

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
FACULTY COUNCIL ON UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES
TUESDAY, October 15, 2009, 1:30-3:00 p.m.
Petersen Room, Allen Library

Chair Bichindaritz called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Welcome and note on meetings scheduling and operations for the year (Isabelle Bichindaritz, FCUL chair) (5 min)
2. Approval of minutes from meeting of June 12, 2009
3. Inclusion of ex-officio members in vote (3 min)
4. Libraries Budget Update (Charles Chamberlin, Associate Dean of University Libraries, Tim Jewell, Director of Information Resources, and Cynthia Fugate, Associate Dean of Libraries for Research & Instructional Svc) (35 min)
 - a. Status on cut and actions
 - b. Serials review and cancellations
 - c. Consolidations of libraries
 - d. Activity Based Budgeting and the Libraries
5. Nomination for Distinguished Librarian Award Selection Committee (Isabelle Bichindaritz, FCUL chair) (3 min)
6. Open Access Update (Isabelle Bichindaritz, FCUL chair) (4 min)
7. Open Access Week (Tim Jewell, Director, Information Resources, Collections and Scholarly Communication) (25 min)
8. Agenda Building for the Year (15 min)
 - a. Are there any library visits FCUL would like to make?
9. Adjournment

1. Welcome

Chair Bichindaritz welcomed the Council members and asked for a round of introductions. She reminded FCUL of their charge, purpose, and role. She asked Council members for any additions to the agenda. There were no additions.

Chair Bichindaritz noted that due to the reduction in staff support, FCUL will have less flexibility in scheduling this year.

2. Approval of minutes from meeting of June 12, 2009

The minutes from June 12, 2009 were approved by email over the summer and are posted on the Council's Web-page.

3. Inclusion of ex-officio members in vote

Voting council members unanimously voted to extend voting rights to all ex-officio members.

4. Libraries Budget Update

Chamberlin provided FCUL with an update on the Libraries budget. The Libraries' budget cut was 12%., which came out to 3.6 million a year. When that is added to the March budget cut of \$468,000, it comes out to about a \$4 million cut. Funding was cut from three areas of the Libraries' budget: Personnel, Operations, and Materials. Chamberlin stated that there was an effort to make these cuts carefully and strategically, however the Libraries had to make difficult decisions. Many vacant positions were cut (30 FTEs) and, unfortunately, they had to lay off 4 members of their support staff in July in branches that were closed. 3 of these staff have been hired back on research projects, while the 4th went back to studying Law. Many libraries have trimmed their hours. Kot discussed whether these cuts have impacted staff morale.

Chamberlin and Fugate explained the result of the proposed planned consolidation of five branch libraries. In the end, only Fisheries –Oceanography and Chemistry were consolidated. Their former spaces will be turned over to the Provost. Branch libraries of Physics – Astronomy and Social Work are currently in special arrangements that have allowed them to stay open.

Fugate provided background on library consolidations. She stated that the special libraries have seen less and less use by faculty and students. Many resources are now available electronically and a huge amount of information can be found on the web. Fugate explained that this centralizing effort is being driven by scholarly practice, student use, and the reduction in resources.

Chair Bichindaritz read aloud a memo from the Chair of the Faculty Council on Research (FCR). The memo was critical of the special library closings and asserted these closings negatively impact research. It prompted a discussion about how to handle communication between the Libraries, FCUL, and FCR about these consolidations in the future. Chamberlin and Fugate thanked Chair Bichindaritz for this feedback.

Chair Bichindaritz recommended that FCUL and FCR be consulted on these kinds of issues (special library closures).

Timothy Jewell provided an overview of the Serials Review project, referring to the handout "The Financial Crisis and Information Resources for the UW Community." In summary, there is a 20% purchasing power reduction, which means that many subscriptions will have to be canceled. He asked for feedback on the Serials Review. Beginning with page 4 of the handout, he noted that journal prices have been increasing. They have made a bridge funding proposal to the Provost to "soften" the impact of this reduction in purchasing power. Jewell explained that the libraries have a lot of disciplines to support and that they are trying to reduce their Materials budget while maintaining access. He provided a detailed overview of the handout, discussing the Serials Review Process, data for estimating bundles, problematic packages, and the user feedback they have received. This process is still ongoing; however, it seems clear that they will have to cancel journals. FCUL discussed the availability of journals online, whether online subscriptions are less expensive – in fact they are not -, the future of pricing, and impact of losing access to past issues of e-journals. Jewell ended his presentation with the observation that some very difficult choices will need to be made. Coordination between UW and Orbis/Cascade is carefully factored in when deciding which subscriptions to cancel. These decisions will be made in the next months.

FCUL discussed the impact Activity Based Budgeting (ABB) might have on the Libraries. Chamberlin noted that Libraries are paying close attention to this issue and are contributing to the discussion.

5. Nomination for Distinguished Librarian Award Selection Committee

Chair Bichindaritz nominated herself to serve on the Distinguished Librarian Award Selection Committee. There were no other nominations. Bichindaritz will email FCUL to further publicize this opportunity.

6. Open Access Update

Chair Bichindaritz provided an update on the issue of open access to the Council. She announced that FCR has placed on their agenda the issue of the dissemination of research results, including the influence of open access publishing. She proposed that FCUL work closely with FCR on this issue. Chamberlin agreed with Bichindaritz that this is an important issue and a good opportunity to work jointly with FCR.

7. Open Access Week

Jewell provided an overview of the various activities and events scheduled for Open Access Week (October 20-22, 2009).

8. Agenda Building for the Year

Chair Bichindaritz asked for input on FCUL's agenda for the year. Council members agreed that important priorities are: faculty involvement in departmental library closures, research commons, encouraging faculty members to use open access and Research Works, and progress in including Librarians in the Faculty Senate.

Chamberlin asked FCUL to be a focus group in December for the Libraries' tri-annual major user survey. Steve Hiller will be in touch with Chair Bichindaritz to arrange this.

Chair Bichindaritz asked for suggestions regarding FCUL's next library site visit. Visits to the Ethnomusicology Archives or the Miller Horticultural Library at the Center for Urban Horticulture were proposed, in addition to UW Tacoma Library.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:02 p.m.

Minutes by Kristy Carter, Faculty Senate, kcarter4@u.washington.edu

Present: **Faculty:** Lattemann, Kot, Retman, Bichindaritz (Chair)
President's Designee: Chamberlin (for Wilson)
Ex Officio Reps: Banerjee, Barker
Special Guests: Timothy Jewell, Neil Rambo, Cynthia Fugate

Absent: **Faculty:** Laird, Mitchell, Seaburg, Cooper, Mack, Hicks
Ex Officio Reps: Thornton, Mills