

Minutes of the Library Council Meeting
October 10th, 2005
Meeting Room, Coe 115

Present: Mary Hart, chair, Mark Sunderman, Kathy Marquiss, Kenton Jaehnig, Maggie Farrell, Doug Smith, Tawnya Plumb, Ben Koch. Also attending: Steve Boss, Sandy Barstow, Birgit Burke

Library Council chair Mary Hart called the meeting to order at 3:17 p.m.

AGENDA ITEMS

Announcements (Maggie Farrell, Dean UW Libraries)

- Janis Leath, our acting head of Collection Development has provided a URL for the book request form – http://www-lib.uwyo.edu/forms/BookForm_SB_Subject.cfm - and you can submit a book request form directly or send it to your subject bibliographer. The libraries are using more approval plans these days. Some benefit of approval plans are that they allow us to purchase more books with the same amount of dollars, provides us with better access to academic titles that have a short shelf life and helps us to moderate the work flow in Technical services. The books are held for review in the Collection Development office on 3rd floor Coe Library. Contact your subject bibliographer for more information.
- Update on the Legislative request – UW Libraries is in the UW Legislative request this year for \$1 million per year for the next two years. If the request is granted, the Library Council will be talking about how to prioritize items on the libraries' list. If you have any contacts with legislators or as you meet with your constituents who might, let your comments about this request be known.
- Federal Earmark grant update – This is our second grant and is being used for technology and for students. We are replacing the student public terminals, putting technology into the two group study rooms, buying more laptops for checkout, print management software, and other software to be used to help create the Information Commons. We are using campus express to access the copiers and printers in the library.
- ILLC timetable update – We are beginning Level III planning soon with building to begin in 2007, hopefully. Our concern is that the cost of construction is rising. We may go back to the legislature for more money in 2007.

Journal Review Project (Janis Leath, Head of Collection Development)

- Janis discussed the journal review timetable for journal changes to go into effect in January of 2007. Janis described the process and took questions. One question concerned possible use of the proposed legislative funding for serials. Maggie answered that one way we manage inflation in serials is through buying in packages and negotiating price caps in those packages. While the proposed funding can't be used for serial inflation, it can be used for new serials packages. One question asked how other campuses were handling journal inflation. E-journals are one part of that answer, and another part is that publishers are seeing that there is a finite amount of money available from universities and colleges. They keep seeing subscriptions cut which is an indication that they've

reached the limit of what universities and colleges can afford. Maggie asked if the proposed timetable seems reasonable. The Council agreed that it was reasonable but added that some colleges will have to work hard and faster to keep to the timetable. Janis said that the rough figures are ready for the amount each college will expect to have to cut, but the fine details are not yet available. The Council discussed the Library Journal periodical price survey article. The subject bibliographers will have lists of serials to be cut. They can meet with the departments in addition to meeting with the departmental liaisons. It is important to tie more resources for the library to support new faculty positions, endowments, and new programs as the university continues to grow and evolve. We want to make sure that anyone on campus can see the info on what we spend on journals and databases and so will be posting the info on the library website.

Guidelines for reviewing journal subscriptions (Janis Leath, Head of Collection Development)

- The criteria for review was developed from who wants what to making determinations as a college in consultation with other colleges, departments, and divisions. What do we as faculty and students need? What is a best practice in terms of choosing journals? Who uses them? Faculty and grad students are the biggest users and they use them to teach undergraduates. Undergraduates use databases rather than print. How do we know what journals are ordered for our colleges and how do we know which ones get used? One benefit of the departmental allocation was that departments could decide together what to keep and what to cut. Some journals are extremely important to a small area but use data would not show it. The ideal is to have some criteria that would apply across the board but the reality is individual unique circumstances exist. The selection of titles that support a department must be updated regularly and cross referenced to related field so that interdisciplinary use journals are supported. Creating priority lists helps figure out what journals are critical. The input within this process from the department is crucial to help the libraries make the best decision. How do you work with packages when you only want one journal of the package? IEEE is one of the worst offenders in this regard as they don't like to modify their packages. When we negotiate these packages it is for multiple year deals. Rates of inflation are negotiated into these deals. How can we determine usage data for journals? For physical volumes, we have automated use date kept. We also keep electronic use data on-line for electronic journals. This data is not completely accurate but it is a difficult measure to make. What does the journal citation reports measure? What other criteria do we need to consider as we look at journals? If we lose our electronic journals, do we lose our electronic back issues as well? Some problems with electronic access are that we do sometimes lose our back issues, and we also experience problems with electronic access being cut off accidentally. We rely on our users to let us know when things break. Other changes impacting faculty are slow turn-arounds to publish articles and the cost to the author to publish an article. Open access publication is sometimes not a lot better than regular publishers. This is a problem for lower level faculty who need to be publishing in top level journals for T&P purposes. One way to rank core journals in fields from an academic standpoint is to have the bibliographers come up with a list of journals and make the departments do a "desert island" top 10 list of journals. Other criteria to consider in the journals review process are: student enrollment, ranking by disciplines, ranking of core journals, timeliness of article publication, and whether it is a society or association versus Elsevier type

publisher publishing the journals. We don't make decision on dollars solely. Has there ever been an attempt to set up an endowment or fund raising done specifically to support a journals? We have had a couple "adoptions" but there are problems with the practice, generally that people are unwilling to pay the cost of the magazine. We also have a couple endowments for books but the endowments have to be really large in order to make enough money to support a journal. Most people who donate money to the libraries want to see it in the book collection.

Future meetings:

Currently we are scheduled to meet Nov. 7th in 2005, January 30th, February 27 and March 27 in 2006. The last three meetings all conflict with faculty senate. Maggie will look at new meeting dates and circulate them.

Council Chair Mary Hart adjourned the meeting at 5:00.