Minutes of the Library Council Meeting
March 2, 2009

Meeting Room, Coe 115

Present: Sandy Barstow, Tawnya Plumb, Sara Williams, Anne Marie Lane, Quincy Newell, Lori Terrill, Lori Phillips, Suzanne Bronson, Doug Smith, Snehalata Huzurbazar, Birgit Burke, Staci Johnson, Jim Honour, Keith Seebart, Jamie Kearley, Bill Van Arsdale

Library Chair Tawnya Plumb called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. Attendees introduced themselves. Keith Seebart then led the Council on a tour of the remodeling to date and the new addition. After our return Sandy and Keith answered questions about the new space. There will be a phased move of collections and personnel, hopefully beginning in early April as soon as we get a certificate of occupancy.

AGENDA ITEMS

Announcements (Lori Phillips, Associate Dean of Libraries) Given the current discussion on campus about proposed future budget cuts, Maggie has developed a proposal for the libraries that was integrated into the Dean’s and Director’s 10 page budget white paper for Old Main. While our collection budget has increased, our personnel budget has not. Maggie is participating in the budget planning exercise along with the rest of campus but there is no document available at this point for public consumption.

Development Update (Staci Johnson, Development Director, UW Libraries) Staci began her report with a quote from Dickens: “It wasn’t the best of times but it wasn’t the worst of times.” Philanthropy isn’t doing well nationally and Wyoming is experiencing some of the same fallout from the economic condition as everyone else. Current endowments are under water. UW brought Ben Roth, a professor emeritus of mathematics at UW, to help set up a new “Yale Model” for UW endowments. There are several “Yale Models” so if you want clarification on the specific one UW is using, contact Staci Johnson. Library endowments are being used to fund our study rooms. The Emmitt Chisum endowment doesn’t fund a position, only the space within Special Collections. We do have an art endowment set up to buy art for the libraries. Since, in times of deep recession, gifts to education are the first to take a hit, the best action we can take on our part is to shepherd our donors. Thanks to the Library Council for speaking with and writing to our legislators. It means a lot and Staci hears frequently that from the legislators. Staci gave a brief overview of our presenter for the author’s lunch, James Owens. Watch for an announcement to come out campus wide. We will be selling raffle tickets and a lunch ticket is $50.

Serving the Wyoming Medical Community (Jim Honour, RML Librarian, UW Libraries) Jim gave a PowerPoint presentation that explained the work he does for the UW Libraries. Jim’s position is not an extended term track faculty line but is on a grant from the National Libraries of Medicine (NLM) specifically to push medical information to health professionals in the United States. The NLM system is broken up into regions; there are 6 states in our region. Our regional medical library is in Salt Lake at the University of Utah. In our region, emphasis is placed on spreading medical librarians throughout the region. Communication between the librarians regionally and nationally is important. Additionally, Jim makes site visits to hospitals and public libraries in Wyoming and provides training on-site in using the PubMed and Loansome Doc tools for accessing medical resources. He also attends conferences and meetings to promote our service to Wyoming medical groups, community health organizations, and
works with the Wyoming State Library. He also works with underserved populations such as the Wind River Tribes, or unaffiliated medical professionals. Loansome Doc is a program that connects rural physicians with medical literature. He also does instruction for consumers if you are interested in learning to look up your own medical information. He does monthly webcasts in a “train the trainer” model to train public librarians and other in how to access this info. For more information, please contact Jim at jhonour@uwyo.edu or check out the NLM site http://nnlm.gov/mcr or review the attached .pdf file of his PowerPoint presentation.

Print and Electronic Journals (Sara Williams, Head of Collection Development, UW Libraries) In the last few years we have been working towards collecting largely electronic rather than print journals. CDO will be sending around a list of journals to departments to ask them to agree to electronic over print when it is available, or, if print is desired, to give compelling reason why to keep collecting the journal in print form. The list should come out before spring break. We do have some funding for new subscriptions. With the new ILS systems, hopefully we will be able to measure cost per use and return on investment. With that info, we will be able to make better decisions about journal subscriptions that are high use.

Other Topics: Library Council’s last meeting for the year will be Monday, April 6th, 3:15-5:00

Tawnya Plumb, Library Chair, adjourned the meeting at 4:35.