

University Committee on Libraries
December 11, 2003

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. at Café DeGrasta by Chairman David Smith. Also in attendance were Gail Bederman, Harvey Bender, Wesley Calvert, Roger Jacobs, Walter "Jack" Pratt, Charles Rosenberg, Mihir Sen, Marsha Stevenson, John Weber, Jennifer Younger, guest Nigel Butterwick, observer Gay Dannelly, and secretary Melodie Eiteljorge.

The minutes of the meeting of November 13, 2003 were approved as written.

Director's Report: Younger reported that the Committee's annual report for 2002-2003 was submitted to *Notre Dame Report* for publication.

The Libraries are moving forward in their search for a Head of Library Systems and have conducted one on-campus interview.

Student reporter Joe Trombello from *The Observer* recently interviewed Younger regarding moving books and journals to the lower level.

We are renewing efforts to find ways to offset the cost of student printing in the Libraries. With the exception of the Business Information Center (BIC), student printing in the Libraries is not currently in the quota system for student printing administered by the Office for Information Technologies (OIT). We are, however, exploring that option in an effort to control printing costs and sufficiently support student use of library resources.

Library strategic planning and implementation plan: Younger distributed the implementation plan, a summary which the provost will share with the Board of Trustees. The summary has two additional columns that were not in the earlier plan: "assessment" and "target". Pratt noted that the priority status for most of the action items is "highest". He asked if this might make it difficult for Development to prioritize. Younger responded that this will not be a working document for the Development Office. It is an indication to the Provost of relative priorities, and for the library only the top priorities were included. Pratt also expressed concern that the issue of inflation will be lost. Younger agreed with this concern but indicated that for campaign purposes the focus will be on raising money for library collections, not for inflation as a separate issue. Further, she agrees it is important for the Libraries and UCL to keep the issue of inflation in the forefront of campus issues and priorities.

Journal package pricing decisions of Cornell and Harvard, and collection of use data at Notre Dame: Smith welcomed Nigel Butterwick, the Libraries' Associate Director for User Services.

Butterwick reported that institutions are struggling with the issue of journal packages vs. subscriptions to electronic journals on a title-by-title basis. Cornell has announced that their library budget simply can't handle the cost increase of Elsevier's bundled journals package, and therefore they are moving to a title-by-title plan. While the result will mean the library will pay more per title, they will cancel some subscriptions to achieve an overall savings. Harvard also plans to cancel a substantial number of Elsevier journals, partly to reduce print duplication across the university in response to budget constraints, but also "to regain control over collection decisions."

Since the beginning of November our science libraries have been collecting circulation and in-library use data for individual journals. The sciences were selected because those titles are the hardest hit by inflation. Sen asked if interlibrary loan data is being collected. Butterwick responded that we can get that data as well.

Bederman noted some concern in the humanities since their journal use is different from that in the sciences, more spotty but equally important. Younger agreed that there are different patterns of use.

Butterwick and Dannelly noted that this is a complex issue. The analysis will look at each discipline separately and consider which journals are more important in that field. Once data is gathered, the Libraries' Collection Development Committee and science librarians in particular will analyze the data.

UCL membership - is it the right size and composition? Younger received a query from Julia Braungart-Rieker regarding the size of the committee and whether or not we wanted to retain the three at-large positions. After some discussion, it was agreed to retain the membership as it stands.

January meeting: It was agreed to cancel the January 15 meeting. The committee will meet next on February 12.

Communication with the campus: This topic was continued from the last meeting. Bender suggested that the new Performing Arts Center might be a good contact and showplace via exhibits. He also noted that the University is introducing Classroom Performance Systems (CPS), a tool which captures data. The Libraries could work with faculty to gather data that might be useful.

Jacobs noted that there are probably articles available in regard to libraries and campus communication. An Association of Research

Libraries (ARL) Spec Kit might also be available. He suggested that our Reference Department could find one or two articles to use as a basis for discussion. Stevenson will pursue this and report back to the Committee.

Sen asked about how faculty should go about submitting agenda items to the committee. It was agreed that individual UCL members should work with their colleges and bring to the committee any suggestions and/or agenda items. Send agenda items to the UCL chair.

Before adjournment, Younger announced that the provost has provided funding for Early English Newspapers on microfilm.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melodie Eiteljorge
Secretary