

**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual IDS Summer Conference**  
**Informal Briefing for Prospective Members**  
**Tuesday, August 2, 2005, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

Ed greeted attendees with a report on the history of the IDS project to date. The project was prompted partly by a desire, on the part of the Arts & Sciences Directors within SUNY, to improve coordinated collection development among themselves.. Using handouts, Ed reviewed the original premises upon which the pilot was developed, and talked about his desire to centralize data collection so that participants would not feel overwhelmed by this aspect of the project, and could instead concentrate on operations within their own libraries. He noted that we tried to standardize variables in the project wherever possible to simplify things. For example, all participants agreed to use ILLiad, Odyssey and LAND.

Ed briefly reviewed the SUNY environmental landscape for libraries, noting that we are all attempting to grapple with rising materials costs, flat or reduced library budgets, growing emphasis on undergrad research and the development, across SUNY, of capstone projects/courses which often require intensive library support.

Goals of the IDS project included fast turnaround (no more than 48 hours for articles and 72 hours for books) and high quality materials.

Participants have worked hard to establish a sense of community over the past 18 months.

Karen Senglaup, University at Buffalo, outlined the history of Empire Express. It began as SUNYExpress thirteen years ago and consisted originally of the four SUNY University Centers. Syracuse University joined the group in 1995/1996.

Karen related that the University Centers are dealing with the same budget woes as the A&S Colleges within SUNY. Approximately 40% of materials owned by the University Centers are unique and they have been able to reach a fill rate among themselves similar to our 33%. By joining with the A&S Colleges they believe they could up this rate to about 65%, similar to what the A&S Colleges believe they would reach by adding the University Centers to the IDS project.

The University Center libraries are not using Odyssey as yet, but are interested. They have also not as yet moved to ILL Direct Request, but ,again, are considering such a move. They have established 48 hours as an average turnaround time in similar fashion to IDS project participants but, because they have not had the tracking data, it is unclear how well they are meeting their standards. They are very liberal in the type of materials they share with each other, including various media formats.

Following Karen's description of the EmpireExpress group, Kate Pitcher, webmaster at Geneseo, gave a brief demo/explanation of the IDS website.

Ed adjourned the meeting with a promise to share data regarding the collaborative successes/shortcomings of the IDS group at tomorrow's meeting.