Minutes of the Library Council Meeting
March 19th, 2012

Special Collections, Coe Library 309

Present: Ed Janak, Maggie Farrell, Tamsen Hert, Anne Marie Lane, Mary Henning, Fred Schmechel, Birgit Burke, Cheryl Goldenstein, Debbie McCarthy, John Mittelstaedt (for Grant Lindstrom), Erin Campbell-Stone, Melissa Bowles –Terry, Deb Person, Lori Phillips, Michelle Jarman, Jeff Lockwood, Janis Leath, Sandy Barstow, Margareta Stefanovic, Brenda Alexander

Library Council Chair Ed Janak called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. Ed welcomed the council, and introduced himself. Attendees then introduced themselves.

AGENDA ITEMS

Tour of Special Collections (Tamsen Hert, Head of Special Collections) Tamsen provided handouts for the tour of the Emmit D. Chisum Special Collections and gave a presentation and tour of the facility. Maggie gave some background on the formation of the Special Collections librarian position and thanked Tamsen for her leadership in providing services and direction for Special Collections.

Selection of the chair for FY13 (Ed Janak, Chair of Library Council) Maggie described the role of the chair and the support provided to the chair by the Dean and the administrative office. There are 4-5 meetings per year. Anne Marie Lane and Deb Person spoke on their experiences as library council chair. Fred nominated Ed, Anne Marie seconded and he agreed to serve a second term. There were no objections, followed by a round of applause.

Budget Principles (Maggie Farrell, Dean of Libraries) Maggie provided a document that she developed from the discussion held at the last Library Council meeting. The state has requested that agencies create 4% reduction scenarios for next fiscal year’s budgets although they have not yet required that cuts be made. In other budget news, we’ve gotten a $1.8 million increase to the collection budget. We may also get an increase in tuition funds if a tuition increase is implemented. We are keeping up our momentum towards building our collections and moving closer to becoming a GWLA library. We are below our comparator institutions in terms of staffing, about 50 positions under, although our collections are becoming very strong. We have tentatively set 2014 as a target date to re-apply for GWLA membership. Lori Phillips has been developing a document that outlines the positions Department Heads have indicated a need for that is also tied to ours and the University’s strategic plan.

LibQual Update (Lori Phillips, Associate Dean of Libraries) Lori introduced the LibQual survey and its use in collecting feedback from faculty, staff, students and other patrons on the collection, the physical building, our services, and so on. The announcement went out today (and will go out many more times) to every uwyo.edu address to invite people to participate. There are several sections to the survey including some demographics and an area for open ended questions. We take the survey very seriously and will be providing feedback received to the Library Council,
the Deans, Academic Affairs and so on. If you complete the survey, you can enter a raffle to win one of 6 $50 iTunes gift cards.

**IT Consolidation Update (Lori Phillips, Associate Dean of Libraries)**  Lori gave an update on our IT consolidation process, where we are now, and the impacts. We were an early adopter of the consolidation process; the Libraries had an initial meeting with IT in 2009. The assumptions brought to the meeting by both sides were thoroughly discussed and largely put aside. Our 4 staff positions in Library Systems were moved to UW-IT and our faculty line remained with Library Systems. No staffing efficiencies were realized by the merger and an additional UW-IT staff line was hired in part to support the libraries. Maintenance and trouble-shooting with the Library ILS and other library specific systems has stayed with Library Systems. UW-IT has provided a part-time break/fix person that is located in the Coe building. Our systems librarian’s job has become more complex as his circle of communication on infrastructure, web development, and systems in UW-IT have increased. While UW-IOT and the Libraries as an academic unit have different cultures, our merger has been successful. There was a discussion of how we qualify what success looks like.

**USP/Information Literacy (Melissa Bowles-Terry, Assessment Coordinator)** Melissa is the Assessment Coordinator for the Research and Instruction department. She provided a handout and explained our information literacy instruction program, what assessments we have been doing, and what impact the new USP proposal may have on our program. Classes are primarily at the freshman level although some are at higher levels, including grad classes. Some librarians are embedded in classes, especially on-line classes. R&I does orientations and workshops as well. One of their tools is called LibGuides and are created by librarians for specific areas. If you are interested in having a LibGuide developed for one of your areas, please let Melissa or someone in R&I know and they’d be happy to help you. In Fall 2011 R&I developed an assessment project on teaching how to identify keywords and find useful information sources. They did better at formulating keywords than in finding relevant and focused results. In ES1000 they are doing both pre and post testing. Other assessments underway include iPads effect on classroom engagement, getting information from graduating seniors on what they would have liked for library instruction that they wished they’d learned earlier, etc. Melissa did a transcript audit and discovered that is a positive correlation between library instruction at higher levels and higher GPA. Several of the proposed USP classes have library instruction components so R&I is looking forward to working with them. Usage statistics on LibGuides are available. Melissa asked what major outcomes people would like to see from library instruction courses? One suggestion was to break people from turning first to Google and also to realize that Google isn’t necessarily reliable. Another was to teach students how to find out how to access papers, read citations, and other research skills.

**Learning Spaces (Maggie Farrell for Kaijsa Calkins, special projects librarian)** Maggie gave Kaijsa’s report as Kaijsa was unavailable. Kaijsa is working on ways to increase the student’s learning via engineered learning spaces in the public area, especially for group work. Maggie described some potential scenarios. Kaijsa, Lori and Maggie visited several innovative learning spaces in other university earlier this year. Kaijsa is also looking at outfitting the movie room with padded walls, speakers, different lighting. She is also looking at how to tie it into the
curriculum and what guiding principles would determine the space’s uses. Kaijsa will be back in the fall to speak about her progress so far.

Other Topics: No other topics were suggested. Anne Marie Lane thanked Maggie for having library employees speak at Library Council and for awarding top employees with honors. Maggie announced that Anita Trout had won the Outstanding Staff Award and that Tamsen Hert was this year’s Milstead winner.

Ed Janak, Library Chair, adjourned the meeting at 4:57