

University of Florida Future of the Library (FOL) Committee

Meeting Minutes

October 12, 2006

Present: Will Harrison, Chair; John Cech; David Denslow; Mary Ann Eaverly; Tess Kulstad Gonzalez; Amy Mashburn; Carol Murphy; Robin Poynor; Michele Tennant; Eric Triplett; and Robert Zieger

Next meeting: November 2, 2006 at 8:30 a.m. in 239 Tigert Hall

I. Announcements

Ken Frazier from University of Wisconsin-Madison visit coming up on October 19th.

- Recommendation that Ralf Remshardt be invited to meet with Mr. Frazier.
- Find larger room for October 19th meeting – perhaps McQuown or 215 Dauer
- Invite both committees: FOL Committee and Dean of the Libraries Search Committee

Dr. Harrison also commented that he was presenting at the Faculty Senate meeting on October 19th at 3:00 p.m.

II. Working Group Reports

1. Comparative Analysis
 - a. The subcommittee compared 6-7 peer institutions and UF is well behind the others in terms of funds spent on collections, size of collections, square footage. UF is even in numbers of staff and well ahead in saved staff budget compared to collection budget
2. Collection Balance
 - a. Opinions vary across disciplines on whether print or electronic best method
 - i. Students – online access throughout campus necessary and journals in whatever form; all about convenience
 - b. UF has unique material that is not available anywhere else
 - c. Very labor intensive to digitize materials and that area is under staffed
 - d. Latin American Library - #1 in the world for Caribbean collection and top 3 in Latin America, however, basic issue is staffing. They have no time to think about future plans because they are always helping users.
 - i. More funding for digitalization
 - ii. 1997 the library was remodeled, but looks outdated and does not have wireless access
 - e. Architecture, Fine Arts, Music Collection
 - i. Music collection – the weight of the books is actually breaking the building down
 - ii. Architecture and Fine Arts have doubled their books but no there is no reading space
 - f. Even in areas where print is needed, a balance needs to be found for digital access also
3. Capital Campaign
 - a. There is a new Development Officer (DO) assigned to the Libraries
 - b. Discussion of Endowments and Priorities
 - c. Recommendation – the President needs to put libraries into Capital Campaign and challenge grants that is negotiated by the new Dean
 - d. Find a way for the library to resonate with a huge audience
 - e. Sustainable building

- f. DO for HSC libraries needs to be considered
- 4. Mission
 - a. What are libraries for?
 - i. Library of the 21st Century responsible to history of libraries
 - ii. Information gathering can not be separated from knowledge
 - iii. Intellectual heart of the university – both virtual and physical – print and archive functions
 - b. What are librarians for?
 - i. Partners with academic faculty
 - ii. They are faculty and tenure-track – so a balance needs to be found with research and service
 - iii. Building new technology to be better able to retrieve information and turning that into knowledge
 - c. UF's Library presence on website
 - i. UF negative message compared to peers
 - ii. Currently utilitarian
 - iii. Examples of good library websites found at Illinois, Wisconsin, Ohio State (vision of excellence) and Penn State (welcome by Dean)
 - iv. UF needs pictures
- 5. Integration of Libraries
 - a. Pros & Cons of Integration
 - i. Budget
 - 1. 80% from state – used to be line item, now all of the budget goes to Provost to be divided up
 - 2. No inflation increase
 - 3. \$1.4M for collections, \$2.2M spent, and the difference is paid by recurring money that has dissipated over the past few years so journal cancellations eminent
 - 4. DSR – HSC library gets 16% of budget, the remainder goes to the rest of campus even though HSC bring in over 50% of overhead
 - ii. Would budgeting issues be improved by integration?
 - 1. There is a concern about services changing with integration and autonomy to serve users as needed
 - iii. Advantage of Integration?
 - 1. Would tenure be harmed or helped?
 - 2. Availability of recurring funds?
 - 3. Acquisitions of materials improved?
 - 4. Professional distinction – very tailored service at HSC
 - 5. Pay schedules very different
 - 6. HSC not union
 - b. This subcommittee has meetings planned with Senior Vice President Doug Barrett and Director of Libraries Dale Canelas

IV. Conclusions

1. At the Nov 2nd meeting the subcommittees will bring first drafts of their reports

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.