

Minutes of the Library and Learning Resources Committee (LLRC) Meeting

October 14, 2008 / Room 204, Curtis Laws Wilson Library

Agenda

- I. Call to Order, Roll, and Approval of Minutes
- II. Elect a Chair (note: the Chair must be a tenured faculty member and will also serve the campus as a non-voting member of the Rules, Procedure, and Agenda Committee of the Faculty Senate)
- III. Review Library presentation for Chancellor's Council (scheduled for 11-5-08)
- IV. Receive (brief) review of Library acquisitions budget
- V. Review Strategic Plan for Library budget-related progress (or lack)

I. Call to Order, Roll, and Approval of Minutes

This first meeting of the 2008-2009 Academic Year was called to order at 10:00 AM by Andy Stewart in his function as Library Director and roll was taken as follows:

Present: Jacqueline Bichsel, Daniel Forciniti, Ed Malone, Julia Medvedeva, Daniel Tauritz, Ashley Hampton (StuCO), Krishna Kolan (Council of Graduate Students), and Andy Stewart

Absent: Waleed Al-Assadi (class conflict), Xuerong Wen, Charles Chusuei

As this was the first meeting of the 2008-2009 Academic Year, there were no minutes to approve.

II. Elect a chair

Delayed until the end of the meeting

III. Review Library presentation for Chancellor's Council

The committee reviewed a rough-draft version of the PowerPoint presentation Andy Stewart is working on for the Chancellor's Council presentation (11/5/08) as an introduction to the Library. His additional handouts (to be included in the PPT) and talking points generated several discussion points, some of which required background research. Among the questions raised were these: (*Possible answers and discussion items are in italics; if there's no "answer," further research is required.*)

- a. Re: Interlibrary Loan, how much does the library pay versus its ILL fee "income"?
- b. What is the real function of the LLRC? *Variability in member interest in past years may have weakened the committee. If nothing concrete results from the meetings, then people will (naturally) decide not to participate. Andy reports to the Provost; LLRC chair meets with RP&A and reports to the Faculty Senate. Andy suggested the Library is always open to faculty input (LLRC is one channel), but lack of advance notice and synchronizing decisions with meeting times can pose problems. Especially with database decisions, the library is often one member of a UM (or other consortium) committee (and gets one vote); the timing of decisions can be a critical factor.*

- c. How much input does the LLRC have on individual database decisions (for example, on the savings generated by the change from Web of Science to Scopus)? *The choice to change away from Web of Science was a UM-wide committee decision—Missouri S&T didn't gain direct access to the savings. (See also answer under Item III b.)*
- d. Is usage data available for the electronic resources? *There is a wide variation from one vendor to another. The Library has lots of data, but hasn't been asked to make it easily available.*
- e. Does the Library use strict formulas to determine (1) the expenditures on monographs vs. journals, and (2) the allocation of monograph budgets to departments. (1) *In essence, no. Electronic journals often come in packages—this makes it difficult to allocate strictly. Databases are often interdisciplinary in nature.* (2) *Yes, the current departmental monograph allocation formula is determined by student and faculty FTE, service vs. major hours, and monograph costs. It uses a weighting system to award more credit for higher level researchers such as graduate students and faculty, and for major hours vs. service hours. This formula was established by the Journals Task Force in 2004. The Library can compile these amounts for the LLRC; individual questions about these amounts may best be answered by going through departmental liaison librarians.*
- f. Why can't the Library ask the departments: "What do you need/want?" instead of asking "Which journals do you want to cut?"? *Some departments believe the only time they are contacted by the Library is when they have to cut journals. Each department will have different information needs from other departments. For instance, some will require mainly books while others require mainly journals.*
- g. Can the Library be more responsive to these varying needs? *(Re: f and g: The Library is very interested in increasing communication with the departments and faculty.)*
- h. Could the Library receive money from either grants or new degree program proposals? *While in theory the answer should be "Yes", to date the answer has always been "No."*
- i. With new theses going into the Scholars' Mine, should the Library continue to bind copies for its own collection?
- j. What support has the Library been giving for the purchase of instructional videos? *Much of the existing collection is old. Working through in-departmental liaison with the liaison librarian is probably the best route. The library staff strongly desires to support these kinds of efforts.*
- k. How much effort would it take to add support for distinguishing DVDs from VHS videotapes in the online library catalog?
- l. Should the Library even retain VHS videotapes at all? *(Outdated technology taking up space which could be used for DVDs)*

- m. The process of assigning departmental faculty liaisons to the library is not clear to the Committee and seems ad-hoc, with some departments not having any faculty liaisons to the library at all. All department chairs should institute a formal process for this.

IV. Receive (brief) review of Library acquisitions budget

Andy distributed a one-page handout of last fiscal year's library acquisitions expenditures. Some of these are capital expenditures (books and print journals); some are non-capital (document delivery fees and OCLC processing fees). Of the total expenditures, over 63% were devoted to (print and electronic) journals.

V. Review Strategic Plan for Library budget-related progress (or lack)

Andy pointed out that the campus tactical plan calls for a \$200,000 increase of the Library acquisitions budget. Beyond the "normal" four percent increase, no increase has been given. The Library has already been working on adding the highest-priority (affordable) purchases which can be funded from within the existing budget.

In general discussion, Andy showed a graph comparing the percentages of the operating budget at the other three UM campuses with that at Missouri S&T. The four-campus average is 3.5%; Missouri S&T is about 2.7% (FY08).

II. Elect a chair (continued)

Daniel Tauritz volunteered to serve as LLRC Chair for the 2008-2009 Academic Year. His offer was accepted unanimously.

Andy will co-ordinate a mutually-convenient time for another meeting this semester—before the Thanksgiving break, if at all possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Tauritz, LLRC Chair
Andy Stewart, Library Director and Recorder