

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

The Faculty Council on University Libraries met at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, **April 9, 2001**. Chair Richard Kielbowicz presided.

PRESENT: **Professors** (Richard Kielbowicz, Chair), Dunston, Greulich, Kerr, Schepp and Tanimoto;
 ex officio members Booth, Easterling, Soper, Williams and Wilson;
 Invited guest Charles Chamberlin, Deputy Director of Libraries;
 Guest Steve Hiller, Head, Science Libraries

ABSENT: **Professors** Chance, Harrison, O'Neill, Sullivan, Sutton and Zick;
 ex officio member Fuller and Spillum.

Approval of minutes

The minutes of March 8, 2001, were approved as written.

Review of letters to the Provost and the UIF committee – Richard Kielbowicz

Kielbowicz distributed the draft of the letter to the Provost on the FCUL review of the Libraries Facilities Master Plan. The council agreed with Kerr's suggestion that it would be prudent to remove the reference to UIF in the third paragraph under "Research and Development," but to retain it in the first paragraph under "New programs and increased demands on library resources." The concern was that the mention of UIF in the "Research and Development" section might give the appearance of "challenging something."

It was also decided that "off-campus shelving and service facilities" would replace "off-campus storage" in the first sentence under "New facilities on and off campus." And the final sentence of that paragraph has been corrected to read: "Planning new libraries for the fine arts (consolidating art, music, and drama) and for natural sciences/resources or life sciences/health sciences are reasonable priorities in the FCUL's estimation."

Under "New programs and increased demands on library resources," "Bothell and Tacoma campuses" replaces "branch campuses" in the first sentence. (The word "branch" is no longer used when referring to the Tacoma and Bothell campuses; it is best simply to say "the other campuses," if both are being referenced.) In the first sentence of the second paragraph, "three campuses" replaces "Seattle campus."

Kielbowicz has submitted the letter to the Provost on the council's behalf.

As for the FCUL letter to the UIF Review Committee, it was recommended that the word "hidden" replace the word "secondary" in the final sentence of the fourth paragraph. The second sentence of the fifth paragraph was revised to read, "Alternatively, all UIF proposals could be scrutinized to assure that their budgets contain sufficient funds allocated directly to University Libraries." The council decided that this letter would be reviewed by the council after material was added – material submitted by the library that illustrated how UIF programs do create a demand for the Libraries' resources.

Spring Library Surveys – Steve Hiller

Hiller distributed copies of the "University Libraries Faculty Library and Information Use Survey: Spring 2001" and the "University Libraries Undergraduate Student Library Use Survey: Spring 2001." (There is also a University Libraries Graduate Student Library Use Survey Spring 2001; it is very similar to the faculty survey.)

Hiller said a great deal was learned from the survey sample filled out by FCUL members, among others, and he thanked those who took the time to participate in the sample testing.

The UW is unique among academic research libraries in conducting this survey every three years, Hiller said. The survey goes to all faculty, including post-docs and lecturers: upwards of 4,000 faculty in all. It goes to the Bothell campus as well, though not, in this instance, to the Tacoma campus. The undergraduate survey goes to upwards of 2,000 students at the Seattle campus only. In 1998, about 1,500 faculty completed the survey, or about 40% of the faculty population. Hiller said one of the chief purposes of the survey is to learn what is needed to enhance planning and development strategies for University Libraries.

Hiller said the surveys will be sent out in about two weeks.

He said undergraduate students are asked to rate themselves on their ability to find and refine research topics, to find information in the library, to find information on the Web, to evaluate information sources they have found, to understand and avoid plagiarism, to provide correct citations for all sources used, and to present information effectively in writing, online presentations, or oral presentations. He said there is a serious “disconnect” in this regard. It is vitally important to juniors and seniors to do well in their use of University Libraries, but the ratings they give themselves in the undergraduate survey are not impressive.

Hiller said the first page of the survey is much like the first page of the previous survey; the differences occur in the following pages. He mentioned as a key new element #14: “When you publish, are you willing to take steps to reduce the cost of scholarly information?” Hiller said the written comments on the surveys are put into a special database, and are “exceptionally useful” to the Libraries.

Hiller said there is a place for comments on the bottom of the back page of the survey. If any council member has suggestions, he or she should send them on to him. Hiller’s email address is also listed.

Information Resources Review (includes serial cancellation contingency planning) – Betsy Wilson

Wilson distributed a memorandum sent to faculty, deans, directors, and chairs, inviting their “participation in the information resources transformation process being led by the University Libraries.” Specifically, she is requesting their “assistance in planning for the likelihood that anticipated funding for library materials in the 2001-2003 biennium will be inadequate to cover the costs of maintaining [the Libraries’] current journal and other serial subscriptions.”

Wilson told the UW Budget Committee that the overall cost of serials is estimated to increase by about 10% during the 2002 subscription year. A similar increase is anticipated for the 2003 subscription year. Given the uncertainties regarding University funding for these cost increases, the Libraries has initiated contingency planning for a cancellation project. Additionally, the Libraries has taken a percentage of its UIF contribution from the library materials budget.

Wilson said duplicates are being considered first (duplicates between print and electronic versions of serials). She said faculty will be notified that this process is being initiated. The final decisions on the cancellations will be made by the end of September, right before classes commence in Autumn Quarter. Question #13 on the Faculty Survey addresses this issue: “The UW Libraries faces tough choices as state funding has not kept pace with the increasing costs of acquiring scholarly information. Indicate your degree of agreement with these options to fund acquisitions.”

Wilson said the Libraries’ “internal preparation process” is under way to make the difficult choices about cancellations. Williams pointed out that sorting out duplicate copies of journals is intricate. The question that invariably arises is: Are whole journals duplicated, or only parts of journals? “We’re checking title by title,” she said. Wilson said that journals such as Nature have a delay of three months for institutions, whereas this is not the practice with personal subscribers. This practice is indicative of the different way of packaging information now. The UW does not subscribe to Nature because of this embargo; nor does Harvard or several other prestigious universities. All of this complicates the question: What exactly is a duplicate? Kerr said there needs to be a better way for people to make suggestions on journals before they are selected and appear on the Web sites. Tanimoto agreed with Hiller that Question #14 on the Faculty Survey is particularly pertinent. Wilson said, “We need to have more weight given to publishing in less expensive online journals.” She will send to the council an excellent booklet entitled “Declaring

Independence” devoted to the issue of selecting journals for publication. Tanimoto and others said that, at present, choosing to publish in the less traditionally prestigious journals is a difficult choice to make. The pressure is intense to publish in the more formidable and more expensive journals.

UIF Library Cuts – Betsy Wilson

Wilson addressed the 1% UIF Budget Reductions for 2001-03.

University Libraries will take its required \$527,576 reduction from the three broad segments of its budget: materials and binding, personnel, and operations. The distribution is as follows:

Materials and Binding	\$167, 615	(.98% of total materials/binding budget)
Personnel	\$210,218	(.65% of total personnel budgets)
Operations	\$149,743	(4.42% of total operations budgets)

Wilson said the impact of the budget reduction on the building of quality collections – print and, increasingly, digital – to support student and faculty research and instructional activities will be significant.

“The cuts make it more difficult to provide materials that you faculty need,” Wilson said. She added that the cuts also necessitated the elimination of one secretarial position and one librarian position.

Facilities Update (Suzzallo Renovation, Sand Point, Earthquake Recovery) – Charles Chamberlin

Chamberlin said the Suzzallo Library Renovation Project is on schedule, and will be completed in the summer of 2002. The 1963 addition of Suzzallo Library is now receiving seismic bracing; that work will be intensive during the next two months. Seventy staff members have temporarily been moved to the Sand Point offsite facilities; thus material is being moved back and forth from Suzzallo to Sand Point. Chamberlin said there are concerns about contingency funding; it remains to be seen how much the Libraries will receive.

As for the recovery process of the library branches that were damaged in the earthquake, Chamberlin said all branches are now open. New shelving has been created for the Fisheries/Oceanography Library, about whose damage the council was informed at its last meeting. In the second phase of recovery, all damaged shelving in the Social Work Library, the Engineering Library, the Mathematics Research Library, and the Fisheries/Oceanography Library is being repaired. This process could continue through the summer, and possibly into autumn, but disruptions in these libraries will be kept to a minimum.

Chamberlin said a great deal was learned from the earthquake, most especially about vulnerable shelving. About 1,300 volumes were damaged in the earthquake, which is far less damage than had been feared. The cost of repairing the damaged volumes has been identified, Chamberlin noted, and that cost and all other costs associated with damage from the earthquake have been reported to FEMA. The Libraries is waiting at present to hear from FEMA.

Faculty Advisory Committee for University Archives – Betsy Wilson

Wilson said that she had appointed the Faculty Advisory Committee for University Archives and the group has held its first meeting. The committee advises University Libraries Archivist Diana Schenk. A focus of the committee is to identify faculty papers and material that truly illustrates significant achievement that ought to be archived. The committee is represented by distinguished faculty and administrators who have long service at the University. Wilson said University Archives will keep some documents in paper that are no longer available electronically because of changing generations of equipment.

Discussion: selection of the 2001-02 FCUL Chair – Richard Kielbowicz

Kielbowicz said the council will vote at its meeting on May 14th for a new chair for the 2001-02 academic year. Anyone who is interested in being considered, or who would like to nominate a voting member of the council, can contact Chair Kielbowicz by email (kielbowi@u.washington.edu) or by phone (3-2388).

Next meeting

The next FCUL meeting is set for Monday, May 14, 2001, at 2:30 p.m., in 36 Gerberding Hall.

Brian Taylor
Recorder