

University Library Committee  
Minutes  
March 1, 2001

Present:

Eileen Hitchingham, Library  
Fred Baumgartner (for Deborah Milly, Arts and Sciences)  
Richard Helm, Natural Resources  
Raymond Plaut, Engineering  
Mark Schneider, Architecture and Urban Studies  
Guests: Linda Richardson, Paul Metz

Absent: Ansar Ahmed, Veterinary Medicine, Chair, Paul Colley, Staff Senate  
Diane Gillespie, Human Resources and Education;; Douglas Patterson, Business; Jay Stipes, Agriculture and Life Sciences, Anne Zajac, Faculty Senate, Robert Perry, GSA

Paul Metz, Director of Collection Management, was present to brief members on ScienceDirect, the newly acquired subscription allowing electronic links to ultimately 1,150 journals (full text) from Elsevier, the world's largest publisher in science, technology, and medicine. All six doctoral institutions in Virginia plus James Madison University joined together to purchase this service. We are moving into this project in two stages: Right now we have access to the 650 journals for which we will have the full text rights (from 1995 forward). When the contract has been signed (a few weeks from now), we will then start to have access to 500 additional journals. Paul noted that the database is very strong in biotechnology, medicine and a lot of the areas where the University's aspirations are strong. These journals can currently be accessed from the "Research" area of the library home page. From the Research menu, one would rollover to electronic journals. Eventually, there will be the ability to locate these electronic journals through Addison and from hotlinks in online indexes such as Web of Science. (see handout, Hundreds of New E-journals Announced)

Linda Richardson, Director of Reference, was present to explain the "Proposal to Consolidate Reference and Current Periodicals Collections." This proposal was formulated by librarians in Reference, Technical Services and College-Based Services to advance the goal of creating a safe, comfortable, and logically arranged physical library environment and to implement the Modernization Master Plan for Newman Library. (see handout, Proposal to Consolidate Reference and Current Periodicals Collections)

The science and humanities/social science reference desks were recently combined into one station on the first floor. This proposal aims to combine the reference collections left behind on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> floors into one A-Z sequence to be kept on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. They would also like to combine the two current periodicals collections into one A-Z sequence and put that on the fourth floor, with space to provide an attractive and comfortable reading area. Since renovations are planned for the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor this summer, there is hope that those moving crews could carry out the proposed moves at the same

time. Linda invited comments/concerns/suggestions regarding the proposal; she can be reached via e-mail at [lindrich@vt.edu](mailto:lindrich@vt.edu).

Eileen Hitchingham distributed copies of a publication from SPARC (The Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition), "Declaring Independence: A Guide to Creating Community-Controlled Science Journals." Paul Metz and Gail McMillan will be distributing these and making presentations to the commissions and University Council this spring in follow up to the Create Change letter and brochure that were distributed this fall to faculty and graduate students. Eileen asked for feedback from members about whether it would be worthwhile to distribute this booklet campus-wide as well.

Results from a recent interlibrary loan survey were shared. Extended campus customers of ILLiad and/or Document Delivery during the Fall 2000 semester were surveyed about their level of satisfaction with the services. As was the case last year, numbers indicated a very high level of satisfaction. The small number of those with concerns were personally followed up by Dr. Kriz, and these were often the result of a misunderstanding of what ILLiad could or couldn't do.

#### Comments from Colleges

Dr. Fred Baumgartner noted that he had to obtain several books through ILL that he would normally have expected our library to have purchased under blanket orders for the university press publications. Eileen will look into the specifics and report at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 22.