Library Committee Meeting – minutes from Feb 1, 2010 – called to order at 1:35 p.m.

Present members: Yong Li, Jason Thrum, Amy Parsons, Marge Karsten, Kris Mahoney, Amanda Tucker, and Zora Sampson

First business item: budget discussion

The budget has been frozen and will remain the same as last year. Zora indicated that library costs, such as access to electronic material, are rising due to increased enrollment as a result of the TSI. Cost savings measures to balance the budget were discussed: microfilms will no longer be purchased and print copy journals that are also accessed electronically will be cancelled.

Marge moved to approve the budget as presented, Amy seconded, and the motion passed.

Second business item: ebook reader technology

Zora presented the library’s position as “wait a few years for the market to settle out”. At this point there are too many delivery platforms for the library to commit to one technology, and there is no new budget money allocated for ebooks.

Third business item: current library issues

Zora presented the idea to the committee to inquire with the respective departments as to how the library could serve the faculty better and to determine if their needs are met. Second issue: the library needs more space for a group study room – if the library removes old references, could there be room? Third issue: there is a lack of new budget money and a lack of professional staffing after 8:30 p.m. Kris proposed that late fines could be used as a revenue stream. Yong indicated that previous committees have already recommended imposing late fines, and by unanimous consent, the current library committee recommended to impose late fines. Zora also presented other ideas to increase library revenue: overhead from grants and student fees.

Fourth business item: library initiatives

Zora detailed what was new and of note in the library: full spectrum lighting in the reading area and the instructional materials library has shown itself to be useful. Zora presented new initiatives that the library is working toward: poster printing and greater exposure. An idea for multimedia creation suite for poster printing and collaboration was discussed. The library needs to have a direct link to the university homepage to emphasize research. The committee recommended to have Zora inquire on the feasibility of a library link.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.