

LIBRARY COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
October 5, 2006

Committee Members Present:

Dr. Lee Farrow, School of Liberal Arts  
Dr. Vaughan Judd, School of Business  
Dr. Gloria McPherson, Chair, School of Sciences  
Dr. Robert (Bob) Meadow, School of Education  
Rickey Best, Dean, AUM Library

Members at Large:

Betty Tims, Head of Public Services  
Karen Williams, Interlibrary Loan Librarian  
Lynn M. Ferguson, Library Associate, Government Documents  
Samantha McNeilly, Library Assistant, Special Collections  
Carolyn Johnson, (taking minutes)

Mr. Best: welcomes the committee, introductions were made.

Book Allocations for 2006-2007 handouts were given out. Rickey explained the reasons for carry-over in serials budget that being that subscriptions normal run calendar year and the university budget is for the fiscal year. Rickey explains the book allocations funds for the varies departments, being fairly consisted with last years allocations, some departments, did not spend very much at all and did not receive new allocations.

Rickey explained that some funds such as Political Science and Education receive additional funding to support the joint and shared doctoral program.



Mr. Best: The MARCIVE & Table of Contents project will be dependent upon the completion of weeding. The weeding project will take another six months.

Mr. Best: In terms of new databases Dr. Verses has agreed to fund the purchase of the Citation Reports. In 2005 the library conducted a survey to see what databases the faculty would like to see added Science Citation Reports, Social Science Reports, Wiley InterScience, and the Humanities Citations Reports were the four top databases. When we were initially quoted a price for the Citation Reports in 1997 the cost for us was \$125,000.00 they have decided to move to more reasonable pricing structure for smaller institutions. Our cost will be \$18,000.00 for a term subscription starting in January 2007. Beyond that we have gotten money from Dr. Veres for a one time purchase of backfiles of Citation Reports to 1997, so that will be roughly be ten years. This will be great benefit for faculty doing research.

Mr. Best: LiqQual Survey + <sup>TM</sup>: The Library scores were very good. They provided a highlighted chart for the 2006 survey where College and University scores were identified, most of our users were within target of the minimum and desire levels of the three categories: Affective Service, Information Control and the Library Physical Place. The minimum scores for all colleges and universities was 6.46 our students rank us 6.41, for Information Control 6.81, and for college and universities 6.65 for our students; 6.32 for Library Physical Place 6.28 for our students. Where we differ from the minimum and the desire level were in the perception on the quality of service provided we out-scored the colleges and universities as a whole, the perception level of service provided to colleges and universities for the Affective Service was 7.12 we scored 7.36 For Information Control 7.09 for colleges and 7.50 for us. It was 6.79 for the Library as a place 7.44 for us, the overall score on perception was 7.04 for colleges and universities and 7.44 for us. What it's telling us is that we are providing very good service to the students and the faculty as well. We received 82 responses written comments and with one negative comment.

From my perception in reporting this to you the Southern Association I've got to tell them we are doing a great job and that the data reflects this. Any comments questions?

Dr. McPherson: I can tell you why he is on the SACS committee and I'm not. (Laugh) Let me just pose a question that was brought up at the School of Science Retreat, which you have heard before I know, and you have already addressed it. A couple of professors said that students at AU have access to more databases than I do off campus, that the only way I can get to use those databases is to go to AU main campus.

Mr. Best: Because the two universities from a vendor perspective are two separate institutions. We are funded separately, we are budgeted separately. We do not share licenses. Everything is licensed independently by each institution. The Faculty members on this campus do not have remote access to the AU databases. Ninety-nine of the vendors will not even treat us as the same regardless. We have tried to share a licensing for a particular database and it has not worked the vendors have come back and that have said No, you guys are too different we have to license you separately. We can not afford to spend what Auburn spends on their electronic journals and electronic databases. The Auburn materials budget alone is something like \$500,000.00. I'm dealing with \$600,000.00 there is no way I can compete without the money.

If the Faculty has questions, please have them contact me.

Dr. McPherson: The Chronicle of Higher Education, several people have commented on favorably on having it available online.

Mr. Best: The Chronicle came out of the leadership retreat. People were saying how there needed to be campus-wide discussions on issues effecting higher education and people complaining about the only copy is in the school Deans office. So we solved that, right?

(Laugh)

Anything anyone would like to ask?

Dr. Judd: We are happy with the databases.

Mr. Best: Let me hand out something that we going to get loaded for the Southern Association, this is an overall assessment of the library collection.

Dr. McPherson: Someone has been working.

Dr. Best: I have used portions of this to data for Early Childhood and Biology to support their program needs, but what this is a comparison of our

data with the holding of peer libraries: Jacksonville State, University of North Carolina Wilmington, Western Carolina, and Eastern Kentucky. Those five were selected because they are all regional libraries. These institutions were chosen because all are regional institutions at the Masters Level I Carnegie Classification: All have business programs accredited by AACSB; all have education programs accredited by NCATE, and all have Nursing programs accredited by either NLN or CCNE. Rickey gives a demo on the Collection Assessment tool and what information can be obtained using it.

For example: How many titles in a particular area, held by the other libraries in the group, which titles we have and the ones that we don't own. We can actually go through this and do a title list comparison for programs needing special accreditation. We are happy to do this at any point, if you want the information just let me know and we will work on it. Please try to give to give me a break and don't ask before April 2008.

The overall data I think reflects the strengths of our collection in comparison with our peers. There are some areas where we simply don't collect as much as in these areas where we are 90 percent or above the peer collection I think we demonstrate we have a solid collection.

Dr. Farrow: I have a question about the Weeding, that you had talked about earlier, Jeanette our liaison for the History department said they we could go through our sections and weed, and I was wondering first of all how much freedom we have over the weeding, we choose what we feel is no longer necessary and you guys abide by that decision or if there is something obviously wrong with our choice.

Mr. Best: I'm back checking everything.

Dr. Farrow: Ok, and then what happens to them?

Mr. Best: We are trying to get them to University of Southern Mississippi, Gulfport. Their library was badly damaged during Hurricane Katrina.

Dr. Farrow: So at any point if we have the time to weed, just let you guys know?

Mr. Best: Yes. Let us know your schedule. Unless it a title that has information that is so out-of-date they would not be of useful to another library, or contains information that is so outdated that it would a health or safety risk, we would try to send them Mississippi otherwise we recycle them.

Dr. McPherson: Anybody have any questions about the meeting?

Mr. Best: Asks for input from Committee on tasks they would like to see the library accomplish.

Mr. Best: If there is something you would like the Library to try to try to accomplish please let us know. We are here to serve the faculty and students. Let us know what you need.

Dr. Farrow: I have a question as the new representative from Liberal Arts. Am I going to get these budgets for every department to distribute to them?

Mr. Best: No, we are shipping them straight to the department, and these will be posted on the library website we have a section on Assessment and the budget information will be posted there as well. We have a historical record of the budgetary allocation.

Dr. Judd: Are the vendors raising their subscription on the online databases?

Mr. Best: Over the last 4 years it has been running between 3 and 5 percent.

Dr. Judd: They have actually been making enhancements. I love the citation format, citation style on the website.

