

Library Liaison Advisory Group
Spring Quarter 2009
Minutes

Meetings were held in Penrose Library in the Research Seminar Room on May 12 from 3-4:30, and on May 13 from 9-10:30 and 11-12:30.

1. List of potential database cancellations (Michael Levine-Clark)

We have a flat budget for next year, which is essentially a cut because we don't have funds for inflation. From the list, we may cut some of the low-use databases so we can add new databases, which was our practice in the past. We will buy fewer monographs to compensate for inflation. Undergraduate enrollment is supposed to be up a bit from normal. We don't know for graduate students at this time.

Comments on list:

- Jennifer Hoffman asked about Royal Society of Chemistry – has list of titles one of her faculty members does not want to cancel. MLC – will look at use stats.
- Faculty want to keep Dissertations and Theses Full Text if we don't have to cancel because of budget. If we have to cancel, we would still keep a subscription to the abstracts, but will keep the full text if we don't have to make these cuts.
- We are working to keep MLAIB in Ebsco, and to cancel the Chadwyck-Healy version.
- Ginni Ishimatsu asked about Index Islamicus – does not want that considered for cancellation. PK reported the Index Islamicus is heavily used and won't be put on this list of cancellations.
- Hugh McIsaac noted that Biological Abstracts indexes many journals that are not indexed elsewhere, and that many of the faculty and students do use the DB.
- Gareth Eaton wanted to know which of the IOPscience and RSC journals were under consideration for cancellation. Michael and Joseph noted that it would be based on low usage statistics and/or very high cost/use.

If we don't have to cancel for budgeting reasons:

- will cancel Nineteenth Century Masterfile to get an ancestry database.
- will look closely at the business databases for overlap so that we can cancel to get new business databases.
- will cancel some of the low use databases on the list, or databases which duplicate other content, to start new subscriptions.

2. Penrose Library website redesign (Carrie Forbes)

Carrie Forbes explained that we are in the process of redesigning the library website. In July, there will be a link on the current site to the new design. DU faculty, staff, and students will have the option to send any comments or feedback to the library about the new design. The

new library website will officially go live around Sept. 1 before the fall quarter starts. The new library website will organize services and resources around users communities (faculty, students, staff etc.). Each of these user communities will have their own webpage (landing page) with customized links. At this meeting, we are asking for feedback about the faculty landing page.

Carrie showed the Michigan State University Libraries Faculty Resources page to help everyone envision what a faculty library webpage could look like and contain. Penrose librarians are planning on dividing up the faculty page into three areas: resources for research, resources for teaching, and info about collections. We envision providing links to relevant resources, such as article databases, PEAK, Prospector, and WorldCat as well as links to frequently used services like Reserves, Interlibrary Loan, the Research Center, and Instructional Services. We will also include access to frequently used forms for requesting a faculty carrel or suggesting a purchase. Finally, the page will include various contact information for library departments and your library liaison.

What do faculty use now? Do you have any suggestions for what to include on a faculty landing page? For example, at recent focus groups with students, we were told they just want a simple search box on the main page, not a lot of text, fewer searching choices and prominent links to get help.

What the faculty on the LLAG use or would like to have available:

- Subject list of databases. A-Z list of databases.
- Information on new databases.
- E-Journal Finder.
- Peak Beta and Peak Classic.
- Information about new tools and how to use them. Text in 2-3 paragraphs, a simple guide of steps to take. A little tutorial. A "What's This" link. An embedded help system.
- As few clicks as possible.
- Customizable pages. (This will be in future versions of the site.)
- Faculty course pages to add databases for a class.
- Liaison/contact list.
- Peak with the classic drop down menu.
- Remote login to databases so only need to login once rather than over and over – Peggy will look into this problem.
- A way to distinguish between monographs and chapters in books. Peggy will look into this, to see if this is possible.
- Easy way to view new databases and new books by subject.

Carrie will send an email in July when the new website is ready to be viewed. Please encourage your faculty colleagues to send us comments on the new site during July and August before the website is officially launched on Sept. 1.

3. Scholarly Communication and Open Access (Joseph Kraus)

A list of sites on "Scholarly Communication and Open Access Resources"

http://library.du.edu/FindIt/ResearchGuides/rg_main.cfm?rg_id=352

Joseph's Power Point presentation: <http://www.slideshare.net/jokrausdu/scholarly-communication-may-12-13-v2> .

As scholarly journals become more and more expensive, academic libraries around the country are struggling with their budgets. Even the largest academic libraries are cutting journals because they can't keep up with the costs. Libraries can't sustain the costs of serials, so if costs keep going up, there is the fear the scholarly monograph may die. Fifteen years ago a scholarly monograph publication run was about 3000, and now it is 400 or fewer because libraries can't afford to pay for serial subscriptions and still buy monographs at the rate they used to. Most libraries have to cut monographs annually to pay for serials inflation, and then cut serial subscriptions periodically to restore the balance between the two types of publications. As a result of this increasingly crippling problem, many universities are thinking about alternative publishing models, including Open Access as a solution, which would allow periodicals to be freely available on the Web. Some academic societies are already doing this.

DU has not had to have this conversation before because, up until this year, we have been given more than enough to cover the inflation of books and journals, which allowed us not only to maintain our current periodical collection, but to add to it. This however, will not be true forever, and now is the time we have to start a discussion about the issues and reasons for Open Access. This is a jumping off point for discussion. Other, larger universities have formalized programs in which they deposit the publications produced by their faculty and make the content freely available. What can Penrose librarians do to get more discussion going on the topic of open access? Don't know exactly what we should do, but need to have input from the faculty. Open access isn't perfect, but can provide alternatives to commercial publishing. There is not one solution, but something has to be done across the nation, and even internationally, because what we have now is a failing system.

Questions and comments that were discussed:

- Authors don't like the author pays option.
 - The library can help subsidize the author pays model, because we are supporting a way to move away from the failing system we now have.
 - Perception is that the author is paying for publishing and has a stigma, though this is not true; there is still a very strict peer-review process. Payment is for publishing costs.
- How does this fit into tenure and promotion? How are open access publications seen by the administration and by the various disciplines?
 - Many layers: tenure/promotion, role of university in publishing, etc. We want to get there and participate in all these ways.

- The Association of Research Libraries (ARL) has created a list faculty senate resolution statements on open access from academic institutions:
<http://www.arl.org/sc/faculty/statements/index.shtml>.
- Most libraries try to maintain 60/40 serials/monographs budget ratio, but for example CSU is now 90/10.
- Different publishers have different rules which allow or don't allow articles to be made available via open access on an institutions depository.
 - Joseph pointed to a website we can use to find out if a publisher will or will not allow universities to post articles by their faculty in an open access environment.
 - <http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/>
 - Faculty can have open access language added to contract agreements.
- Why have journals become so expensive? Several reasons, a few are:
 - Individuals are cancelling personal subscriptions.
 - With switch to electronic, cost of server space, etc.
 - For print-only journals, increased cost of postage.
 - More articles, more review process, more expense.
 - Two parts of serials market: non-profit and commercial.
 - Elsevier has a 30% profit last year.
 - Source for statistic from Elsevier:
<http://reports2008.reedelsevier.com/review/Pages/elsevier.aspx>
 - Society publishers want to recoup costs and have a bit of a margin, but more reasonable.
 - Journals split, so have A, B, C, D, etc. where there was one title in the past, and now each new part costs the same as the one issue used to cost, thus making a subscription 4 or 5 times as expensive.
- We have to think about Open Access and about library budgets and scholarly publications because this is an issue everywhere.
 - Some disciplines have a great deal of caution when it comes to Internet – but all scholars need to sort out.
 - What scholars are publishing in open access journals? Deans and chairs will want proof that other scholars are doing this.
- A conundrum: the university pays our salaries to write, to be editors, and then has to pay for the subscription to gain access to our scholarship and research.
- Open access contributes to public good, and can be for scholars in other countries, such as Latin America where they don't have access to these journals.
- Open access only works if scholars publish there and disciplines support open access publishing.
 - Change can happen even if a discipline starts with one journal, getting scholars on board, and putting out a quality journal.
 - Biomed Central is an example of a successful scholarly Open Access periodical collection, with several high impact journals.
- Libraries and universities creating new roles for themselves as publishers, preserving digital content, creating access mechanisms.

- We have the Library Digital Repository capable of developing a publishing venue. We want to see if that is reasonable for us to do. The library can provide technical infrastructure, but that doesn't replace editorial policies, so that piece is very important for the rest of the faculty to contribute.
- Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy. They have built up endowment to keep infrastructure going
- In the book world, Rice U. open access publisher of ebooks – same UP model with peer review and editors but free.

Penrose would like to host a meeting (not an LLAG meeting, but a one that all faculty can attend) in the fall quarter, to bring faculty together and to keep this conversation going. Nancy Allen recommended we bring in an economist to talk about these issues at that meeting.

4. Carson-Brierly Dance Collection (Steve Fisher)

<http://library.du.edu/about/collections/SpecialCollections/dance.cfm>

We currently have an exhibit of some of the materials at the library's entrance. This is a legacy collection from CWC, so when DU acquired that campus we acquired this collection. We have an active friends group, and they create content as well, such as living legends, and they present legends of dance awards. The collections comprises about 7000 books, some are in SpecColl. There are also press kits, scrap books of material, minutes of board meetings, dance DVDs from hip hop to ballet, framed art related to dance, cassettes, CDs, posters, and serials. One part of the collection, the Llyod "Pappy" Shaw collection, was compiled by the father/grandfather of square dance/country dance, and is one of largest collections, and includes items such as recordings and caller notes.

Finding aids to the collection are available on the website for the collection. Someday soon we will have interface of all these finding aids, so can search all these finding aids. That will be a wonderful new tool.

5. Penrose Library collections reorganization (Michael Levine-Clark)

We've been moving things around the library. New Books and Browsing books are now near café. We've crunched gov docs together into a few shelves – most are in storage. Juvenile books have been moved next to gov docs, to allow more space in Oversize. We need more space in Oversize because we are decreasing the print reference collection, and most reference books are oversized. We are integrating current periodicals and bound periodicals, and although we recognize there is a trade off because patrons can't browse all the new titles as easily, patrons will be browse a whole journal at once. Some of the current periodicals will stay as browsers – expand that collection. Add about 50 more titles. Area where Current Periodicals are located now will be devoted to seating.

Some faculty members still browse the new periodicals regularly, and would like them to stay where they are. However, we do have faculty who want the entire run of a journal together. The ability to browse will still be there, but it will be different and may take time to adjust to the changes.

6. The Year in Review – Open Discussion (Peggy Keeran)

Little time remained in the meetings for discussion, so Peggy covered the highlights of the newsletter, *The Liaison Connection*: the Research Center, Peak Beta, LearningExpress (online practice tests for GRE, LSAT, MCAT, etc.), the Carson Brierly Dance Collection, Classroom Support, Digital Conversion Services, the New Books and Book Drop Café area, new art in the library, and the author lecture by Margaret Coel.

http://library.du.edu/about/downloads/LLAG_NEWSLETTER_SPRING_09.pdf.

A question about Classroom Support and why it is now in the library was raised. Sturm Hall needed more faculty offices, so Multimedia Services needed a new home, and it was moved into the library and under the library's support services. There was a concern about the amount of time it now takes for someone from Classroom Support to Sturm, about 10 minutes. Nancy Allen acknowledged that is an issue, and one way we are trying to combat it is to minimize the problems that can occur. One of the main problems classroom support responded to in the past was the fact that the remote wouldn't work, so we installed control panels to reduce the problem. We are trying to eliminate 90% of the common problems so that only those 10% that remain will need someone to respond.