

University Library Committee

February 21, 2017

Present: Daniel Badoe, Deborah Ballou, Chris Brown, Tammy Howard, Nancy Kolodzieg, Nancy Mielke, Joe Roberts, Cara Sisk, Doug Bates

Absent: Elizabeth Boucher, Cynthia Bryant, Lora Cowan, Mark Groundland, Judy Hull, Tyler Livesay, Guadalupe Mora

Note: There were no minutes from the fall, 2016 meeting.

Dean's Report:

Dirt Room Project -- Dr. Bates showed the drawings for the planned excavation of the 1st floor dirt rooms. The two areas will be excavated for creating a climate-controlled space for Archives on one wing, and the other wing will be used to create a testing center. Depending on the cost for these two areas, the center section may be excavated also.

There is a committee working on identifying the needs for the testing center, and this group met with the architect and engineers about a week ago to talk about the programming for that space. The architect and engineers will be back on Thursday of this week to meet with Doug and our archivist, Megan Atkinson, to work on gathering information about the space for the Archives. The architect in charge indicated he thought we had enough money for the entire project.

The library plans to offer a full-service testing center for online classes, standardized tests, class exams, testing accommodations for to meet ADA requirements, etc. There will be 50 – 60 computers as well as space for paper and pencil tests. We believe this will be an asset to the University. The testing center will be about 3,200 square feet.

Tech has permission from the TBR for “Best Value” pricing, to ensure that only those contractors who have done this sort of work before will be allowed to bid on the project. The library does not have any knowledge of whether the TBR will continue to be involved in this project with the split of the Universities from the board system.

Tech hopes to have a bid document ready to distribute at the end of March, with a construction start date possibly at the end of the semester. Construction will take 12-13 months.

Budget -- Dr. Bates reviewed the library materials budget. In the fall budget cut, the library gave up \$38,000 in lapsed salaries; \$50,000 from the Library materials budget; and \$45,000 in TAF funding. With that round of cuts, the library stopped the GIN service because we had already spent \$84,000 for articles between July 1 and Nov 30th. We have also curtailed the number of books we are purchasing.

For the most recent budget cut, it appears the library will be giving up \$63,000 from personnel and \$53,000 from the materials budget.

Prior to the latest round of cuts, the Deans were asked to present their budget requests for next year. Dr. Bates requested \$100,000 in that meeting, dedicated to acquiring articles. Doug asked the members of the ULC, "how big should our University Library budget be?" With the current budget, the library is spending about \$95 per student for library materials. He has looked at 29 other schools about our size, and we are next to the last one in the amount spent per student.

If the library does turn the Get-It-Now service on next year, it will have to be in the mediated format where someone is looking at the individual requests to determine whether or not it should be fulfilled via GIN. Our expenditure of \$84,000 with the unmediated format of GIN from July through the end of November this past year is just not sustainable.

Long-time members of this committee remember this is the four or fifth time we have had to cut the materials budget in recent years, and is why an ad hoc committee was formed four years ago to investigate another means of acquiring articles with the goal of sustaining the budget for several years. The GIN option was a direct result of that committee's research. It is now to the point where the library is a social gathering place. If you want to do any research, you have to go to UT-Knoxville or Oak Ridge and get information there, or plan ahead and use Interlibrary Loan. Doug asked "What barriers do faculty face doing research here compared to faculty who do research at UTK?" Chris says, from the teaching and research point of view of faculty, "faculty want access to the resources, and the brick and mortar part of the library is not used." The library is grossly underfunded; but so are the academic departments.

Other suggestions and thoughts by members of the committee:

- 1) Enact a library student fee
- 2) Is it possible to form partnerships with other schools for bulk buying, particularly the UT system? (The library does partner with four community colleges for the purchase and license of our integrated library system.) The library is also a part of purchasing partnerships with other colleges/libraries in Tennessee.
- 3) The library's access to materials is not considered adequate in college reviews by accrediting boards, particularly for those departments with Masters and PhD programs.
- 4) Does the library have dedicated fundraiser? Kevin Braswell has talked to the library; but the library is different than academic departments because we do not have alumni dedicated to the library. It was suggested that we do a postcard to raise awareness of the library to all alum's with the new features of the library and ask for a donation. This could even be sent electronically instead of snail mail.

The library does have an endowment that is used to supplement the library's operating costs. We have been spending \$65,000 - \$70,000 from this account each year.

In 2005-06, the library received 1.28 percent of the University's budget. In 2016-17, the library is .44 percent of the University's budget. Early on, TAF funding was 7 percent of the library budget, now it is 34 percent of the budget.

Chris asked how the \$53,000 will be cut from the materials budget. Paper journals will be looked at particularly, and faculty may be called to see whether or not we should renew or continue the

subscription. The unmediated version of GIN will remain turned off, and we will use the mediated service only.

Election of a Chairperson: Chris Brown agreed to serve another term and was unanimously elected.

Other Matters: Tammy Howard suggested the library create a you-tube video to show how to use Interlibrary Loan and the process of using auto-cite to copy & paste the information into the request form. This would be useful to students in UNIV 1020 classes all the way up to senior-level classes. Students seem hesitant to use ILL.

Joe Roberts expressed his appreciation for David Hajdik's help with the Professional Studies master's program.

Tammy Howard expressed her appreciation for Ann Manginelli's responsiveness.

Congratulations were extended to Nancy Mielke who is retiring at the end of April with 40 years of service to the State.

Nursing loves the new tutoring system in the library.

There are scanning capabilities available with the printers in the library.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes: Sharon Buckner

Approved: 10/24/17