

GALILEO Steering Committee (GALSTEER)

Meeting Minutes

Date: June 5, 2026

Location: Virtual (Microsoft Teams)

Attendees

Joy Bolt (UNG)

Michelle Easley (Fulton County Schools)

David Edens (ABAC)

Sonya Gaither (Clayton/Gordon State)

Abbie Gettys (Central Georgia Technical College)

P. Toby Graham (University of Georgia)

Lucy Harrison (USG/GALILEO)

Sarah Holmes (Catoosa County Library)

Tamatha Lambert (MGA)

Natalie Marshall (Flint River Regional)

Terrance Martin (AUC)

Deborah Millier (Emmanuel University)

Burr Osoinach (Cobb County Public)

Robert Quarles (Atlanta Metropolitan State College)

Leslie Sharp (Georgia Tech)

Angela Stanley (Georgia Public Library Service)

Jeff Steely (Georgia State University)

Julie Walker (USG / GPLS)

Shaundra Walker (Georgia College & State University, Chair)

Oluremi Wright (DOE)

Incoming Members:

Debbie Holmes (College of Coastal Georgia)

Laura Wright (Valdosta State University)

GALILEO Staff Presenting:

John Stephens (USG/GALILEO)

Joy Woodson (USG/GALILEO)

Russell Palmer (USG/GALILEO)

Additional GALILEO staff attended as well.

Welcome, Roll, Minutes, and Agenda Approval

Chair Shaundra Walker called the meeting to order and welcomed participants. Roll call was conducted and a quorum was confirmed. The minutes from the April 3, 2026 meeting were reviewed and approved without changes (Deborah Millier moved; David Edens seconded). The agenda for the meeting was presented and approved as distributed (Deborah Millier moved; Oluremi Wright seconded).

Membership Updates and Transitions

Members rotating off the committee were formally recognized, including Tamatha Lambert, Jessica Osborne, Robert Quarles, Joy Bolt, Deborah Millier, and Julie Walker. Julie Walker's upcoming retirement at the end of June was noted, and members expressed appreciation for her leadership and contributions to GALILEO and library services across Georgia.

New members and leadership were introduced, including Sonya Gaither as incoming Chair, Lisa Carmichael as Vice Chair, and at-large members Ashley DuPuy, Debbie Holmes, and Laura Wright. Additional representation includes Tamera Race (GPALS) and Abbie Gettys (TCSG).

Member Updates / General Discussion

Updates were invited from all sectors. K-12, TCSG, USG, and GPALS reported no major updates during this meeting cycle. GPLS noted that libraries are actively engaged in summer programming and highlighted the success of a recent directors meeting.

Julie Walker shared remarks ahead of her retirement, expressing appreciation for the collaboration across the GALILEO community and noting upcoming leadership transitions at the state level, including changes in key leadership roles that may impact the broader higher education and library landscape.

GALILEO Development and Support Updates

Russell Palmer provided updates on development initiatives. The GALILEO Reporting Tool (Statistics platform) is nearing completion, with major development work finished and additional enhancements underway, including improved usability, bookmarking, and reporting features. A version is available for testing in the [staging environment](#), and release of the MVP is anticipated in late July.

Updates to K-12 views will include the removal of the News (Newspaper Source) database from the elementary profile to better align with age-appropriate content. Ongoing collaboration with EBSCO will support continued refinement of content profiles.

An EBSCO UX update scheduled for July 7 will introduce significant interface changes. Training sessions will be offered in July and August. GALILEO will implement a default configuration featuring a persistent left-side filter panel, with flexibility for institutions to adjust locally if desired. More details [here](#).

AI Features and Vendor Landscape Discussion

A substantial discussion focused on the growing presence of AI tools across GALILEO vendor platforms. EBSCO's approach to AI features is primarily opt-in, while ProQuest deploys features as opt-out. Current adoption across institutions remains limited.

Challenges discussed included differences in vendor implementation, policy variation across institutions, and limited ability to manage features at scale, particularly in K-12 environments.

A proposed approach would allow GALILEO to enable new AI features in a test environment, provide a review period (approximately three months), and release tools more broadly if no concerns are raised. Members expressed general support for this approach, along with the need for improved communication and centralized documentation, such as LibGuides, to track AI tools.

The discussion also highlighted the expanding role of libraries in AI literacy, including instructional programming, campus partnerships, and strategy development.

E-Resources Updates

John Stephens reported that additional funding for K-12 resources has been secured for FY27, sufficient to maintain current resources in the near term. However, long-term funding stability remains uncertain, and ongoing advocacy will be necessary.

The annual opt-in cost-share subscription process is closing, with strong participation from member institutions. Several new institutions are joining GALILEO through GISA and GPALS.

Additional topics included AI licensing considerations, with an emphasis on protecting user privacy and avoiding restrictive vendor terms, as well as continued work related to accessibility compliance under Title II and Section 504 requirements.

Annual Conference Debrief

Joy Woodson provided a summary of the 2026 GALILEO Annual Conference, themed “Intelligent Libraries.” The event was well attended and received positive feedback from participants. Attendees particularly valued the variety of sessions and focus on AI-related topics.

Feedback indicated opportunities for improvement in time management and the depth of session content. Planning for the 2027 conference is underway, including consideration of alternative locations.

Operational Updates

Lucy Harrison provided updates on budget, staffing, strategic planning, and web initiatives. No additional end-of-year funds were received for FY26 outside of K-12 allocations. Final confirmation of the FY27 budget is pending, though current projections suggest continued budget constraints.

Several retirements were noted, including Julie Walker (June), Brad Baxter (August), and Phil Fitzpatrick (recent). Broader leadership transitions across the University System were also acknowledged.

Strategic planning will begin in July 2026, marking the first full update in approximately ten years, with engagement across all GALILEO stakeholder groups.

Website migration efforts are underway to transition GALILEO-related sites to WordPress, improving internal support and sustainability. Minimal user-facing disruption is expected.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made (Deborah Millier) and seconded (Jeff Steely). The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for Fall 2026 (TBD).