

**University Libraries Committee**  
**Minutes**  
**March 21, 2008**

**Members Present:** Linda Bartoshuk, Alec Gruss, Gloria Moore, Jeffrey Needell, Leah Rosenberg, Judith Russell (Ex-Officio)

**Members Absent:** Cecilia Amador, Frank Chapman, Rae Jesano, Ruth Lowery (Chair), Bridget McNamee, Ralf Remshardt, Randi Smith

Meeting called to order at 3:10pm.

1. A motion was made to approve the minutes of December 14, 2007. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved.
2. On March 7, 2008 Dean Russell presented a revised organizational structure (see [http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/pio/Smathers\\_Libraries\\_Reorg03062008.pdf](http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/pio/Smathers_Libraries_Reorg03062008.pdf)) to the Joint Administration and Faculty Assembly Committee on University Library Reorganization. The committee voted to accept the proposed structure. The Library Faculty Senate was satisfied the vote was affirmative. The Academic Infrastructure Council voted in support of the reorganization contingent upon an affirmative vote by the University Libraries Committee. The University Libraries Committee, by a majority vote (9 affirmative, 3 no response), via email, approved the proposed structure. At the April 4<sup>th</sup> Faculty Senate Steering Committee this topic will either move forward as an information item or an information/action item.

Dean Russell noted a similar planning process will be followed to plan the new organizational structure for Library West if the new library organizational structure is approved by the Faculty Senate Steering Committee.

3. Dean Russell reviewed the current library budget situation. Based on a directive from the Director of University Budgets the libraries are planning a \$1,304,095 reduction to its state funded budget (appropriations). Dean Russell asked the Provost to consider protecting the funds for acquisition of library materials from the new round of budget cuts. The Provost did not commit to that, but she did acknowledge the merit of Dean Russell's request and said she would make note of it for consideration when the final budgets are approved. The 2007-2008 reduction was \$314,366. The additional cut for 2008-2009 would be \$439,661. The cumulative cut would be \$754,027, wiping out the increase in recurring funds for acquisition of library materials that was added to the budget in 2006-2007. If the libraries' materials budget is not protected by the UF Administration, then in order to meet the directive set forth by the Director of University Budgets the library will have to cut the materials budget.

After a lengthy discussion the University Libraries Committee agreed to the following statement in support of the libraries:

"The University Library Committee strongly supports the retention of the Smathers Libraries materials budget at no less than the July 1, 2007 level. We make this strong recommendation because the materials budget is essential to the mission of the library, which is integral to the basic mission of the university itself."

Since not all members of the ULC were present, committee members asked Dean Russell to circulate the resolution to the entire committee and ask those who were absent to submit their vote by e-mail. She would like to report the vote of the full committee when she submits the libraries' budget to the Provost.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30pm