UNIVERSITY LIBRARY COMMITTEE (ULC) MINUTES
10/19/07; 4:00 – 5:15 p.m.
(approved 1/18/2008)

PRESENT: Hewett (chair), Baxter, Flowers (ex-officio), Park, Smith, Spall, Whitaker, Austin.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
The minutes for September’s meeting were not approved, due to an insufficient number of voting members. It was recommended that a change should be made to clarify section 3 (Business) of the 9/21/07 minutes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:
New ULC members Heather McAdam (undergraduate rep.) and Dr. Stephanie Christelow (Social Science B – History) were not introduced as scheduled because they were not present.

The library’s newsletter, Between the Lines, is due out next week. The Friends of Oboler Library (FOOL) Fall event was announced.

Flowers also announced that the ISU community is now able to use and promote the eAudiobooks collection which the Idaho Commission for Libraries (formerly the State Library) has made available statewide. It will be accessible on a trial basis for the next year. Among the contents are a wide variety of foreign language materials. More information about this electronic Audiobooks package can be found at: http://www.isu.edu/library/research/audiobooks.htm

BUSINESS:
1. ULC Retreat
This year’s University Library Committee Retreat will be held Friday, 11/9/07, from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m., at Idaho State University’s Magnuson Alumni House at 7th and Halliday (554 South 7th).

2. Overhead Money
The LibQUAL+ Survey results indicate that, though our collection may be adequate for undergraduate students, it does not meet the needs of graduate students and faculty. ISU is at the bottom of a list of peer institutions from the Intermountain West in terms of money spent per student for library resources. For all the NOIs (Notices of Intent to initiate a new, expanded, cooperative, discontinued, program component or Off-Campus Instructional Program or Instructional/Research Unit) approved in past 9 years, the Oboler library has not received any additional money to support these new courses or programs. Flowers and others are working to assure that there is a process to be followed at the University level when a NOI is submitted, which should ensure that the library will be able to support new areas of research. Flowers presented this information to the Deans in a meeting. Although the University’s Strategic Plan was not yet complete (a draft is due in Nov.), the library does appear to be included in a section of the work in progress.

The University Library Committee continued the ongoing discussion regarding the distribution of (indirect) overhead money to the library, and its possible use for Web of Science, or Scopus, or a similar product. It was suggested that these citation tracking resources might be once again compared, to each other and to Google Scholar. A member of the University Library
Committee described another resource, HaPI (Health and Psychosocial Instruments), as being an equally important and much-needed resource. Flowers said there was going to be another meeting with faculty regarding Web of Science in the near future. Idaho State University is apparently one of only five doctoral institutions in the U.S. that does not have access to Web of Science; and although Oboler library could contribute some funds to the cost of Web of Science, it could not pay for it in its entirety.

3. Change in the ULC Bylaws – Update

Without a quorum (9 voting members), it was not possible to vote on the suggested changes to the University Library Committee’s Bylaws, so those members who were present thought it best to look over those changes for next time, and send comments to the ULC group or reserve the Bylaws discussion for the next meeting (the Retreat, scheduled for 11/9/07). Spall noted that recently the COPE and CEC groups have been combined into the University’s “Staff Council;” so perhaps ULC only needs one person to represent the “Staff Council” rather than the two required to represent COPE and CEC in the past. Concern was expressed over the recent low attendance of ULC; without a quorum, voting can’t take place. Hewett offered to try to find people to fill the empty positions on ULC.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting was unofficially adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristi N. Austin

Documents distributed: Agenda; Library Overhead Account; memo “To: Research Coordinating Council: Recommendations for use of indirect costs going to the library”; Revised “Bylaws of the University Library Committee,” draft minutes 9/21/07; Friends of Oboler Library’s Fall Event information.