

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES COMMITTEE
Minutes of the Meeting
Friday, September 19th, 2008

Present: Stewart Ehly, Chair; Ben Hunnicutt; Patricia Martin; Tom Snee

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

Absent: Astrid Oesmann; Deborah Schoenfelder; Yangbo Ye

I. The meeting was called to order at 1:02 PM

II. **Introductions**

The Committee members introduced themselves.

III. **University Librarian Updates**

A. Baker told the Committee that the Libraries materials budget will get a 5% increase for FY09. Although 5% does not cover the entire annual cost increases for collections, it helps maintain the current level of collecting. We also received a recurring commitment to pay for our part of costs for the CIC shared digital repository.

B. Flood update – the Main Library received about 3 inches of groundwater in the basement but no materials were lost. The art and music libraries are also in good condition even though the buildings that house these libraries were heavily damaged. Dehumidification and temperature control efforts have been successful and there has been no mold growth. The only materials that were damaged were books that were checked out to people who lived in homes that were flooded. Art and music staff are retrieving needed books daily for users, and there are ongoing discussions to see if space could be found to move the libraries; but there are many issues such as finding an area big enough as well as shelving and floor loading requirements. They are also looking at the possibility of having the facilities open for a few hours a day but one problem with that would be how to provide lighting and power.

Two consequences of the flood have been that the Main Library has never been busier since the IMU closed is closed; and it has shown how much the archival facility is needed. The flood has delayed the approval process for the facility as Baker thinks the University needs to regroup and consider a more comprehensive storage plan for the Libraries and the Museum of Art before going to the Regents with schematics..

IV. **Discussion**

Ehly asked the Committee if they would like to continue the conversation begun at the 4/11/08 meeting on how the library could become a place for students to come to for more than just study. Baker mentioned that the Provost Office is beginning meetings on learning communities which she will attend. Better spaces in the building are contingent on getting an archival facility built and moving materials out. One thing the library will continue is to be open 24 hours during finals week; this was very successful when we tried it last May.

Ehly asked if the Committee had any other issues they might want to discuss. Fu mentioned that he thought students need more lockers in the building, as well as group

studies. Baker said the lack of group study rooms is a problem as we only have 2 rooms available as well as 2 more that are only available after 5 pm on weekdays and all day on weekends.

V. The meeting adjourned at 1:55 PM