

University Library Committee  
Minutes  
January 25, 2001

Present:

Ansar Ahmed, Veterinary Medicine, Chair

Eileen Hitchingham, Library

Paul Colley, Staff Senate

Richard Helm, Natural Resources

Jon Eisenbach for Jay Stipes, Agriculture and Life Sciences,

Raymond Plaut, Engineering

David Beagle, Library

Guests: Leslie O'Brien, Paul Metz, Don Kenney, Ellen Krupar (Library)

Absent: Douglas Patterson, Business, Diane Gillespie, Human Resources and Education, Deborah Milly, Arts & Sciences, Mark Schneider, Architecture and Urban Studies, Anne Zajac, Faculty Senate, Robert Perry, GSA

Coordinators of the Library's strategic planning process were present to give ULC members an overview of the emerging issues and priorities. Eileen Hitchingham encouraged ULC members to offer feedback about how these priorities support the university community in its aspiration to become a top 30 research institution and to share the related priorities of their colleges that may need to be addressed in the library's plan.

Information was presented from four focus groups: Collection Management, Assisting/Educating Users, Organizing, and Physical and Technical Spaces.

Paul Metz, Director of Collection Management and College-Based Services, shared a wish list of resources needed by the library, given the funding. Topping this list were the funds to avoid an otherwise inevitable next severe cancellation of serials; ca. \$1,000,000. General priorities include: 1) Increase and improve information resources; 2) Assure immediate access to collections and services; 3) Maintain, purchase, and preserve a major archive of materials.

Ellen Krupar, College Librarian for Business, listed the main priorities for the Assisting/Educating Users focus group: 1) Launch a comprehensive information literacy program conveying cognitive skills and information-seeking strategies capable of lifetime application and expansion; 2) On-going training for library staff and student assistants; 3) A more comprehensive information skills program in place aimed at ensuring that all incoming students receive information skills instruction before they graduate, with required curricular skills component sequenced within each major.

Leslie O'Brien, Director of Technical Services, presented the top rated items for "Organizing": 1) Purchase and develop a flexible library system (capable of integrating functions and representing electronic resources); 2) Catalog all of our information resources; 3) Create a logical and efficient arrangement of material (part of this will be

tied into future building renovations); 4) Developing links to content, i.e. how do we show links between the electronic resources that we have with the catalog, outside of the catalog, separate databases and specially designed web pages.

Don Kenney, Associate Dean for Administrative Services, reviewed the priorities for the Physical and Technical Space group: 1) Create a clean, safe, comfortable environment and useful space for all users; 2) Implement the Cohen plan (includes recommendations for a high density storage area with automated retrieval system); 3) Develop a one-stop public service area for users on the second floor, in conjunction with the re-opening of the old entrance on the second floor; 4) Provide state-of-the-art instructional spaces to teach our users how to use the collection and navigate through the facility.

Eileen Hitchingham will be participating in the University's Strategic Planning process this spring. The planning group will be revisiting the university's strategic directions, looking at the six areas for proposing where the university expects to be in ten years. She distributed a one-page encapsulation of the library trends that she was asked to prepare for the committee work. (see handout)