

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES COMMITTEE
Minutes of the Meeting
October 8th, 2004
9:00 AM

Present: Maria Barbosa; George Bergus, Chair; Steve Bowden; John Fuller; Ed Gillan; Jessica Jensen-Arnold; Pat Kenner; Carl Orgren, Emeritus Faculty Council liaison

Staff: Nancy L. Baker, University Librarian; Kelly Avant, Secretary

Absent: Ken Cmiel

Guest: Pat Cain, Vice Provost

I. Call to Order and Introductions

II. Scholarly Communication

Discussion continued on scholarly publishing and open access. Baker explained how “big deals” work. In group buying situations, such as UI has with UNI and ISU, it allows online access to any journal to which any one of the 3 institutions have a subscription. If we need to cancel a journal, it can be replaced with another of equal value. Some CIC institutions are saying they won’t sign big deals, as it ties your hands when you need to cancel journals. However, we still have access to some journals we previously had to cancel through our Regents’ group, which is a clear benefit. Other problems with big deals are that you have to accept group terms that individually you may not be happy with, such as interlibrary loan where we have had to negotiate special terms. In addition, negotiating a license takes considerable staff time. There is also a new trend in pricing by the publishers, going from unlimited use cost, or a fixed rate, to per usage basis.

Fuller commented that it seems like coordinated purchasing groups are good, but not the best answer. The benefits of a professional negotiators for licenses was discussed. Also concerning cost per use, Fuller pointed out that users generally don’t think that their using an electronic resource costs anything. Kenner suggested that maybe the Libraries should inform users somehow, so that they are better educated, and give them options to help limit per usage. Bergus thought that restricting access in any way would not be good, but agreed that buyers should consolidate better against publishers. Fuller said that a counter force to prevent journals from being bought should be made, with independent publishers forming consortia.

What is alternative to Open Access? Having UI presses or scholarly societies take over publishing, so it is not a commercial product.

Baker would like to send a letter to faculty along with two ARL brochures, “Creating Change” and “Open Access.” The Committee agreed the letter should come jointly from Baker and them. Bergus will sign as Chair. Fuller suggested adding some budgetary info to letter, Baker will consult with Shreeves on this. Baker will send letter and follow up with departments. Emeritus faculty will be sent information.

Topics for next meeting:

Discuss space issues. A space consultant did a report for the Libraries in fall 2002. Because there are new members on the Committee who are not familiar with the report, Baker will distribute the Executive Summary before the next meeting.

Self-serve check out: Baker will report back on this service and its future potential in our ExLibris software.

III. **Updates**

Baker reported that the card catalog, which had been condensed and removed to an alcove in the Reference Department, will be permanently removed from the library as of January 31, 2005. Any remaining card catalogs in the branches are also expected to be removed.

IV. **Adjourned at 9:55 AM**

Remaining fall semester meeting:

- Friday, November 12, 9:00 – 10:00 AM, 2032 LIB