

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES COMMITTEE
Minutes of the Meeting
Friday, September 8th, 2006

Present: Thomas Charlton, Chair; John Fuller; Jessica Jensen-Arnold; Patricia Martin; Astrid Oesmann; Deborah Schoenfelder; Carl Orgren, Emeritus Faculty Council liaison; Johnathan Gajdos

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

Absent: Ed Gillan

I. The meeting was called to order at 1:04 PM.

II. **Introductions**

The Committee members introduced themselves. Oesmann and Martin are the new members this year.

III. **Approval of Minutes**

Orgren motioned to accept the April 14th minutes; seconded by Schoenfelder; minutes were accepted.

IV. **Committee Charge and Deliberation Request**

The Faculty Senate President has asked the Committee review their structure, function and charge. The current charge, last amended in 1996, is as follows:

(a) Advise on policy regarding the size, scope, nature, and growth of the collections housed by the University libraries;

(b) Advise on policies regarding the assignment of facilities within the libraries and the availability of services which render the libraries more useful to members of the University community and the public;

(c) Advise on the coordination of the decentralized libraries and their collections with the Main Library and its collection;

(d) Advise on the expansion or substantial modification of library facilities;

(e) Hold joint meetings at least once a year with representatives of various departmental and divisional library committees in order to understand their needs for library services.

The charge seems fairly broad and asks members to act as an advisory group on facilities, collections, and the branch libraries. Baker noted that there should be some change in language, as priorities and challenges for the Libraries have changed over the years. Considering point A, it was noted that this was written when collections were mainly print, but adding language about access to collections in a dynamic environment may be more meaningful.

The Committee currently gives a voice to different constituents, but it was felt that the “governing body of faculty” as currently defined was not fully representational. Fuller felt that the arts should be represented along with humanities; it was also noted that professional programs are not represented.

Student representation at the undergraduate level has always been a problem; Gajdos felt that the timeline for applying for committees was a problem for students. The Committee wondered if there was a way for the UISG to advertise for these positions in the library.

Overall it was felt that the 3 year terms allow for continuity on the Committee, and previous meeting information is easily available for new members. Schoenfelder said that it was helpful to begin each year with reviewing the charge.

Charlton pointed out that point C is also an older concept. Baker agreed, saying that the move is away from decentralization. Charlton also noted that with the storage facility on the horizon, that point D should contain language about storage policies.

Charlton asked the Committee to think if there would be other administrative offices that would be useful to have a liaison to.

The Committee will discuss suggestions and revisions at the next meeting.

V. **Updates from University Librarian**

- A. On August 8th the Board of Regents approved the storage facility. Baker noted that this was an important hurdle even though the facility will not be built with state funds. Next steps include working with Facilities Services and having a library group draft guidelines to determine what materials will be sent to storage. These guidelines will be brought to the Committee when they are completed.
- B. Linda Walton began August 31st as the new Associate University Librarian and Director of the Hardin Library for the Health Sciences.
- C. The Libraries will be undergoing a departmental review in 2007. The last review was in 1998.
- D. Next week the Libraries will be sending out a link to students, faculty and staff asking them participate in the LibQUAL+ survey, developed by the Association of Research Libraries. This is a method of assessment which tries to go beyond volume count. The survey compares expectations of service with delivery of service and results will also enable us to benchmark ourselves against other research libraries.
- E. Baker announced that there will be a journal cut this year for the FY08 budget and she will bring some guidelines to the next meeting for the Committee to review. The process will be as in the past, with selectors working with departments to best reconcile titles identified to cut.
- F. Because of staff shortages, the Libraries began to look at book sales and have discovered that there is a huge amount of staff time involved in putting the sales together. Gifts staff learned from other libraries that there are vendors who will take gift books, some more selective than others, and will give the Libraries a percentage of what is sold. Another problem is there is no space to keep the books or space to

have the sale. Baker said that the Libraries wants to get out of book sales and are looking into vendors. Fuller said that this would be a loss of community support, and Baker said this would be the only drawback in discontinuing the sales. Selectors will still consult with relevant faculty when they need advise on academic worth and processing priority of donated materials.

VI. **New Business**

Baker would like to bring some new brochures on author's rights in scholarly publishing to the next meeting, and discuss them with the Committee.

Fuller offered some positive feedback on the work of librarian Brett Cloyd, who has done 2 presentations to his classes. Fuller said it was wonderful that the library is doing outreach to students with information that is relevant to their needs. Baker said the Libraries sees this as a growing role for librarians.

VII. **Adjourned at 2:00 PM**