

Status Report - IMLS Project

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Currently our K-12 education project with IUPUI project is experiencing serious difficulties. We find ourselves working with a team that is very inexperienced in collaborative processes and is either unwilling or unable to report what it is up to much of the time. When it does, the story often changes, leaving us solving one problem when in fact a different problem will be raised later. We're currently spending an exorbitant amount of time simply trying to get plans from them.

It seems that they entered the process without any sense that we were truly partners and had objectives in discovering generalizable models that could be employed elsewhere. They see AMICO as simply a source of content rather than as truly involved in working out issues that arise in the delivery of such resources.

Most recently, after six months of trying to get them to react to the proposed license terms, they have responded to the licenses that were issued with a series of 'requirements' that are totally new and utterly outside the scope of what we can offer. Further, they have taken the confrontational position that they can 'do the project' with other 'content' that the AMICO library, even though it is very clear in the proposal that the project is to jointly explore how to apply the AMICO Library in K-12 settings and learn from that experience.

While we are trying to reach agreement with them on what they will do with the AMICO Library and how they will report to us on the lessons they've learned, it may be, in the end, that we will withdraw our active participation from the project and give up on learning generalizable lessons (other than about joint grants!). While this would be unfortunate, I feel that the time involved in trying to 'rescue' the IMLS grant with the current team in Indiana is not worth it unless they come around to seeing the project as one that we do together.

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