

University of Washington
Faculty Council on University Libraries
Wednesday, January 5, 2011
2:30-4:00 PM
Research Commons, Allen Library

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Approval of minutes
 2. Update from Dean of Libraries (Dean Betsy Wilson)
 3. Faculty Support for the Libraries (Cyndi Asmus, Director of Libraries Advancement)
 4. Research Commons Overview and Tour (Lauren Ray, Research Commons Librarian)
 5. Announcements
 6. Adjournment
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Call to Order

Council Chair Joyce Cooper called the meeting to order at 2:32 P.M.

1. Review and approval of minutes from December 8, 2010 meeting

The minutes of the December 8, 2010 meeting were approved as written.

2. Update from Dean of Libraries

Dean Wilson said that she is working on two budget forms for the Libraries, both quantitative and narrative. She also said that the capital budget proposal by Governor Gregoire included \$19.5 million for the first phase of refurbishment of Odegaard Undergraduate Library. If it gets funded, the refurbishment would be an intense process, although they wouldn't start construction until the completion of the HUB in 2012. Finally, Wilson mentioned that the WEST multi-institutional initiative discussed last meeting obtained seed funding from the Mellon Foundation.

3. Faculty Support for the Libraries

Mark Kot introduced the idea of a fundraising campaign by faculty for the libraries, with the imperative coming from a faculty council.

Cyndi Asmus, Director of Libraries Advancement, said that the libraries have averaged \$1-1.5 million in gifts a year, and represent a powerful giving opportunity for both appraised materials, IRAs, and more. She said if a campaign like this originated with faculty, it would be well received by Advancement.

Kot proposed a letter from the FCUL to faculty members outlining the severity of cuts to the libraries, emphasizing that libraries have always been there for faculty, and announcing a new Faculty Fund for Libraries Excellence. The letter would state what the fund would be used for and solicit donations. The donation mechanism should be as easy as possible, with the option for a payroll deduction. Faculty could request things they'd like to see ordered for the libraries.

Kot said that the campaign wouldn't have to be an expensive one, but that it would just need to be targeted. His goal would be to have a letter and a payroll deduction form in every faculty member's

mailbox on campus. It was also noted that there are other ways of contributing without a payroll deduction, including online – this would be especially useful for retired and emeritus professors.

Kot said he would work on a letter and other plans for a campaign.

4. Research Commons Overview and Tour

Lauren Ray, Research Commons Librarian, spoke about the Research Commons vision and how the space was constructed. The soft opening was on October 7, 2010, when a workshop with over 90 attendees was held. The grand opening occurred on November 7, 2010.

Cynthia Fugate, Associate Dean of Libraries, said that the provost was impressed with the different disciplines that were studying at the Commons, and that science students in particular seemed to be using the space.

Grace Chung spoke about her assessments of the way the Commons are being used. At the beginning, people were using it more individually, but now tend to collaborate in groups. She is using an iPad to take unobtrusive notes about the space usage. She said that people have found a home and place to do collaborative work in the Research Commons. Ray added that for assessment in the next three months, they're looking at a three-pronged approach: space observations and an in-use survey, partnerships and Research Commons librarian activity, and questions asked at the help desk.

Ray then guided the group on a tour of the Commons, noting key design features and ways in which the space was being used.

Responding to a question about the use of models from other universities in planning the Commons, Fugate noted that information commons at other schools tend to be more like service offices or scholarly digitization projects, but here the goal is to serve the students first, and with other libraries and the Mary Gates Hall computer lab closing, a space was needed.

5. Announcements

Cooper said that the reception for the nominees for the Distinguished Librarian Award would take place on January 25, 2011 at 2:00 p.m.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:53 PM.

Minutes by Craig Bosman, Council Support Analyst. cbosman@uw.edu

Present: **Faculty:** Cooper(Chair), Kot, Seaburg
 President's Designee: Wilson
 Ex-Officio: Barker, Redalje, Kirkendall
 Guests: Chamberlin, Cynthia Fugate, Cyndi Asmus, Lauren Ray, Grace Chung

Absent: **Faculty:** Retman, Hicks, Laird, Mack, Mitchell