

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Minutes

February 2, 2007

PRESENT: Mark Blaine, Deb Carver, Grant Castner, Chris Jones, Alexander Mathas, Eric Mentzel

GUESTS: Andrew Bonamici, Associate University Librarian for Instruction; Mark Watson, Associate University Librarian for Collections and Access

Mark Blaine, chair, called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

The topic for this meeting was to continue discussions on how to proceed with issues related to author rights. Deb distributed a list of questions that the ULC can use to help with discussing author rights with colleagues in their departments. It is important to find out our faculty's experiences with publishers before we can determine how to bring these discussions to a campus-wide level. At the next ULC meeting (March 16), the members will present comments from their colleagues.

A second handout, "Options for next steps," lists several possible directions the ULC might consider for the campus, depending on the feedback given during the conversations the members have with their colleagues. The six options listed include:

1. A formal survey to measure the extent of awareness on campus and specific problems faculty are dealing with when publishing their work or distributing their own published content.
2. Launch a more extensive awareness program.
3. Create a resource list of existing addendums – e.g. SPARC Author Addendum <http://www.arl.org/sparc/author/addendum.html>
4. Secure formal endorsement from UO Senate and/or Provost. See example from UC: <http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/senate/committees/scsc/reports.html>
5. Discuss the creation of a UO Addendum with UO legal counsel.
6. Work with Vice President for Research/others to have these issues addressed at consortial or association levels.

A. Mathas reported that he has had some conversations with his colleagues and most express concern that the presses would not be able to survive if authors do not agree to sign over their rights. Deb replied that libraries are not interested in taking action that would be detrimental to societies and presses.

Some committee members do not feel they have the necessary background to discuss this topic with their colleagues. Deb offered to have a librarian attend a departmental meeting to help answer questions that their faculty may have. The committee members should contact Sheila Gray, skgray@uoregon.edu, or x6-1891, to assist in scheduling a librarian. Deb added that the library will reach out to the larger departments that do not have representation on the ULC.

The University of Oregon is at a disadvantage as far as the infrastructure needed to address these issues. Some universities have offices/staff in place whose primary job is to address author rights and scholarly publishing. The UO Law School has already started taking some action. Mary Ann Hyatt, Head of the Law Library, will be invited to a future meeting to discuss what they are doing.

Deb was asked to explain addendums, mentioned above in #3. She responded that addendums vary, depending on the organization/institution. There are two main points:

1. Faculty retain rights on their own website.
2. Right to deposit in a discipline or institutional archive, which typically has a timeline attached to it. The UO's Scholar Bank is an example.

The publisher would still have the right to distribute copies, but it is a system of shared rights, not exclusive rights. The goal is to offer protection and flexibility to the author. Deb added that the focus is on journal articles, not monographs.

LIBRARY UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARDS

Andrew gave a brief summary of the Library's Undergraduate Research Awards program. See <http://libweb.uoregon.edu/general/libaward.html>. The evaluation committee consists of Andrew, Barbara Jenkins (Head of Reference & Instruction), Michelle Holdway, (Assistant Director and Scholarship Coordinator), Marilyn Linton (Associate Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies), and a representative from the ULC. None of the members present were able to volunteer during this time. Mark B. will contact the other committee members to see if anyone's schedule would accommodate serving on the review committee. The award winners are to be announced March 1st.

ACTION ITEMS:

Author rights

1. Sheila to email electronic copy of both handouts to the committee.
2. Committee members to have conversations with their colleagues. Contact Sheila at skgray@uoregon.edu to schedule a librarian to attend a departmental meeting.
3. Sheila to send ULC email list – the committee members can then forward comments they receive from their conversations with their colleagues.
4. Library to contact schools/colleges that do not have representation on the ULC.
5. Library staff to put together and email an FAQ on author rights.

Undergraduate Research Awards

1. Mark B. to contact members with volunteer opportunity for awards committee. [update: Julie Hessler has agreed to serve.]

NEXT MEETING: Friday, March 16, 3:00 p.m. in Rowe Conference Room to discuss colleague comments on author rights.

Submitted by
Sheila Gray