

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY COMMITTEE (ULC) MINUTES

09/21/07; 4:00 – 5:10 p.m.

PRESENT: Hewett (chair), Baxter, Flowers (ex-officio), Kantabutra, Letzring, Park, Payne, Selvage, Smith, Whitaker, Austin.
Guest: Sandra Shropshire, Associate University Librarian for Technical Services.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approved, with request to correct paragraph format error.

BUSINESS:

1. Meeting Dates and Retreat

ULC Meeting Dates for 2007-2008 as follows:

9/21/2007

10/19

11/9 (Retreat; to run from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. at location to be determined)

No meeting Dec.

1/18/2008

2/15

3/14

4/18

No meeting May

Agreed to hold Retreat at usual meeting time, with extension, as it is difficult for many to attend a Saturday meeting. The University's Strategic Plan will have been discussed at Dean's Retreat by 11/9; the library's Strategic Plan, topic of discussion for ULC Retreat, will be dependent on University's Strategic Plan.

2. Changes in ULC Bylaws

As per May's meeting, the Research Centers at ISU have requested a representative on ULC (Centers listed on Agenda 9/21/07), since they provide overhead money to the library but are otherwise unrepresented (except through departments to which their Research Center may be attached). This will increase ULC membership to 18; a quorum will still be 9. COPE and CEC membership might be shortened to one year. Since other aspects of the ULC Bylaws were also discussed, a Bylaws Subcommittee was formed, comprised of Hewett, Baxter, Flowers.

3. Addition to Agenda: Possible Allocation of Library Resources Based on Departmental Productivity

Flowers reported that in a meeting with university Deans this summer, President Vailas opened this topic for discussion. It's not yet a mandate – just a topic to be considered. In the ensuing conversation it became clear that even very active researchers are opposed to the idea. Problems of using one scale to weigh the very different types of output from all the diverse

departments and colleges, the fact that ISU does not yet even have the basic research tools needed, that productivity can only increase with increased resources (and therefore will diminish if funds are decreased), and the overall unfairness of only handing back overhead money to the departments that have “earned it,” rather than using it to contribute to the general health of the University community, were some of the issues raised.

The question was raised: is this standard practice (or even an unusual one) at other universities? Flowers said she would look into this.

4. Inflation money update

Flowers reported that there is a problem regarding the \$159,000 inflation money used to help with serials subscription increases: it turns out that it’s only one-time money and will not be on-going, so some other solution or change will have to be made.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / OTHER:

Pamela Park (Humanities B, Foreign Language) welcomed back to ULC (replaces Evans).

Upcoming FOOL (Friends of Oboler Library) event mentioned: Fri. Nov. 16, Frederick A.O. Schwarz, Jr. will speak on executive power, and recent dangerous trends in its uses (more information next time).

Discussion of Overhead Money postponed to next meeting, so that all members would have a chance to look at the related handouts (3-page “Library Overhead Account” and memo to Research Coordinating Council “Recommendations for use of indirect costs going to the library”).

Flowers announced two library staff changes: new instruction librarian, Spencer Jardine, and new electronic resources Librarian, Annalise Smith; and mentioned that the library is planning to once again participate in the Homecoming Parade, with a float.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristi N. Austin

Documents distributed: [Agenda](#); draft minutes from 5/4/07; [Bylaws of the ULC](#).