

University Library Committee
October 25, 2002
Meeting Minutes

PRESENT: Val Burris, Deb Carver, Andre Djiffack, Gina Psaki, Peter O'Day, Dan Pope, Leland Roth, Mark Vanscheeuwijck.

Dan Pope, last year's chair, convened the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

Deb Carver distributed copies of the Bellotti Family Fund brochure "*Great libraries, like winning teams, push the boundaries.*" She reminded everyone that Coach Bellotti and his family gave a \$25,000 gift to the UO Libraries, to be matched by both the Athletic Department and the College of Arts & Sciences. This fund will be used to support the creation of new and innovative technologies.

ORBIS UPDATE/COLLABORATION WITH WASHINGTON

Deb distributed copies of a memo to Lorraine Davis that discusses a new proposal of merging Orbis with the Washington state university libraries consortia "Cascade." This merger would double the number of items available when searching Orbis. There was some concern that the UO's materials would be requested more than other library collections. Deb responded that the system can balance to load so that demand is equitably distributed.

The provosts of the Washington universities are supportive of the proposal, and Provost Moseley also has given his support. The presence of UW in this alliance could open doors to other collaborative efforts between UO and UW. The Orbis Council will be meeting October 30 to review the elements of the proposal. If both Orbis and Cascade are in agreement, the merged system could be operational by Fall 2003.

[UPDATE: Merger is approved, see http://libweb.uoregon.edu/news/stories/orbis_merger.html]

LIBRARY INITIATIVES UPDATES

Public Borrowers Program

Deb distributed copies of the OREGONCard Program brochure. This program, which began September 3rd, offers free borrowing privileges to all Oregon residents, 18 years and older. The library has received many positive comments on the program and the program has also inspired several donations. To date, 524 individuals have taken advantage of this opportunity, which is approximately 3% of users checking out material. There have only been 1-2 concerns expressed by students. Overall, we are pleased with the response by the community. See http://libweb.uoregon.edu/acs_svc/oregoncard.html for more information.

Circulation of Bound Periodicals

Deb reported that the library has not moved forward with this initiative because of some concern expressed by the School of Music. She asked the committee to review the proposal and the committee's recommendations as follows:

- One-year trial period allowing faculty and graduate students to check out bound journals with a two-day loan period.
- Use feedback from the campus community to determine whether to continue circulating bound journals.
- Do not extend this privilege beyond the UO campus community.
- Implement strict fines to ALL groups and make sure those fines are well known.

- Send letter to faculty outlining the process and ask them to identify possible titles to exclude from the process.

Continuing the discussion, there were concerns with journals being lost and not being able to be replaced. Should older, out-of-print journals be excluded from the borrowing process? Deb responded that the Science Library has been circulating journals for several years and has not had any problems with lost journals. She added that older monographs also run the risk of not being replaced if they are not returned. Also, putting date restrictions on items would be difficult to manage. Instituting heavy fines should encourage users to return the items on time. Another question raised was whether it would be possible to contact the borrower if the journal is needed right away by another person. Deb said it's possible for the borrower to sign a confidentiality waiver that would allow others to contact him/her.

Deb stated that most GWLA (Greater Western Library Alliance) libraries do allow journals to circulate with restrictions. Faculty members feel it is easier and less expensive to copy articles within their departments. A question was asked if the library could scan and send an article to the faculty member's desktop. Deb responded that she could discuss this with other library staff and report back to the committee.

Gina recommends that the library proceed with this experiment as approved by the ULC last spring. It would be helpful if all journals were included to track use/return rates. Monitoring the procedure will be very important in determining whether to make this experiment becomes a permanent policy. The ULC will, however, support the exclusion of AAA and Music titles if those faculty members feel strongly against those journals circulating.

Web Site Re-Design

The main objectives in re-designing the library's web site were to entice students to search the catalog and to improve communication features. Most comments have been positive about the new web site's design, with the main complaint being that the color is too dark. It was suggested to make your Patron Record easier to find. A web group has been assigned to address feedback from users and make necessary adjustments.

BUDGET UPDATE

Deb reported that the library's final budget figures may not be available until February. The library has been asked to come up with a plan to decrease its budget by \$500,000, as a worst case scenario.

Currently, the library has a \$13.4 million budget. New general funds cannot be added to the materials budget for 02/03. Non-general funds will be used to address new collections needs. Library staff are researching different ways to manage serials inflation. Eventually, the library will be forced to cancel journals. But for the next year, we hope to move slowly and involve faculty in the selection of titles to target.

SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION UPDATE

Deb introduced and distributed copies of the document "MLA (Modern Language Association of America) Report on the Future of Scholarly Publishing." She asked that the committee review the document for discussion at a future meeting.

INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORY

Deb distributed a handout on "Taking Control – Institutional Repositories." This is another agenda item for an upcoming meeting. It addresses the potential of creating a new model of scholarly publishing. Several institutions are involved in pilot projects, including MIT and Cal Tech. She stated that the UO Libraries might participate in the experiment as well. For additional information, see ARL/SPARC's position paper on Irs at <http://www.arl.org/sparc/IR/ir.html>, and MIT's IR, "DSpace" at <http://www.dspace.org/>

SHARED STORAGE FACILITY

Deb reported that Orbis Council continues to discuss the possibility of creating a shared storage facility. The main issue at this point is location. The UO would utilize approximately 70-80% of the space initially. Andrew Bonamici, associate university librarian who serves on the shared storage task force, will attend the next ULC meeting to provide a more detailed update.

SELECTION OF 02/03 ULC CHAIR

Dan agreed to serve one more year as chair. There will be one more meeting before the winter break. Sheila will let everyone know the date and time. (update: next meeting is Friday, Dec. 6, 10:00 a.m.).

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Submitted by
Sheila Gray