

## UNIVERSITY LIBRARY COMMITTEE

### Minutes

April 29, 1997

Present: Jerry Diethelm, Phil Ferguson, Robert Haskett, Margaret Prentice, Augustine Thompson, George Shipman.

Absent: Anne McLucas, Robert Haskett.

Guest: Deborah Carver, Associate University Librarian for Public Services and Collections.

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Margaret Prentice, chair.

Shipman stated there has always been student representation on the ULC prior to this year. He will contact Dave Hubin in the President's Office to inquire why there were not any students assigned to the committee.

Shipman reported that he was asked to address the Faculty Senate at their April 9th meeting to discuss several library issues including budget, journal collections and cancellation projects, electronic resources, and Orbis services. The meeting adjourned before getting to the library agenda item. Shipman distributed to the Senate members a question-and-answer handout. He then distributed the same handout to the ULC, which was discussed further.

#### ORBIS

Shipman stated he was invited to meet with A&AA faculty at their April 24th meeting to discuss concerns that have been raised by several faculty on the implications of recent developments with Orbis services, primarily the automated borrowing feature. Some A&AA faculty have concerns with lending UO's specialized collections and not having them available for UO students/faculty. Shipman explained that the system has safeguards against someone from another Orbis institution borrowing the majority of UO's titles on a certain topic.

Two other topics raised at the A&AA meeting were:

- 1) Developing electronic means for students/staff to know whether something has been borrowed through Orbis. Carver stated that the system already provides this information.
- 2) Implications that the UO holds a disproportionate number of titles in art. Carver said that this is probably not the case. Although UO holdings are significantly larger across all disciplines, there seems to be no unusual pattern in the case of art.

Carver distributed a handout of some Orbis search results. For example, by searching "art history" the UO Library has 218 entries of the total Orbis entries of 584, or 37.3% of the titles in Orbis. However, of the 218 volumes available at the UO, 63 of the same titles were available at other Orbis institutions. In actuality, of the 218 volumes at the UO, only 155 (26.5%) of those titles are available at the UO. Prentice suggested that while it is important to protect our primary constituents, we need to let Orbis automated borrowing operate for a length of time and then deal with problems that may arise.

Shipman also reported that negotiations are currently taking place with four other institutions regarding membership in the Orbis consortium.

#### MATERIALS BUDGET

Carver stated that the Library is hoping the legislature will approve OSSHE's request for an additional 10% increase on top of the expected 3% to the materials budget. If the additional 10% is not approved, the library will start the next round of serial cuts spring '98. Faculty will be given the chance to review the second group of subscription titles which have already been targeted for cancellation. Those subscriptions will cease January 1999.

Another area of concern for the Library is being able to support acquisitions for new programs. It is important that the Library and department work together in the planning process in order to set realistic goals.

Shipman addressed the question on whether the Library can increase its efficiency and shift some additional funds into the materials budget. The UO Library on the average spends more on library materials than other ARL libraries (43.61%/37.47%). However, in salaries we are lower than the average ARL library (44.95%/47.60%). He added the search for Director of the Instructional Media Center has not been successful because of the low salary level. We need to raise it by \$10,000 in order to attract candidates with the necessary experience to oversee the IMC operation. Another position that the library is having difficulty filling is Associate University Library for Technical Services. Because of the lower salary level being advertised, the majority of applicants are junior librarians. More classified and academic staff are doing student-related work. That jeopardizes service to faculty and the students. Shipman said the Provost and President listen to faculty concerns and that it could be beneficial for the ULC to serve as advocates for this cause, if the members agree to do so.

There has been some questions raised on the distribution process of acquisition funds to the departments. Carver said there are some published formulas which can be used to distribute acquisition funds. The Library is considering testing some of these formulas to help identify any equity problems. She added that research libraries do not rely exclusively on formulas. There are objective and subjective factors that need to be considered when identifying budget lines for the various departments; for example, student credit hours, number of faculty, and average cost of materials in each discipline.

#### SERIALS CANCELLATION

The serials cancellation project was also discussed by Carver. We can assume that increases for serials will continue to average 10% per year. If budget increases remain at only 3-3.5% and inflation remains at 10% for serials, the Library will expect to do a serials cancellation project every three to five years. Carver stated that the library will review the Orbis Collection when making purchasing decisions.

Some research libraries are experimenting with commercial document delivery (providing delivery of individual articles for a fee) for important, but low use titles. The UO Library is testing document delivery with the College of Business. In many cases, this method is less costly than carrying a subscription.

#### ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

Carver reported that the library will be adding several full text databases through Janus in July. She stated that electronic journals are very expensive so we are in the process of investigating consortial pricing which may keep the prices down.

#### NEXT MEETING

The next ULC meeting will be May 20th at 3:30. Shipman suggested that copyright issues be discussed. He said he would contact Prue Adler from the Association of Research Libraries in Washington DC to see if she could possibly make a trip to the UO to address copyright issues with our faculty.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Submitted by  
Sheila Gray