

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON FACULTY COUNCIL ON UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

The Faculty Council on University Libraries met at 12:30 p.m. on **Friday, October 13, 2006**, in the Petersen room of the Allen Library. Chair Charles Wilkinson presided.

Synopsis

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Approval of minutes of meeting of May 25, 2006.
3. Overview of goals for 2006/07 for the Libraries and presentation of Vision 2010: Strategic Plan 2006-2010 (Betsy Wilson)
4. Budget allocations for Libraries for 2006-2007 (Betsy Wilson)
5. Report on the Association of Research Libraries workshop on scholarly communication (Beth Kerr and Mel DeSart)
6. Discussion of FCUL priorities for the year (Charles Wilkinson)

1. Welcome and introductions

Charles Wilkinson (chair) opened the FCUL meeting by asking members to introduce themselves.

2. Approval of minutes of meeting of May 25, 2006.

The minutes of May 25, 2006 were approved as written.

3. Overview of goals for 2006/07 for the Libraries and presentation of Vision 2010: Strategic Plan 2006-2010 (Betsy Wilson)

Wilson noted how critical this group is to her as the Dean and to the Libraries in fulfilling its mission. The group is an important sounding board. Wilson gave a brief overview of the Libraries to provide some context for the newer members of the Council and to bring everyone up to date on major efforts underway including strategic issues.

Wilson mentioned one important issue is scholarly communications and scholarly publishing, particularly in research. Wilson is happy to hear from members outside the Council on different ways to interact with the Libraries.

Wilson noted that the UW Libraries System is an amazing library built on hard work which has moved in the last 10-15 years from a good library to an excellent library. She talked about how the Libraries are known for their digital/electronic work; the Any Time Any Place library; and for their award winning programs of teaching students how to use and manage information and technology responsibly. The Libraries are also known for their assessment efforts. Wilson suggested assessment would make an excellent agenda item, especially a briefing from the Libraries Assessment Group.

The UW Libraries are also known their for their outstanding collections and digital content in such areas as International Studies, (Middle East; central Asia, Scandinavian, Slavic, Baltic); also fisheries/oceanography; medicine and health sciences, Engineering, special collections including book arts; 19th century literature; Pacific northwest, etc.

Wilson said the Libraries parallel the strengths of the University with a very large library-12th largest research library in the US and Canada with 22 separate facilities, from Tacoma, to Harborview, to the Seattle campus, to Bothell, which also serves Cascadia Community College, to Friday Harbor. She mentioned that the Libraries are very diverse and in a unique position of having one library administration serving three campuses. This gives the Libraries an interesting perspective on research and curriculums. Wilson pointed out that the Law Library and Center for Urban Horticulture library are not administrated by her, but there is a collaborative relationship between both units.

Wilson noted that the Libraries system is heavily used and highly valued with over 30,000 people physically entering the Libraries every day. The Undergraduate Library is the most heavily used onsite library. The first day of classes, over 13,000 students visited the Undergraduate Library alone. 20% of people who visit the Libraries daily are NOT UW faculty, staff or students, which shows the Libraries are an important window to the community.

Wilson also spoke about the Libraries Strategic plan, mentioning the current Vision 2010 plan. A Vision 2010 brochure was distributed and Wilson reviewed the brochure and noted the vision statement has changed pointing out the four strategic directions that will allow the Libraries to become an international leader in the next four years. She noted the Libraries have made enormous progress in the last three years, focusing on organization culture, diversity, information literacy, collections and resource excellence and capacity building.

A few big issues that are approaching, with a focus of the FCUL in mind:

1. Designing and leading a process for imagining libraries of the 21st century and to engage all levels of faculty, students and staff for ideas.
2. Engaging the UW in discussions and actions in scholarly communications
3. Conducting a market and external communications review.
4. Conducting a 2007 triennial survey in the spring
5. Building out the Sandpoint remote shelving facility

4. Budget allocations for libraries for 2006-2007 (Betsy Wilson)

Deans were asked to give resource needs to the Provost. The Libraries have received investment from the University over the past year for the materials budget. However, it is insufficient to keep up with the expanding information needs of the three campuses. The Libraries requested \$750,000 to cover increased costs, and received \$300,000 this year. Wilson said the Libraries will avoid any significant journal cancellations, but will be pressed to make any significant strategic investment in the digital future.

The Libraries continue to experience significant strains on their operations and personnel budgets. The minimum wage increase (3.9%) in January is unfunded, which leaves a \$100,000 shortage in the budget. Librarian salaries are a major challenge (just like for many faculty) and the Libraries are challenged in every recruitment conducted.

Wilson suggested some diversified funding strategies include: fundraising (on target to make goal); grants (very successful year); self sustaining operations.

5. Report on the Association of Research Libraries workshop on scholarly communication (Beth Kerr and Mel DeSart)

Scholarly communication is an issue that has occupied the FCUL for several years. Wilkinson mentioned that most publishing is in the hands of a few corporations – with the lack of any guarantee of access to online journals.

Mel DeSart, Head, Engineering Library and Acting Head, Science Libraries, and Beth Kerr, Associate Professor, Psychology and former chair of the FCUL (along with Tim Jewell) attended an institute sponsored by ACRL about scholarly communication. Kerr gave a briefing of that meeting including faculty roles in scholarly communication and the advocacy levels, new publishing models (university presses) and D-space. There were a lot of exercises and opportunities to talk to peers.

DeSart focused on pricing/access/preservation activities put on by ACRL and ARL. Also discussed was D-space – digital repository (putting content produced locally into a long term repository). There will be a follow up to this meeting held in Seattle in January.

Kerr suggested the library associations are taking this problem very seriously and the Libraries need to take the lead if faculty members are going to take action.

Kerr also reflected on her impressions of D-Space.

It was suggested that help could come in the form of an institutional repository (open access) with permission from the publishers (some form of the article). Authors still need to sign over the copyright of the article. It's ultimately an access issue. There is also hybrid open access. Libraries still pay for open access and authors still pay to have their articles openly accessible. Publishers are trying to find a middle ground step toward open access.

There are repositories that are subject based as well.

Open access journals were also discussed with the idea that authors will pay to publish instead of readers paying to subscribe. This area is growing and receiving support.

It was suggested that faculty need to be aware of the Libraries trying to support this effort by creating a scholarly communication committee. The main issue with faculty is copyright and authors' rights. A talking point document will be put together for librarians to talk to faculty about scholarly communication. The other area is a program effort related to copyright and authors' rights.

Kerr noted little can be done locally to change practices nationally for scholarly communications. Somehow, progress and long term planning must be accomplished nationally by the libraries.

Wilson noted she will be attending a meeting for public funded access. Barbara Perry will also be there because of the University's interface with the bill that has been proposed.

6. Discussion of FCUL priorities for the year (Charles Wilkinson)

- a. Scholarly communications
- b. Meeting in Tacoma or Bothell if possible

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Next meeting

The next FCUL meeting will be scheduled in Fall Quarter 2006.

PRESENT: Professors Charles Wilkinson (chair), Bill Seaburg, CathyTashiro

Ex officio members: Betsy Wilson

Representatives: Jeanette Mills, Erin Shields

Guest: Mel DeSart, Beth Kerr

ABSENT: Professors: Robert Goodkin, Gregory Korshin, George Martin

Ex officio members:

Representatives: Katherine Thornton (GPSS)

Guests: Charles Chamberlin

Handouts:

- Libraries' Strategic Plan, Vision 2010

Linda Ambre

Recorder