

Minutes University Library Committee

Date: October 12, 2006

Time: 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Location: Library Board Room

Chair: Douglass Berry, II

Members Present: Doug Berry, Werner Kohler, Ross Edmonds, Joe Loferski, David Ratcliffe, Larry Freeman, Audrey Kemp, Eileen Hitchingham

Guests: Kyrille Goldbeck

1. Replicating University of Washington Survey Spring 2007 (Don Kenney)

Kenney distributed a draft for a user survey the University Libraries is planning for Spring 2007. The draft survey is a replication of a one conducted by the University of Washington. The survey focuses on library use and satisfaction as well as user needs and library priorities. Kenney asked committee members to review the document and email comments to him at Kenney@vt.edu

2. Concept Designs for Graduate Study Area (Don Kenney)

Kenney explained that the projects on display in the Library board room are concepts to give us an idea of what we could potentially do to convert the old Systems Office on the 4th floor into a graduate study area. Professor Matt Lutz's Senior Interior Design class started working on the design project this semester. Professor Lutz is very familiar with the library and has been involved with several projects. He was instrumental in the design of the group study/lounge area on the 4th floor, most notably the curved glass wall which he designed.

The students were given an overview of the library's vision for the area and were given five weeks to complete the project. They were also informed that the competition would be judged and three would be selected as the outstanding designs.

The Interior Design Program is now housed in Sandy Hall where the Graduate School was once located. Offices that once housed graduate school functions now have labs that overflow with student projects, models hanging from lights fixtures, and posters plastering the walls. In talking with the students who worked on these projects, many of them worked throughout nights in the labs to complete the assignment.

Kenney, along with Connie Stovall and two other professors in the department, judged the 22 projects and chose the best three. The students whose projects were selected will be recognized by receiving a copy of John Lobell's *Between Silence and Light* which is a classic in architecture and design.

3. Special Collections Dedication –(Eileen Hitchingham)

The library will be hosting a grand opening celebration for the newly renovated Special Collections with special guest President Steger. The ceremony will be held on the first floor of Newman Library on Wednesday, November 15th from 2:00-3:00 p.m.

4. Annual Report (Eileen Hitchingham)

Hitchingham related that the Libraries' Annual Report is being finalized and will be posted electronically on the library webpage.

The Libraries' Annual Report is now posted at: <http://www.lib.vt.edu/services/annrep/AnnRep2005-2006.pdf>

5. IMLS Grant (Eileen Hitchingham and Kiri Golbeck)

LibX is a browser tool developed by Annette Bailey and her husband Godmar Back. It is a Firefox extension that provides direct access to Newman Library resources. Users have the ability to search for library resources while still in the browser environment without having to go to the library home page to search the catalog. Many other libraries including MIT and Cornell have adapted the tool for their own users.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) has awarded the University Libraries a grant for \$165,364, with Bailey as Principal Investigator, to further their work with LibX as an open source product. Hitchingham introduced Kiri Goldbeck who will be working with Bailey and Back on the project.

Kiri Goldbeck discussed how LibX works and gave a demonstration on how to search Addison directly from the LibX toolbar and also by using the contest menu with the right-click method.