

Minutes of the Library Council Meeting
October 18, 2010

Meeting Room, Coe 506

Present: Brenda Alexander, Jamie Kearley, Fred Schmechel, Steve Aagard, Anne Marie Lane, Birgit Burke, Maggie Farrell, Sandy Barstow, Lori Phillips, Harry Whitlock, Tawnya Plumb, Quincy Newell, Mary Scott for Robert Aylward, Mary Henning, David Kruger, Lori Terrill, Michelle Jarman

Library Council Chair Brenda Alexander called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. Brenda welcomed the council to the new academic year's meetings, and introduced herself. Attendees then introduced themselves.

AGENDA ITEMS

Planning for Library Council (Brenda Alexander, Library Council Chair) Brenda asked everyone to look at the list of topics. If there are any topics for the academic year that you would like to add, please let Maggie and Brenda know.

Budget Update (Maggie Farrell, Dean of Libraries) Two years ago we got an increase of \$4.3 million to collections, with \$468,000 to the Law Library. The collections budget is a restricted account that can only be used for books, databases, etc. A year ago, UW was forced to make budget cuts and \$2.3 million was taken as a onetime cut, and \$2 million as a permanent cut. We managed. \$2.3 million was restored this year and an additional \$1 million was restored through tuition/stimulus funds. We are on track to have the final \$1 million restored next year. Our operations budget was also cut and that has been only partially restored. Staffing for library hours was cut; when our operations budget is fully restored, we will fully restore hours. Maggie also talked about CPM and the staff squeeze. We lost 7 staff positions in April of 2009, and 3 more since then, a significant cut in our staffing levels.

Legislative Request(Maggie Farrell, Dean of Libraries) Maggie is working with the university on building a multi-year plan to fund collections at UW in order to achieve research library status. We are asking for \$3.6 million in annual increases including some funding for faculty and staff lines. While our collection budget is beginning to reach the lower levels of GWLA status, our faculty and staff numbers are very low in comparison. UW is engaging in a number of strategies to ask for funding now and in the future. There was a question about the faculty status of librarians. The answer is that librarians are faculty with extended term status. There was a question about electronic books as part of the collection size. The answer is both physical and e-books are counted separately but they are both counted. We use definitions used by IPEDS. There was a question about ILL. We lend and borrow at equal volumes, and ILL would be an interesting topic for some future council meeting. In our Prospector program (limited to Front Range, public and educational libraries), we lend more than we borrow. GWLA is not just about collections but also about the research our university engages in. Lori Phillips, our associate dean, just attended a ACRL meeting, not because we are an ACRL library but to learn about new initiatives and to be a presence, as the number of volumes we loan is large in terms of quality and quantity. Library Council may be asked to help lend support to the legislative request once that process is further along.

Collection Budget Overview (Sandy Barstow, Head of Collection Development, UW Libraries) Sandy has organized the overall budget in terms of one-time and on-going obligations. She explained various entries. Databases included several database aggregators with collections of full-text articles, digital dissertations, and so on through ProQuest Central. E-journal packages are replacing our print journals, in part because a number of journals are no longer in print and also because e-journals are preferred by many users. The McNaughton collection will be coming back. Sandy described the one-time obligations purchases, the approval plan process and how it was impacted by the 2009 budget cuts.

Dean's Review (Quincy Newell, Religious Studies) Quincy gave an overview of the Dean's review process. It was chaired by Dee Pridgen, associate dean of the College of Law. Quincy described the process of collecting data and the outcome. There was a confluence of 1) a brand new building, 2) performance evaluations, and 3) the staff squeeze that caused a lot of stress on staff which then impacted the staff response to the review, which indicated a high level of dissatisfaction with communication between the Dean and libraries' staff. Maggie then described some of the steps she is implementing to address staff concerns. Sandy and Maggie will begin to meet with the colleges and departments with subject bibliographers in order to collaborate more closely with academic departments. Our goals are 1) to put a face on the library liaison to the academic departments, 2) to talk about how to submit orders, how to access materials, and review journals, and 3) to re-invigorate the relationships between the libraries and the academic faculty. Maggie assured the Council that she and the organization were taking the review seriously.

Strategic Planning (Lori Phillips, Associate Dean) The Dean's review gave a lot of feedback on not only the dean but the libraries which is a rich source of information for strategic planning. We have an existing strategic plan that will be cornerstone. This plan is available on our website and is for the years 2009-2014. Another source for our planning is the ClimateQUAL survey we undertook which measure organizational climate issues. There were a number of items that came out in ClimateQUAL that also came out in the dean's review. Some of the items, such as performance evaluations, are out of our control and communication with staff on those issues and who to work productively with issues that are out of our hands is an on-going process. Our goal in the long term is to achieve research library status so we will be examining services, staffing processes and facilities, as well as staff morale. We are in a nice new facility, but we are also expanding into a virtual, digital collections space as well. Lori doesn't have a time line for the strategic planning process but will continue to update the council and ask for their input. There was a question about the electronic space, specifically; do we want to enhance that? Does a lack of server space equate to dumping reserves? Lori answered that our systems staff are as of Oct. 1st, IT personnel. This is a new area for UW to provide support for students and researchers. To answer the question about reserves, copyright guidelines requires that we not hold onto materials more than 2 consecutive semesters, but pull them after that, although the materials may be re-posted after a semester off line. These controls are imposed on us and we are trying to keep UW out of litigation. Use of persistent URLs is another tactic for providing access.

Coe Library Art Invitational (David Kruger, Special Project Librarian, UW Libraries) David described our first ever art invitational. Jennifer Mayer, our art librarian, helped with the process. Eight local artists brought in, signed agreements with us, and their art is up for display for one year. It's a win-win situation. The artists get display space, and we get a lovely display that changes the nature of our space. We have two pieces that aren't yet in the library. We have funding set aside for art purchase and our artist have also agreed to give us the right of 1st refusal and an industrial discount. The art in Coe Library

us not limited to invited pieces; we have a lot of student pieces purchased at the juried student art show that is held in February. We are starting in Coe but would like to push this initiative out to the branches. ILLC Update (David Kruger, Special Project Librarian, UW Libraries) Since the September 2007 groundbreaking for the ILLC project, Sandy Barstow and David Kruger have worked together on managing the myriad details involved in building a great new facility. Last month we did the 11th month walk-through, also known as the “warranty walk through.” We have a residual pot of money that will be used to buy more student furniture. We have been receiving office furniture all summer. We are enjoying our solid maple end panels made in Laramie by a local vendor. We are getting rid of old microforms cabinet, replacing video/security cameras, and other items. We have also submitted Coe for an architectural award in the journal Libraries. We’ve been doing some work on “freshening up” the Learning Resource Center with new blinds (the first new ones since 1976) and some of our better used furniture.

Other Topics: No other topics were suggested.

Brenda Alexander, Library Chair, adjourned the meeting at 4:47