Faculty Senate Library Committee

Minutes of Meeting

September 25, 2008

Committee Members Present:
Scott Brown- (Sciences)
Kate D. Simmons- (Education) Dr. Rhea Ingram- (School of Business)
Jud McCarthy attending for Michelle Schutt (Nursing)

Committee Members Absent: Lee Farrow (Liberal Arts)

Others Present:
Tim Bailey, Automation Librarian, & Library Liaison for Information Systems, Management
Lucy Farrow, Head of Public Services & Library Liaison for Foundations and Secondary Education; Counseling Leadership and Special Education; Physical Education
John Gantt, Cataloging Librarian & Library Liaison for Sociology & Psychology
Barbara Hightower, Library Instruction Coordinator & Library Liaison for Nursing and Med-Tech
Paige Hines, Financial Associate
Jason Kneip, Archives & Special Collections & Library Liaison for Communication, History
Ann Mulder, Library Associate, Serials
Judy Solomon, Access Services Librarian & Library Liaison for Early Childhood Elementary Education and Justice and Public Safety
Colleen Valente, Head of Technical Services & Library Liaison for International Studies
Karen Williams, Interlibrary Loan Librarian and Library Liaison for Biology and Physical Sciences

- The Meeting was called to order by Rickey Best at 2:35pm.
- Introductions were made.
- Best, begin the meeting by explaining the Library Budget. Handouts were distributed showing what expenses are paid with the library budget. $20,000.00 is being paid to Auburn for our share of the maintenance of the catalog’s online system software; this software resides on a server at Auburn. Others expenses included, telephone, bindery, microfilm machines, Xerox machines maintenance fees and general office supplies. Equipment expenses include updating computers, servers in order to accommodate database programs available in the library.
- Best, stated that he has placed five percent of our O &M budget in reserves, in order to continue placing book requests in the event proration is declared. The amount placed in reserves is $35,000.00. Should this not happen Best stated he we would attempt to reallocate this money back into the schools departmental accounts.
- Book Allocations funds are determined by a number of factors degrees offerings of the department, master degree, joint doctrine programs, curriculum requirements, average cost of the books and specific departmental requirements may get a little more in allocation funds for example. In the past we have been able to cover video’s needed for the department, however this year that will not be the case, video’s purchases will need to be purchase with your department allocations.
- The most substantial change is that the book allocations will not roll this year. Monies remaining in the departmental allocations on September 1st, 2009. will be moved to the Library O & M budget. The Serials inflation for 2009-2010 is projected to be 11.25 percent. The only we can cover that is to reduce the book budget. The library could easily use another half million for materials acquisitions.
Serials Budget, $350,000.00 that includes the $77,500.00 the library receives from student technology fees to pay the licensing fees for the databases. The library currently pays $260,000.00 in license agreements on various databases. With the help Tech Fees the library is able to negotiate for better pricing through group purchases, which allows us to save $50,000.00 to $70,000.00 dollars by group purchases which in turn is a good value for the University.

Best, discussed his concerns with Science Direct Renewal, and requested departmental feedback as to which subject collections they felt would most benefit their prospective departments. Best, stated at this point it does not appear that we will be able to renew the complete database but only portions of the database. Handouts were distributed showing the different subject collections under consideration. However, the final negotiations for price have not been completed. Best is working with Auburn University, University of Alabama, Jacksonville State, Troy University, University of South Alabama and University of Alabama Birmingham in efforts to obtain affordable pricing as a group. A short question and answer session followed.

Simmons: What do you mean by print subscriptions? Print subscriptions are used as a base amount for the subscription pricing.

McCarthy: What is the difference between account price and collection price? Account price is as if we have a subscription to each journal title. The collection price is a group of journals on which they would give a discounted price.

Ingram: What is the easiest way to check individual’s titles held in these collections? Best stated he would get a title list of journals included in each collection to the Library Committee as soon as possible that he was currently working with the vendor on this.

Master plan discussed, specifically plans to moved the library to the Taylor Center 1st floor, Best pointed out potential problems with the plan being the vast library collection (kindling) being held under the University’s Kitchen. Problems with water seepage and humidity endangering the library’s collection to mold, etc. Best stated he would have appreciated the opportunity beforehand to discuss these concerns with the redesign group; however he was not consulted about the future plans for the library. Best stated he was not intellectually opposed to the plan, but that he wished they had consulted a group that specializes in the moving of library materials.

Lucy Farrow stated that we welcome input from faculty on anything they feel we can improve upon. Recently, Dr. Lee Farrow had suggested that we put flies in the elevators and upon doing this we have had ridiculously good results. Any suggestion on how to improve our service is welcome, however small it may seem.

Williams asked the departments to review their Department’s video collection held by the library and consider updating any eight track tapes in the collection to DVD’s. The Library currently holds around 1500 videos and 500 DVD’s.

Best, thank everyone for coming and adjourned the meeting at 3:05