Library Committee Meeting

Wednesday, December 3, 2008

Members Present: Yuanyuan Hu, John Krogman, Miyeon Kwon, Yong Li, David Schuler, Chris Smith, David Van Buren.

Kwon called the meeting to order at 3:03pm.

Krogman talked about leaving UWP at the end of the semester, as he has accepted another position at UW-Madison. In outlining the transition period, Krogman stated that David Van Buren becomes Acting Library Director in the spring. As such he will attend Library Committee meetings.

Van Buren’s immediate focus will be to lead the Search and Screen Committee for director of Karrmann Library, which is a combination Library Director/Reference Librarian position that also assumes some of Jennifer Snoek-Brown’s responsibilities.

Krogman will return in January to help transition Van Buren into his added duties.

Van Buren discussed the possible makeup of the Search and Screen Committee. It will include up to eight members including Van Buren and:

2 Library staff
3 Faculty Senate (one from each of the three colleges)
1 representative from the Student Senate
and possibly 1 member from the Library Committee

Krogman updated the Committee on changes to library operations.

1. Due to Snoek-Brown’s departure, the Reference Desk schedule has been adjusted through the end of the semester, resulting in new departmental assignments.
2. Online library training modules are now available which will replace the Library Instructional classes currently being offered for 100 level courses.

Krogman updated the Committee on the state of the current library budget noting that:

1. Library capital funding is excluded from the budget freeze.
2. The Department is on track for yearly supply spending.

Committee members inquired about the status of extending library hours. Krogman stated that he was willing to consider it based upon student needs.

Chris Smith reminded the Committee that Ottensmann is open 24/7 and has facilities for quiet study.

After discussion, the Committee, with Krogman’s suggestion, decided to table the notion of extending library hours for the short term given the current deficit, but that the goal is to ultimately increase the library’s hours.
Krogman stated that one of the biggest challenges for the incoming Library Director is to maintain the current level of approximately 102 hours per week.

Krogman discussed the new bill processing fee that went into effect on November 1st. Patrons still have a 28 grace period. After an item is overdue more than 28 days, a bill will be sent for the replacement cost of the item plus the processing fee. The fee is $20.

Many Committee members stated they were not aware the fee had been instituted, so it was suggested and agreed that Krogman would send out an all-campus email, explaining the details of the newly instituted processing fee.

Kwon asked about plans for current improvements or changes to the library.

Krogman talked about the following recurring and pressing issues:

1. Increased access to electronic subscriptions, including identifying the correct resources to buy.
2. Library remodeling and modernization is currently slated for the 2011-2013 budgets. Krogman encouraged the Committee to find ways to move that timetable up. All agreed that the goal is to create a more collaborative learning environment, including providing more inviting study areas and especially more soundproof areas for small group meetings.
3. Review of print periodicals. The budget cuts make it imperative to continually move more toward electronic media and reevaluate need for hardcopy periodicals.

It was suggested that the review of print materials remain on the agenda for the spring.

Krogman discussed the What’s New button on the library webpage, soliciting feedback on it’s effectiveness in getting the word out about the library’s new acquisitions and electronic resources.

Smith suggested putting new acquisitions on the weekly Intercom.

Kwon brought up possible discussion points for the next meeting. The Committee decided to address these topics:

1. Ways to promote access and use of electronic journals.
2. Increase faculty awareness of what journals are available and encourage review of the current journal resources.

Smith expressed interest in serving as the student representative on the Search and Screen Committee.

The next meeting will be in late January or early February.

The Committee thanked John Krogman for all his service to the University and his tireless work in managing and improving the library. They wished him the best in his next endeavor.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45pm.

Respectfully submitted by David Schuler