ALABAMA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION
PLANNING AND COORDINATION
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

CHAPTER 300-2-5
NETWORK OF ALABAMA ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

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(1) The purpose of administering the Network of Alabama Academic Libraries (NAAL) is to implement the major recommendations of the report entitled "Cooperative Resource Sharing Among Universities Supporting Graduate Study in Alabama." The report was prepared in 1982 by the Commission's Council of Librarians and was subsequently endorsed by the Council of Graduate Deans, the Council of Academic Officers, and the Council of Presidents.

(2) It is the responsibility of the Alabama Commission on Higher Education to administer the Network of Alabama Academic Libraries, and to administer Legislative funding appropriated to the Commission for the support of NAAL, as well as other sources of funding for the support of NAAL, in such fashion as to utilize to the greatest extent possible the special expertise possessed by the representatives of the member institutions on the Advisory Council of NAAL.

(3) Upon the recommendation of the Executive Council of NAAL, the executive director of the Commission shall appoint a Director of NAAL and supporting staff, subject to the limitations imposed by the budget. This staff shall also administer the general purposes of NAAL as described in its Plan of Organization, Organizational Agreement, Bylaws, and Policies.

(4) The major goals in the administration of the NAAL program closely parallel, and attempt to address, the major issues identified in the Council's report, which advocates various methods of sharing collective library resources to enhance graduate education in the State. These issues include, but are not limited to, the following:

(a) Developing an online computerized network, accessible by all State institutions, of all academic library holdings.

(b) Developing meaningful criteria for the assessment of libraries and their capabilities of supporting new and existing program reviews.

(c) Improving procedures for sharing of library resources among all members of NAAL.

(d) Establishing and monitoring procedures for converting existing card catalogs to machine readable forms.

(e) Actively involving the Advisory Council of NAAL in the review or development of statewide library funding formulas.

(f) Involving librarians in the planning and development of statewide automated library systems.

(5) In addition to working toward the goals stated in paragraph (4) of this rule, with special emphasis on computerized networking of Alabama's academic libraries, the administration of NAAL includes general support for:

(a) Developing adequate research level collections in Alabama's academic libraries.

(b) Increasing staffing for Alabama's academic libraries, including adequate professional staff.

(c) Planning for adequate facilities to house the staff and resources of Alabama's academic libraries.

Author: Sue Medina
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