

Minutes University Library Committee

Date: January 12, 2006

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

Location: Library Board Room

Chair: Douglass Berry, II

Members Present: Dawn Odell, Werner Kohler, Dawn South, Eileen Hitchingham, Mayuresh Patil, Irene Glennon, Ross Edmonds, Caryl Gray, Bill Newton

Letter re Library Faculty (D. Berry)

D. Berry reviewed a proposal he drafted to address the chronic insufficient support of the Virginia Tech University Libraries compared to other institutions. The members in attendance agreed that the timing of this letter in response to the development of the new strategic plan is appropriate. The committee is also asking that the university commissions and organizations provide their immediate input so we may best advise the university administration of the vital importance of increasing library support to meet the goals of the strategic plan.

Committee members were asked to consider the wording of this statement to reflect a concise statement that the library needs increase resources to address two or three pressing needs. The committee chose to focus on staffing and infrastructure. Undergraduate lack of interest in the facilities was also added to address some of the aesthetic and availability concerns.

Library Webpage (E. Hitchingham)

E. Hitchingham distributed printed examples of the Libraries' home page and explained that the Libraries are currently trying to determine the most useful features on their home page. She demonstrated several features and asked committee members to label 1 through 5 the most useful features on the page for each of them. Hitchingham also demonstrated several search features for subject searches, titles searches, and alphabetical searches.