

**UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON  
FACULTY COUNCIL ON UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES**

The Faculty Council on University Libraries met at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, **October 28, 2002**. Betsy Wilson, Director of Libraries, presided over the meeting until the election of Geoffrey Sauer as FCUL Chair for 2002-2003. Sauer presided over the remainder of the meeting.

**PRESENT:**     *Professors* Sauer (chair), Berry, Brown, Lavelly, Moy, Schepp, Sutton, Wilkinson and Zick;  
                  *Ex officio members* Ogburn, Ullman and Wilson;  
                  *Regular Guest* Charles Chamberlin, Deputy Director of Libraries;

**ABSENT:**     *Professors* Chance, Kerr, Martin and Sullivan;  
                  *Ex officio member* Fuller and Sercombe.

**Welcome and Introductions – Betsy Wilson, Director of Libraries**

Betsy Wilson, Director of Libraries, welcomed new and returning members of the Faculty Council on University Libraries to the 2002-2003 academic year. Council members introduced themselves and identified their departments and disciplines.

**Approval of minutes**

The minutes of June 6, 2002, were approved as written.

**Election of FCUL Chair for 2002-2003 – Geoffrey Sauer**

Returning council member Geoffrey Sauer accepted his nomination as FCUL Chair for 2002-2003. The council unanimously voted to approve Sauer's nomination. Sauer, as newly elected FCUL chair, presided over the remainder of the meeting.

**Update from Director of University Libraries – Betsy Wilson**

Wilson emphasized that "FCUL is important for University Libraries and for leadership. It is an invaluable advisory group on such crucial issues as the Libraries' budget, digital scholarship, and faculty access to new and ongoing development and programs in University Libraries."

Wilson discussed three areas in particular: the Suzzallo Library Renovation; the University Libraries' Budget Report; and "Institutional Repositories." She also encouraged the council to continue its excellent work of last year looking at the development of electronic scholarly publication.

Suzzallo Library Renovation and 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Reopening

Wilson said the Suzzallo Library Renovation was completed "on time and on budget, and was extremely well managed." She said the project's managing team (that included Paula Walker, Betty Jo Kane, Olivia Yang, and Steve Whitehead) coordinated superbly with Turner Construction, and the entire project was "masterfully executed."

Seventy University Libraries staff members had to be relocated to the Libraries' temporary facilities at the former naval base at Sand Point during the two-year renovation, and considering the intricacy involved in such a move, the adjustment went very well.

The Suzzallo Library Renovation cost \$48 million, and was essentially a "seismic retrofit" that has made the library "seismically safe." The library's life safety ventilation systems were also vastly improved by the project.

Much-needed group study rooms are a major “added new feature” of the renovation, said Wilson. As council members know, students nowadays are often required to work in groups on academic and research projects. Now the library can accommodate this important student need.

Wilson said the library’s service groups were “redesigned” as part of the renovation. The primary reference station was moved nearer the main entrance on the first floor.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony for the reopening of Suzzallo Library was held on September 30, 2002, with Director Wilson and President McCormick both addressing the audience assembled on Red Square in front of the main entrance to the library. The Husky Marching Band played both outside and inside the library.

The formal celebration of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Reopening of Suzzallo Library will be held on November 14, 2002, in the Suzzallo Library Reading Room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. The program will commence at 2:30 p.m. President McCormick, Director Wilson and others will speak, and UW Professor and Poet Linda Bierds will read a poem written in honor of the occasion. Students from the UW School of Music will perform at the celebration. FCUL members are heartily invited to attend.

#### University Libraries Budget Report

Wilson distributed a copy of her July 19, 2002 memorandum to the Provost’s Office: “Fiscal Year 2003 Budget Reduction Plans and Anticipated Impacts.”

The memorandum stipulates that the Libraries, “as directed by the Provost’s letter of June 11, 2002, will take its required \$551,193 reduction from its personnel and operations budgets, and not reduce the library materials budget.” The distribution is as follows: Personnel - \$391,399 (2.4% of total personnel budgets); Operations - \$159,794 (5.9% of total operations budgets); Total - \$551,193.

Wilson said the budget cut required of the Libraries was 2%, the same as for all academic units. And as the memo states, the cut was not to come out of the Libraries’ materials budget, but from personnel and operations budgets. “It turned out to be a 4% cut from elsewhere,” Wilson noted, since the materials budget was not affected.

Personnel in the Libraries had to be reduced by nine positions. “The impact of these staffing reductions will be felt across the Libraries and the University. Each position cut represents a diminution in service to our faculty, staff, students, and the greater scholarly community,” Wilson said. “Our operations losses were big hits for us as well. We had to reduce the hours that Suzzallo Library was open during the renovation and we can’t roll them over to the 12:00 midnight closing time that we used to have.” Wilson said it was vitally important to preserve the Libraries’ collections, but regrettable that such preservation came at the cost of significant personnel and operations losses.

Wilson said the inflationary cost of purchasing for the Libraries continues to mount. “We would have needed \$2.3 million to help with materials inflation. The Provost’s Office provided half of that, which we were very grateful to receive. But the other half was not provided for.”

Over the current biennium, upwards of 2,000 journal titles have had to be canceled. In the next year the cancellations will be negligible, just the “normal weeding.” Because the Health Sciences Library collection budget is over 90% serials, inflationary increases hit particularly hard. The Health Sciences Library cut \$85,000 in the first year of this biennium, and \$181,000 in the prior 1999-2001 biennium. \$90,000 has been cut in the current year.

Overall, observed Wilson, “The Libraries did an admirable job, given the restraints from the state and University budgets. Again, we appreciate the support we received from the Provost’s Office, and we are in a better situation than I thought we would be. Unfortunately, next year looks worse because of the inflation in materials cost and budget shortfalls.”

Wilson said there is “increasing grant activity in the Libraries, which will help. We are recruiting for a person to be in charge of grants for the Libraries. We haven’t had this before.”

On the plus side, Wilson said there is a “good development staff in the Libraries now, which has been expanded over the past year.”

Fees for non-affiliated members of University Libraries have been increased. Not much income results from this, but it is a recognition of the situation the Libraries is in.

Wilson said there is a task force looking at cost-effective measures for service points and collections locations. “We are seeing what we can consolidate at the service points and collections locations.”

### ORBIS/Cascade Alliance

In another effort to contain costs, University Libraries is collaborating with five other Washington State institutions of higher learning in a consortium entitled Cascade. With the Provost’s blessing, the UW Libraries has spoken with the consortium in Oregon entitled ORBIS about merging the two consortiums. The ORBIS/Cascade Alliance would have – with the collections from all the libraries in the two consortiums – 22 million items, including books, journals and other materials. At this time only the books can be ordered directly by users to be delivered to their campus. ORBIS has 22 institutions in all, including Reed and Whitman. Cascade has six institutions. Only Cascade, however, has a law school in its consortium. Wilson said the ORBIS/Cascade Alliance “would allow the two states to work together in a mutually beneficial way.” In this case, she noted, “bigger is better.”

### Endowments

With respect to endowments, Wilson said, “We have had six or seven new endowments in the last year and estimate that 60% of our gift money in the last year went into endowments. About \$1.3 million, or 5% of our \$28 million annual budget, was earnings made from endowments. We also have ‘targeted endowments.’ Most of our endowments go towards collections and programs, including new areas of experimentation involving, for instance, technological advancement. We’re trying to get endowments in more areas now.”

The Allen Endowment is the Libraries’ “big endowment,” said Wilson. “The Allen Endowment is now about 10 years old. The use made of the endowment is split between collections and programs, with about half the endowment earnings going to each. The Allen Endowment is *so* important to us, especially now.”

As Wilson noted, “Library endowments can be started for \$25,000. We see that a lot.” Endowments at this level are usually for specific collections (not only for collections, but predominantly so).

### Institutional Repositories

Wilson referred to the definition of institutional repositories given in the SPARC position paper “The Case for Institutional repositories.” Institutional repositories,” she paraphrased, “are digital collections that capture and preserve the intellectual output of university communities.”

Wilson noted that the council, during the 2001-2002 academic year, “looked at changes in scholarly communication. Institutional repositories play a central role in scholarly communication. They have the potential to allow freer access to scholarly output.”

Institutions serving as a repository are responsible for creating an infrastructure to preserve digital output.

Wilson said the University of Washington had a UIF proposal in 2000 (which was not funded) proposing a “digital cooperative,” to make it possible to save digital output in archives.

Wilson referred to an experimentation on part of the University with BePress (Berkeley Electronic Press) that involves departments with “working papers.”

Wilson said the University has received two Mellon Grants of significance to the Libraries. One Mellon Grant allows the University to host a colloquium entitled “From Vision to Transformation: New Models of Academic Support for Digital Scholarship.” The colloquium, for Humanities and Social Science scholars, will be held in early January 2003. The discussions will focus on new kinds of academic support inconceivable before digital scholarship. Wilson is excited to see the documents that will come out of the colloquium.

The second Mellon Grant allows the University of Washington to become part of “DSpace Federation,” along with four other universities: the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Columbia, Toronto, Ohio State, and Rochester. The DSpace Federation concerns the use of open software; and the University, with its expertise in internet development, will be testing the software along with the other four institutions. The UW and MIT are collaborating on an “Open Knowledge Initiative,” establishing standards for digital learning projects. This will put the UW on the ground floor of digital repository development.

Wilson said she would appreciate the council’s continuing to look at scholarly communication as a major agenda item in the 2002-2003 academic year.

Lastly, Wilson said Paul Constantine has joined University Libraries as Associate Director for Research and Instructional Services. Constantine, from Cornell via Yale and Indiana University, is a national leader in digital reference work.

### **FCUL agenda items for 2002-2003**

Sauer said he would be interested in “popularizing issues for faculty: filling the gap between faculty who know about digital publishing and those who don’t. We can develop these issues: electronic publishing issues.”

Sauer asked council members for comments and suggestions.

Zick said the council could look at lists of investigational, funded electronic journals and see in what ways the scholarship could be tied together. Sutton said, “This is very significant material: national digital libraries and emerging technology (open archives). It is an agenda whose time has come. We could work to make the campus more aware of the dramatic changes in digital scholarship that reverberate through tenure and promotion.” Schepp asked, “How might we best inform the faculty? We definitely need to raise our awareness at the University.”

Brown said, “We should try *not* to lose momentum from last spring. We should involve people who are doing electronic journals on campus.” Sauer said, “Part of what we can do is to provide feedback to the Libraries. The DSpace Federation provides a central location. A question to ask is: How comfortable are faculty using DSpace? We could also get feedback from editors of journals.”

Wilson said the council may want to think of sponsoring a symposium; it sponsored a successful daylong symposium in March 2000, inviting special guest speakers both from within the University and from other institutions. It was pointed out that such symposiums create good response and awareness, but that it is hard to keep that momentum going. Zick said any effort the council makes, whether it is a symposium or something quite different, needs to appeal to three groups: researchers, faculty, and representative users of the Libraries. Wilson said the Mellon Retreat might provide “a model to replicate: a big focus group in good surroundings.”

Sutton said some sort of “clearing house” is needed. Ogburn said, “We have a Website on ‘scholarly communication’ that *is* a kind of clearing house.”

Sauer said that digital publishing is a significant means to offset funding limitations in scholarly communication, though it is but one factor among many. Zick said, "The budget is only one of many parameters in scholarly communication. Transformation to electronic journals would happen anyway over time. The budget challenge forces the issues."

Ogburn said, regarding budget cuts for next year, "What *would* we cut? FCUL could help us evaluate what might be cut." Zick said, "Cutting journals is the Libraries' job to administer, but it's not their fault. This would happen *without* budget cuts." Brown said, "Last year saw a growth in development of electronic journals. Departments and faculty were encouraged to switch to electronic journals to save money. FCUL could be a conduit to faculty who are more directly involved with electronic journals."

Sauer said that, at the next council meeting, the Libraries' clearinghouse page on the Web will be discussed, among other issues. The address for the clearinghouse page will be sent to council members.

Next meeting

The next FCUL meeting is set for Monday, November 25, 2002, at 9:00 a.m., in the Petersen Room of Allen Library.

Brian Taylor  
Recorder