

## **Library Advisory Council Meeting**

Oct. 7, 2002

Present: Leslie Rush, Robert Corcoran, Mark Sunderman, D.C. Thompson, Derek C. Montague, Mary Hart, James Lovvorn, K. Shane Broughton, Lori Phillips, Debora Person, and Mark Kline.

Visitors: Maggie Farrell, Melanie DeVore, Karen Lange, Sally Scott, Michael Nelson, Tami Hert, Janis Leath, Jamie Kearley, Steve Boss, and Donal O'Toole.

Acting Council Chair Maggie Farrell called the meeting to order at 3:10

New Business:

### **Introduction of committee members and pertinent issues to be addressed:**

- All members and visitors introduced themselves and members expressed their concerns to be addressed this year.
- Most members expressed concern over the past and upcoming serial cuts.
- Other issues mentioned included examining the allocation of funds between the departments, council attendance, increasing communication between AHC and the libraries, and possible solutions to the budget cuts such as better databases and central purchasing.

### **Unireg copies were passed out and Maggie Farrell presented her vision and charge for the coming fiscal year:**

- One goal is to develop a smoother database connection so that the researcher could move seamlessly between documents.
- The Libraries will build our technology on both ends and increase electronic access to full text.

### **Several new technological changes were announced:**

- The switch to EBSCOHost
- The developing electronic reserves
- The purchase of SciFinder Scholar and subsequent cancellation of ChemAbstract.

### **Other future purchases were presented:**

- JSTOR, Project Muse, Gold Rush, and other electronic databases.

### **Some of the concerns about these changes:**

- Funding for SciFinder Scholar in 2005 after BRIN grant runs out.
- Training and awareness for faculty about the new electronic sources. It was suggested that a 15-minute presentation to the departments would spark interest to attending available workshops on how to use these resources.

### **Serial cuts:**

- The cuts in August were fast and furious because of pressing deadlines for renewal. To give more time for the faculty input into the cuts, the serial cuts for 2004 will be done this spring. They will be more painful than this year's: an overall cut of about \$200,000.
  - Should we, however, aim to cut \$240, 000 instead to leave room for the additional costs of such things as SciFinder? Question was discussed but not answered.
- This year the departments were given firm 3-year serial pricing information that enabled more informed cutting decisions. Would the departments get that information again for these cuts?
  - Concrete pricing will not be available during the spring semester, only in June/July. Departments should give a prioritized list of journal cuts for the library to adjust when concrete prices are received. The departments might be given a list of the proposed cuts with a chance to add any last minute changes. The main issue here is that the cuts be made at the beginning of August.
- Will the departments be given notification about unspent money in the budget?
  - The library counts on some departments under spending.
  - It would be a courtesy to inform the departments of unspent money.
  - Money not spent because of serial prices being lower than expected is not easy to revert to the departments because timing is often too precarious to allow efficient communication. If the money is not spent by a certain time it goes back to the university.

### **Nominating and selecting a chair and subcommittees:**

- Mark Sunderman was nominated and accepted the position of council chair.
  - Robert Corcoran agreed to go to the executive meeting for fall semester as Mark has a class at that time.
- Meeting time was set as the first Monday of the month from 3:10-5:00. Room 116 has been scheduled for the meetings.
- Council discussed how to encourage council members to attend regularly and it was decided that the minutes will include a list of attendees.
- A subcommittee was established to look in to budget allocations and possible solutions to the serial cut difficulty.
  - Maggie Farrell asked that the committee look into 4-6 different options and outline the pros and cons to these possible solutions.
  - The committee members are Mark Sunderman, James Lovvorn, and Mary Hart.
  - Deborah Person was asked to attend the first meeting to add her input about the databases established by the law library.

Council Chair Mark Sunderman adjourned the meeting at 5:15.