

Faculty Council on University Libraries
2009-2010 Annual Report
Submitted by Isabelle Bichindaritz, Chair

As was the case during the 2008-2009 academic year, two topics dominated the range of discussions addressed at the eight meetings of the Faculty Council on University Libraries. The first was the efforts to assist the Libraries in planning the reductions in collections, services, and staff necessitated by continuing budget decrease, planned at the 5% level in addition to the 12% cut in this biennium budget. The second was the support of the Libraries to carry out the University commitment to progress on the road toward Open Access publishing at the University.

Budget

With regard to the budget decrease, the cumulated budget cut reached about \$4 million, up from \$3.6 million the previous academic year. The effects of the budget cuts became more visible as the year progressed. Although some serials and collections were reduced by July 1st, 2010, the effort spanned most of this academic year. Moreover, scholars and students often became aware of them much later as attempting to use them. Among the main consequences have been the reduction in Libraries collections and the consolidation of branch libraries.

Tim Jewell, Director of Information Resources, Collections, and Scholarly Communication, discussed with the Council several times the reduction strategy in collections. At the October 15, 2009 meeting, he reviewed the serials cancellation choices, which comprised three major criteria: range of disciplines, increasing amount of information, and three campuses. The purchasing power reduction reached 20% - a \$2.25 million problem. A feedback form listing serials subject to elimination was available to Faculty and Staff until October 15, 2009. Tim Jewell worked as well in evaluating the bundles made available by the publishers. Some publishers are rated as more 'problematic' in so far as they did not provide a good value for the dollar spent. Among them are Taylor & Francis, Sage, Springer, Wiley, and Blackwell. Some publishers made efforts to adapt their prices down to take the financial situation into account, such as Elsevier Science Direct, with which a new 5-year agreement was struck. The reduction choices being difficult to make, coordination with Orbis Cascade was attempted to mitigate the final effect on scholars. The Council advised the Libraries to make the process as transparent as possible by creating a Web-page explaining both the necessity and the rationale for these cancelations, by discipline.

Concerning the consolidation of Library branches, the Council was informed on October, 15, 2009 that four support staff were laid-off from these consolidated branches. The branches consolidated were the Fisheries and Oceanography Library, the Chemistry Library, and the Natural Sciences Library. They were moved to Suzzallo. Two other branches were maintained in operation with support from the corresponding schools: the Physics and Astronomy Library (two-year plan) and the Social Work Library (one-year plan). On June 4, 2010, the final closure of the Social Work Library was announced. All branch closures were approved by their respective schools. In addition, opening hours of libraries were reduced by closing most on Saturday morning. Discussions and negotiations were underway with these schools to attempt to reach an agreement about their future operations. Library staff for these branches has been maintained. However, the Odegaard Undergraduate Library (OUGL) is kept open 24 hours a day since it is such an important study place for undergraduate students. The discussion about branch closures continued throughout the year. At the December 17, 2009 meeting, Cynthia Fugate, Associate Dean of Libraries for Research and Instructional Services, and Steve Hiller, Director of Assessment and Planning, presented trends in library use at UW Seattle, which showed that, between academic years 2002-03 and 2008-09, items used in-library decreased from 800,000 to 280,000, gate counts from 4.6 million to 4.3 million, in person reference requests from 140,00 to 80,000, and interlibrary borrowing increased from 18,000 to 95,000. These figures indicate a reduced use of library space. Needs differ depending on users. Undergraduate students are looking for study space and computers, graduate students for anytime anywhere access to documents, and Faculty for online

access to a wide range of resources. These trends are also reported by the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), with a general decrease of staffed service points by 12% between 2004 and 2009, and for 60% of libraries.

Dean Wilson personally communicated with the Faculty to inform them of the Libraries modifications in response to the budget cuts on the Libraries Web-site, to the Faculty mailing list, and on UWeek. She explained the extreme consequences of an unprecedented cut. 2700 journals were lost. She received many reactions from Faculty, mostly supportive and appreciative of the effort to communicate. She expressed that the Libraries are even more than ever dedicated to communicate closely with Faculty regarding collections composition.

In January, a possible new cut was announced – of the order of 3.5% across the board for academic year 2010-11. The cut might be mitigated by the new Activity-Based Budgeting (ABB). Dean Wilson announced she did not intend to cut more branches. On April 1st, Dean Wilson met with the Provost to present the Libraries budget. She stressed the magnitude of the cuts – one of the largest cuts in research libraries, at a time when services have increased by 11.5%, expected to grow even more with the HUB and MGH closures. On April 16, she updated FCUL on this meeting, at which Steve Hiller presented comparative data on the evolution of UW Libraries budget and that of peer libraries in the Association of Research Libraries (ARL). These data clearly illustrated that total expenditures at UW libraries increased only by 8.2% against 20.4% for all ARL libraries (and 22.4% for ARL public libraries) for the same time range. Salaries increased 15.6% versus 21.7% for ARL for the same reference period. In addition, a proposed budget for the next biennium due in July was prepared for the Provost before being sent to the Legislature. On the positive side, the Libraries will not incur the UW Information Technology tax. For the 2010-11 academic year, the definitive cut was announced to be at most 5% at the June 4th meeting and maybe some restoration – although not decided yet. Other campuses have received harmless budgets for next year. UWB will be able to add one librarian and UWT will be able to absorb the cuts and plan for a new space part of the Phase III building plan.

On January 22, 2010, Thom Deardorff, Coordinator for Access Services for University Libraries, presented a plan to harmonize loan durations across libraries and collections. This simplification was driven in part by the budget reductions and in part to make the loan process more efficient. In the new system, which took effect this year, loans may be either short-term (7 days for periodicals and CDs) or long term (12 weeks). Yearly loans, which required a manual intervention, have been suppressed. Some concerns were raised by the Council since some Faculty are not using the online system to renew their books, and in addition some Faculty need to keep books longer when they are writing books. In addition, replacement costs have been standardized to only two prices.

Regarding the budget, the move to Activity-Based Budgeting (ABB) at the University was several times discussed as presenting some hope for additional revenue for the Libraries, for example as late borrowers' fees representing \$135,000 would be assigned to the Libraries instead of the Provost.

Open Access Publishing

Regarding progress toward Open Access publishing at the University, the year started strongly with the Libraries organization of Open Access Week on October 22; 2009. The event is reported on a Web-site. Tim Jewell reported at the Council that the turn-out was mixed among the presentations, between 35 and 50 in attendance. Another discussion took place on February 23rd related to authors' rights in particular with the Attorney General. I attended this event, which allowed me to witness interests and concerns of many faculty around authors' rights. The University is dedicated to the development of its *ResearchWorks* institutional repository, which involves many of these authorship questions. Some Council members explained that, in their disciplines, where small journals could not survive an Open Access model, this kind of publishing practice was not a sustainable model. However most Council members expressed dedication to trying the recommended model. Clearly progress will have to take into account discipline specificity. In January, a Federal mandate to publish in Open Access all results of federally funded research was announced, which

further accentuates the urgency to make fast progress in the implementation of the Resolution Concerning Scholarly Publishing Alternatives and Authors' Rights adopted by the Faculty Senate on April 2003, 2009 (https://www.washington.edu/faculty/facsen/legislation/class_c/class_c_481.pdf) and presented by FCUL Chair Professor Wilkinson.

After several discussions of Open Access plans, Charles Chamberlin proposed to form an Open Access Working Group (OAWG) at the meeting of February 26, 2010. The group, led by FCUL Chair, recruited members from the Libraries and the Faculty Council on Research (FCR) to finally reach the following composition (by alphabetical order): Professor Isabelle Bichindaritz, FCUL Chair and UWT, Professor Joyce Cooper, FCUL Member and Engineering, Mel DeSart, Engineering Library, Tim Jewell, Libraries Information Resources and Scholarly Communications Director, Ann Lally, Libraries Digital Initiatives Head, and Professor Richard Wright, FCR Member and Linguistics. The group met on February 23, March 11; April 13, May 4, and June 2nd.

The OAWG produced several documents attached to this report: two sets of slides and a document outlining its plan proceeding through several steps. The group advises bottom-plan to complement the top-down plan implemented by the Libraries. The goal is to step through a process for Faculty to engage in Open Access publishing practices within OAWG, then within FCUL. After that preliminary step, members will serve as Open Access stewards and present to their respective academic units. At the same time, additional Faculty and Librarians will be enlisted as Open Access stewards and make presentations at academic units. At each level, feedback will be brought up to OAWG to refine the process.

Faculty Senate Structure Change

Another important discussion this year concerned the change to the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) and the Faculty Senate. Several discussions allowed to progress toward the approval of a document to guide the membership composition of future FCUL's. Since the Group structure has been eliminated from the Faculty Code, the corresponding sentence related to FCUL composition¹ was removed as well. Consequently FCUL's composition does not differ anymore from other Councils' composition. The document adopted by FCUL ensures guidance for proposing new members to future FCUL chairs and is appended to this report.

OUGL Visioning Process

On November 19, 2009, Dean Wilson reported on the plan to renovate the Odegaard Undergraduate Library (OUGL) underway through the Odegaard Undergraduate Library Building Visioning process. OUGL serves the University foremost as study space; in particular as the HUB closes in July 2010 for a 24-month renovation and Mary Gates Hall is used more and more for service offices. OUGL was built in 1972 and serves at least 10,000 students daily over 24-hours. The architectural visioning process is due early February 2010 for this building which is the most used of all UW buildings. The plan is for a sustainable building, with good air quality, ad-hoc study space, electronic resources, an infrastructure for mobile computers, and a display venue for students' art. The saturation of wireless connection needs to be addressed before and has received funding from the Provost. The Council visited OUGL on February 26, 2010, and was gracefully received by its Director, Jill McKinstry, who guided the members through the rich range of services offered – between collections of books and diverse media, writing center, videoconferencing facility, computer labs, study rooms, etc. She presented the often opposing requirements guiding the design of the new building, part of Restore the Core.

Triennial Survey

This year was also marked by the triennial survey, presented to the Council on December 17, 2009 by Steve Hiller and Gordon Aamot, Foster Business Library Head. The proposed survey, which started in 1992, was

¹ Faculty Code 42-31 – The Faculty Council on University Libraries shall consist of the chair and one member from each faculty group and campus.

tested by the Council, who provided feedback. Council Faculty commented on asking Faculty and students their reactions to branch Libraries closure and the ensuing reduction in space, to reduced collections access, and to the growing shift to electronic material. One important question for Faculty related to which new services they would like. Council members expressed foreign language journals, back-runs of old archival journals, and eBooks (400,000 so far). The survey also asked how Faculty appreciated the newly added services, such as the scan to pdf and email delivery of articles. Clarification was also requested from Faculty about the fee to return materials to a foreign country. It was also proposed to create/enhance virtual sites in particular for the branch libraries having been physically closed. At the June 4th 2010 meeting, Steve Hiller presented preliminary results from the survey. Although believed impossible, satisfaction figures with the Libraries have risen – up to 4.83 out of five for Faculty with an excellent response of 1600/4000 Faculty.

Librarians on the Faculty Senate

At the May 7, 2010, meeting, John Vallier Distributed Media Services Head, Libraries Media Center, Odegaard Undergraduate Library, presented progress in the representation of Library staff on the Faculty Senate and Senate Executive Committee (SEC). He reminded its history, stemming from an FCUL resolution in April 2008, and approved by librarians at 88%. In January 2010, John Vallier represented the Association of Librarians of UW (ALUW) at the Faculty Council on Faculty Affairs (FCFA). FCFA was supportive, however proposed a stronger move to include librarians in the faculty. John Vallier is entertaining discussions with the librarians about whether they wish to pursue this more radical move. Benefits and drawbacks of the move were discussed, and will foster future discussions among librarians before a decision is made.

Other Topics

Other topics addressed have been the move of some of the HUB's services to Suzzallo, the renovation of the Foster Business Library, an update on Research Commons design, and a grant in preparation – among others.

FCUL Membership, 2009-2010

Faculty: Isabelle Bichindaritz (UWT, chair), Joyce Cooper, Gregory Hicks, Mark Kot, Margaret Laird, Dianne F. Lattemann, Edward Mack, Pamela Mitchell, Sonnet Retman, Bill Seaburg (UWB).

President's designee without vote: Dean Lizabeth (Betsy) Wilson

Regular guest without vote: Charles Chamberlin, Senior Associate Dean

Members of representative groups with vote: Deepa Banerjee (ALUW), Ellen Barker (PSO), Jeanette Mills (PSO), Yookyong Lee (ASUW), Katherine Thornton (GPSS)

Faculty Senate Staff: Alex Bolton , Kristy Carter, and Susan Fox