

## **Faculty Council on University Libraries**

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Charles Wilkinson, Chair

The Faculty Council on University Libraries (FCUL) "...shall be responsible for all matters of policy relating to libraries such as, but not limited to, collection development; services to students, faculty, and others; the system of libraries, including branch libraries; space needs; and budgetary requirements. Faculty Code, Sec 42-47."

The major topic of discussion for the FCUL during the 2006-2007 academic year was the future of scholarly communication -- specifically, publication in academic journals -- and the Libraries' plans for keeping abreast with the significant changes in publication models that are now occurring and taking a role in shaping and determining the nature of these changes. These issues occupied all or part of the agenda for four of the council's six meetings. The impetus for these discussions has been the rapidly accelerating increase in subscription rates for both print and online academic journals during the past several years. Not only do these increases limit the Libraries' ability to maintain subscriptions to journals necessary for the work of UW faculty and students, but by limiting the access of other libraries, institutions, and individual researchers worldwide which have far fewer resources, these increases restrict the spread of knowledge in general and of scholarship carried out at UW specifically. These are issues of fundamental importance to every UW faculty member.

The most revolutionary responses to these issues that have emerged and expanded over the past several years involve publishing models in which the economic burden of academic publication and distribution is shifted from the consumers to the producers of new knowledge. This "open access" approach allows free online access to published journal articles to all readers by requiring authors to assume a greater proportion of the costs of publication. The drive for open access has resulted in the appearance of many new open access journals that make their contents immediately available online when published and has altered policies of existing publishers to permit authors to pay to make their work immediately and freely available. The issue has also prompted legislative efforts to require immediate free access to research funded by U.S. government agencies.

The FCUL's efforts have included presentations and discussions with the Libraries' experts on scholarly communication and new publication models, Tim Jewell and Mel DeSart, and discussions of approaches to and proposals for increasing faculty members' awareness of these issues and their stake in the form that their resolution may take. Related and interacting issues being discussed are authors' retention of copyright and libraries' continued access to online material previously subscribed to and paid for if subscriptions are terminated.

In recent years, the FCUL has held some of its meetings at branch libraries and at other facilities such as the Sandpoint remote storage facility in order to give council members a more comprehensive view of the Libraries' facilities, resources, and services. This year, in keeping with the One Library: Three Campuses operating framework of the Libraries, the FCUL welcomed new members from UW Bothell and UW Tacoma, and one of the FCUL meetings was held at the UW Bothell/Cascadia Community College Library. This meeting included a presentation and a tour of the library led by Cynthia Fugate, Associate Dean of Libraries and Director of the Bothell/Cascadia Library and an opportune presentation of the One Library:

Three Campuses principles by Betsy Wilson, Dean of the Libraries. These principles mandate comparable access to Libraries resources by students, faculty, and staff at all three campuses and a single Libraries administration to reduce duplication of processes and functions that can be more efficiently and cost-effectively supported centrally. The FCUL also attempted to facilitate more effective tri-campus participation by experimentation with the use of the Video Conferencing Center as a meeting venue.

Additional issues addressed by the FCUL included data security standards and the possible role of the Libraries as a repository for faculty research data, with a presentation by Kirk Bailey, Chief Information Security Officer. Steve Hiller, Libraries Director of Assessment & Planning, discussed the Libraries' sixth triennial survey of library and information use and distributed a pre-test version to the council for its feedback. The surveys of students and faculty provide information regarding the Libraries' success in meeting its users' needs. Comparison of survey results longitudinally allows the Libraries to assess changing trends in the nature of library usage (e.g., physical vs. online visits) and to predict and prepare for future shifts in demand for services.

Another issue on which the FCUL focused was student plagiarism, particularly with regard to failure to cite web resources adequately. This issue has also been of concern to the Faculty Council on Educational Technology, and representatives of that council, chair Werner Kaminsky and Jennifer Ward, presented a summary of the FCET's deliberations and recommendations. Laura Barrett and John Holmes described the Libraries' efforts to educate students in proper citation practices with a series of walk-in workshops, including "Do I Have to Cite This? *Avoiding unintentional plagiarism.*" Libraries staff and FCET members agreed that increasing awareness of inadvertent plagiarism and teaching appropriate citation of web resources is far preferable to a punitive approach.

Neil Rambo, co-chair of the Libraries Biosciences Resources and Services Planning Task Force, presented a summary of the task force's efforts to understand the information needs of the bioscience user community and to propose recommendations for reorganizing Libraries resources and services to meet these needs. Among other possibilities discussed was the replacement of single-discipline branch libraries with an organizational structure more appropriate to the increasingly interdisciplinary nature of bioscience research.

The FCUL also reviewed the Libraries' beta testing of the WorldCat.org database and search service, presented by Nancy Huling, Head, Reference & Research Services Division, and Pam Mofjeld, Head, Interlibrary Loan. WorldCat is a service that allows users to search the holdings of more than 57,000 libraries worldwide from a single search box, identifies the locations and availability of materials, includes tools for requesting items, and searches for research articles and provides links to articles available in full-text. The Libraries will continue to test, evaluate, and solicit suggestions for improvement of the service throughout the summer.

The FCUL also received and reviewed continuing updates from Betsy Wilson on the Libraries Vision 2010 strategic plan and on budget requests and allocations.