

On Friday I presented a revised organization chart to the joint reorganization committee. I want to thank them for their intense and very productive efforts during the past few weeks. I also want to thank each of you who took the time to participate, through the LFA, the reorganization committee, this blog or by conversations with me and the directors. It has been a very helpful and constructive process.

The revised organization chart that I posted this morning has several changes that reflect your advice and conversations. It is available on the blog site and at http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/pio/Smathers_Libraries_Reorg03062008.pdf.

It proposes one new associate dean, responsible for technology and support services. As the chart shows, this includes acquisitions (including the current CM support unit), preservation and conservation, metadata/cataloging, access support (which includes those parts of Access Services that are not specific to Library West or the storage facility), digital services, IT and facilities.

Special and Area Studies Collections, Government Documents (including maps/GIS), Library West (as the H&SS branch library), Marston and the other branches report directly to the Sr. Associate Dean, John Ingram. The major change in this column is the creation of Library West as a branch library, incorporating elements of collection management, H&SS reference services, and access services. The other branches (AFA, Education, Journalism and Music) will select a rotating chair from among their faculty and report through that individual.

As in the earlier proposal, the Associate Dean for Development, Sam Huang, reports directly to me, with development, public information and grants reporting to him. Also as in the earlier chart, the SUS shared storage facility, which will be created from our auxiliary library facility, reports to me. Brian Keith, as our financial and human resources officer, will report to me as will a new emerging technologies group. This group will lead a number of cross-organizational teams and task forces to explore and rapidly implement new technologies to improve our services to our users.

This proposal does not require any changes to tenure homes. The Library Faculty Assembly is evaluating two proposals, one for a single tenure home for the Libraries and the other for two tenure homes, one for the technology and support services and the other for the collections and branches. They will also consider other models. They will present their recommendation to me and to the Libraries faculty. No changes in tenure homes will occur until the LFA makes its recommendation and the appropriate faculty votes are taken.

This reorganization will not be implemented immediately, although planning and preparations will continue. The current reporting structure will remain in place until the successful completion of the search for that new Associate Dean for Technology and Support Services.

Later this week, we will poll the faculty and staff of the Libraries to determine your opinion of the proposed reorganization. I encourage you to fill out and return the questionnaire that you receive. The administration of the Libraries and Library Faculty Assembly value your opinion.

As the next level of reorganization occurs, we expect to use a similar process to consult with the faculty and staff in each area. For example, the faculty and staff who will be part of the new Library West Branch will participate in determining the organizational structure of the branch and the faculty and staff reporting to the new Associate Dean for Technology and Support Services will participate in establishing the structure for that division.

Again, my sincere thanks for your active participation and for the hard work of the Library Faculty Assembly officers and the joint reorganization committee. I believe that we have an improved proposal because of your efforts.