

University Libraries Committee
Minutes
February 15, 2008

Members Present: Cecilia Amador, Linda Bartoshuk, Frank Chapman, Rae Jesano, Ruth Lowery (Chair), Gloria Moore, Ralf Remshardt, Judith Russell (Ex-Officio)

Members Absent: Bridget McNamee, Jeffrey Needell, Leah Rosenberg, Randi Smith

Other Attendees: Joe Aufmuth, Alec Gruss, John Ingram

Meeting called to order at 3:01pm.

1. A motion was made to approve the minutes of December 14, 2007. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved.
2. The proposed reorganization for the Smathers Libraries was discussed.

A blog has been established as a means to share information about the proposed reorganization, seek input and answer questions. See <http://libreorg.blogspot.com/>

The current library structure is available at http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/pio/Smathers_org-chart0208.pdf.

The most current version of the anticipated structure is available at http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/pio/Smathers_Libraries_Reorg_01242008.pdf.

In response to library faculty and staff concerns, as well as, concerns expressed by the Academic Infrastructure Committee, a Joint Administration and Faculty Assembly Committee on University Library Reorganization has been formed. (See <http://libreorg.blogspot.com/2008/02/joint-administration-and-faculty.html>). The Committee's charge as approved by the Library Faculty Assembly (LFA) membership and in consultation with Library Administration is to solicit and collect proposals and comments from faculty, staff, and administration; to analyze and synthesize organizational functions and structure; and, to make recommendations on reorganization to the Dean and the Chair of the Library Faculty Assembly.

The greatest pressure on the timing of the process, not the reason for the process, is the impending budgetary difficulties the University faces. If deeper budget cuts are required in fiscal year 2008-2009, there may be more hiring freezes, or a continuation of current freezes. Since there are no written hiring guarantees, Dean Russell desires to complete, or have in the hiring process new Associate Dean positions. We have a choice to either try and hire ADs with no specific organizational structure or have an agreeable structure which is supported by administration, faculty, staff, and the UF Faculty Senate. It was recognized by the LFA membership that having a structure would make hiring the new ADs easier.

In order to achieve UF Senate approval this spring the following schedule must be met. For both information and action items to be presented for approval at a single Senate meeting on April 17th we will need to present at the Senate

Steering Committee meeting on April 3rd, which in turn means presenting at the March 17th Infrastructure Policy Council meeting for approval. Prior to the IPC meeting the Senate's University Libraries Committee will have to meet and approve a proposal as would the LFA and any Library units that are proposed for elimination, aggregation, or creation.

Concerns or questions from the various UF committees and councils will be filtered through the University Libraries Committee.

Comments and Questions derived from ULC discussion:

1. Will national searches be conducted for proposed Associate Deans positions?
Yes.
2. How the proposed reorganization affect patron services? Very little. Most changes will occur behind the scenes.
3. Will there be layoffs? No.
4. It is important to make sure UF's teaching faculty understand that some librarians are in tenure track positions.
5. Offer more description about what the function of the Scholarly Resources & Research Service Council will be.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30pm