COUNTER meetings as representatives of ARL and are members of the Northumbria Editorial Board. The program has also contractual relations for specific activities with various consortia (OhioLINK, NY3Rs in the past and OCUL currently) and independent libraries (e.g., the Visiting Program Officer assignment of Steve Hiller, Washington, and Jim Self, Virginia, who are working with self-selected ARL libraries on assessment strategies).

The members of the committee recognized that it is important to continue to have the ability to have working groups, task forces, and other formal or informal groups operate under the auspices of the Statistics and Measurement Committee. So, their activities should have some dotted lines to a variety of the subgroups described within the ARL Strategic framework.

The members also considered it important to continue to attract external funding with continuing research and developments consistent with the strategic directions and focusing on measuring the impact of research libraries in the long-term. The members confirmed the need to continue to focus on developing tools that show the contribution of the library to teaching, learning and research.
Continuing sponsorship of select activities is a strategy that has been very helpful and members wish it to continue (for example, the need of a special collections survey may be something supported on a sponsorship basis).

Committee members mentioned the success of LibQUAL+™, the ability to attract funding from NSF to develop DigiQUAL, MINES with OCUL, Project SAILS at Kent State, our need to focus on research library outcomes assessment, and attempts to work with external projects like the ETS testing service.

Martha Kyrillidou was asked to explain the different funding streams and pointed out how the dues support in the new budget merged the dues allocations of “statistics and measures” and “research and development”. There was not an increase but simply a merging of two existing cost centers. The majority of the budget managed under the Statistics and Measurement Program is under restricted cost centers where projects are funded with participants’ contributions and external grants. In discussing whether the program needs to consider a parallel organization funding structure, there was no consensus on the necessity for such an operation emerging from the program’s activities.

**Responsive and Proactive**

The members agreed that the committee needs to continue to be responsive to the Board needs, enabling ARL to achieve its goals, and to possibly have a role in assessing progress towards the strategic objectives. The program however, cannot simply be a support structure. Being proactive and initiating projects and research as needed is also a very important aspect of the program’s operation that needs to continue. The members recognized that the committee cannot be prescriptive and should work with interested groups as resources and strategic alignment warrants.

The example of the Task Force on New Ways of Measuring Collections was discussed and Brinley was asked to report on the deliberations that had taken place a couple of days earlier. Committee members asked that they have an opportunity to vet and review the recommendations coming out of the Task Force. The group concluded that the main focus should be on understanding what kind of assessment is required to describe and measure the effectiveness of a research library. What makes the research library a useful library in important and unique ways compared to other types of libraries? How do research libraries relate to other academic libraries in the post-Internet era?

In brainstorming different names for the committee, the following options were proposed:

Statistics and Assessment
Statistics and Analysis
Research, Statistics, and Measurement
Assessment and Statistics
Measurement & Assessment
Research & Evaluation
Evidence-Based Evaluation
Assessment
Research Library Outcomes Assessment

In voting, the majority did not wish to see a name change. The meeting concluded on that note.

MK 6/1/2005
ARL Board Statistics and Assessment Committee

Charge & Composition

The Statistics and Assessment Committee is established as an ARL Board Committee to

• advise the Statistics & Measurement Program and

• identify quantitative and qualitative metrics and assessment tools needed in support of ARL’s programmatic objectives.

Adopted by the ARL Board July 25, 2005

Subgroups
As needed, the Statistics and Assessment Committee should consider whether task forces or subgroups might best help the Committee in carrying out its charge, and bring recommendations to the Board for establishing subsidiary groups.

Composition
The committee composition is 9 people (5 liaisons and 4 at-large members). The five liaisons are to represent the Board, each of the three strategic direction steering committees, and the Membership Committee – the latter 4 need not be a member of the steering or Membership committee but should be able to represent their agendas.

Normally, the chair will be the Board liaison.

Terms of Appointments & Continuity of Agenda
Appointments to the committee are for three-year terms and are non-renewable. Continuity of expertise on the agenda of the committee should be addressed at the task force or subgroup level. For overall guidance from the committee, the chair is encouraged to work with the Executive Committee to identify the subsequent chair a year prior to the transition. In addition, the chair may consult with the Executive Committee about circumstances that they feel justify renewal appointments for a member of the committee.

Reviewed by the Executive Committee August 10, 2005