

CAGAL Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: January 30, 2026

Location: Virtual

Attendees

Joy Bolt (UNG)

David Edens (ABAC)

Sonya Gaither (Clayton State)

Lucy Harrison (USG/GALILEO)

Tamatha Lambert (MGA)

Jessica Osborne (Highlands)

Robert Quarles (Atlanta Metro)

Leslie Sharp (Georgia Tech)

Jeff Steely (GSU)

Shaundra Walker (GCSU, Chair)

Bradley Warren (Augusta)

Melissa Whitesell (Dalton State)

GALILEO Staff: Sean Boyle, Barry Robinson, John Stephens, Jared Street McReynolds, Russell Palmer, Joshua Walker Wier, Mike White, Joy Woodson, Deena Anderson, Nicole Lawrence, Brad Baxter

Welcome and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Shaundra Walker. Roll was conducted by Lucy Harrison. The October 2025 CAGAL/RACL Executive Committee minutes were approved without revision (Brad Warren motioned; Leslie Sharp seconded). The agenda for the January 30, 2026 meeting was also approved by unanimous voice vote (David Edens motioned; Robert Quarles seconded). It was noted that future minutes will be labeled under the new “CAGAL Exec” designation.

FOLIO and OpenRS

Lucy Harrison reported that the contractual relationship with EBSCO related to the FOLIO project has formally concluded. As a result, access to Panorama and Bibliograph has ended. OpenRS will continue to be monitored and explored on a limited basis as a possible future tool for inter-consortial resource sharing. Members acknowledged the extensive work completed during the FOLIO effort and expressed appreciation for the collective effort.

Ex Libris

Negotiations with Ex Libris/Clarivate are ongoing and nearing completion. A one-month extension of the existing contract is being executed to allow negotiations to conclude. The new agreement will be a long-term contract and is based on Ex Libris’ original RFP response, with updated terms and clarifications. No major obstacles were identified, though standard legal and procurement review continues.

Rapido will be included as part of the new Ex Libris contract, prompting discussion on whether adoption should be systemwide or opt-in. Early adopters reported significant increases in lending and ILL activity. Members emphasized the importance of careful operational planning and committee involvement. Interest in Leganto/eReserve functionality remains high; however, additional procurement steps will be required before moving forward.

Statewide Digitization and Preservation Platform

Discussion centered on Georgia State University's exploration of a digitization and preservation platform and whether there may be broader statewide interest. Members noted that institutional needs vary widely, potentially limiting the feasibility of a single statewide solution. It was agreed that interest should be gauged through follow-up communication prior to the next full CAGAL meeting.

FedEx Shipping Transition

Members shared concerns about the cost and administrative burden of the FedEx shipping model, including weekly invoicing, unexpected surcharges, and business office processing challenges. While FedEx is not mandatory, the group agreed that a systemwide review would be helpful. The Fulfillment Committee will be asked to prepare a detailed report for discussion at the next full CAGAL meeting.

GIL/Alma Updates

Sean Boyle provided an update on GIL's internal regrouping following the FOLIO project. Efforts are focused on re-engaging committees, identifying new Alma and Primo projects, addressing training gaps, and preparing for upcoming platform changes. Institutional Lead and Committee Chair meetings are being used to reset priorities and gather feedback.

GUGM Conference

The 2026 GIL Users Group Meeting (GUGM) will be held May 12, 2026, at Middle Georgia State University and will focus on the theme "Reset and Recharge." The meeting is positioned as a reset following the conclusion of the FOLIO project and a renewed focus on Alma and Ex Libris-related work. Programming will emphasize Ex Libris tools and developments, with vendor participation planned as a significant part of the agenda. Because of this focus, space for additional sessions will be limited. The Call for Proposals is currently open and closes March 6, 2026, and members were encouraged to submit proposals early if they wish to present. Registration will open soon, with a cost of \$40 per person. Institutions were encouraged to use ACH payment when possible and to consolidate registrations to reduce administrative complexity. Attendees were also reminded that substitutions can be made easily if plans change, without needing to reprocess registration or payment. Questions about proposals or logistics should be directed to Joy Woodson or Sean Boyle, and additional details will be shared via the conference website as registration opens.

Georgia Southern and East Georgia Consolidation

An update was provided on the ongoing consolidation of Georgia Southern University and East Georgia State College library operations. Staffing changes were noted, along with continued work on aligning policies, workflows, and budgets. ILS consolidation is planned for summer 2026, pending final quotes and timelines from Ex Libris.

Member Updates and Safety Concerns

Members discussed an increase in hoax threats at academic libraries, including bomb and active shooter hoaxes. Institutions shared recent experiences and mitigation strategies, including coordination with campus police. The group agreed this topic warrants further discussion at the next full CAGAL meeting.

Plans for Spring CAGAL Meeting

Shaundra Walker will circulate a follow-up email to solicit suggestions for dates and locations for the spring CAGAL meeting. An in-person meeting is preferred if feasible, with a virtual option as a fallback. Proposed agenda topics include Rapido implementation, FedEx shipping, committee priorities, and safety concerns.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Leslie Sharp and seconded by Sonya Gaither. The next CAGAL Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2026.