

**University Committee on Libraries (UCL)
Minutes of the Meeting of February 12, 2009**

8:00 a.m. Decio Hall Room 131

Present: Dennis Doordan, Sherri Jones, Barry Keating, Mary Keys, Semion Lyandres, Mikolaj Kunicki, Jennifer Mason McAward, Malcolm Phelan (undergraduate student representative), Joseph Powers, Andrew Sommese, Kasey Swanke (graduate student representative) Laurence Taylor, Paul Turner, Jennifer Younger (ex officio)

Absent and excused: Ed Edmonds

Observers / guests: Julie Arnott--Head, Preservation Department, Hesburgh Libraries, Gay Dannelly—Associate Director for Resources and Collections Services, Hesburgh Libraries, Tracey Thomas (recorder),

The February 12, 2009 UCL meeting was called to order by Laurence Taylor at 8:06 a.m.

Welcome and approval of minutes for December 18, 2008 meeting – Laurence Taylor

Approval of the December 18, 2008 meeting: a motion for approval was made by Barry Keating, seconded by Sherry Jones; all approved.

Chair's report

Taylor announced the formation of the Foik Award Committee, an award given each year at the President's dinner to a library faculty member at Notre Dame, which includes three non library faculty and one student member. Taylor invited UCL members to nominate themselves or others for the committee. Nominations should be sent to Jennifer Younger, Ed Edmonds or Michele Wolff.

Director's report

Younger reported that the annual State of the Library speech was, for the first time, a joint session with Dean Ed Edmonds of the Kresge Law Library, and both libraries reacted positively to this new format. Topics included the library renovation and preservation issues. Younger said the library received its 2009/10 budget with an add-on in support of collection development. This is good news as all current purchasing commitments can be maintained.

Renovation highlights and time line

The committee received reports from UCL members who are on the Hesburgh Library renovation committee. Recent visits with the project architects focused on proposed schematics for space allocation. Architects will return in March with a schematic combining the best elements of the two options. Appropriate attention is being given to balancing the competing needs for quiet study space in which to do research and active collaborative learning space for combinations of student and faculty interactions. Into the schematics will also be fitted a café, a small chapel, a new transaction point where all user transactions—reserve, audio/video,

interlibrary loan and regular check-out—can be done, space for unbound current journals, audio/video materials, and staff work space. Members commented positively on the work presented by the architects. The architects are working toward a target of presenting schematic drawings to the Board of Trustees at its May 2009 meeting. .

Younger proposed arranging a joint meeting of the renovation committee and UCL with the project architects in March, 2009, so that members can be updated by the architects and view schematics.

Sustainable collections and preservation

Younger briefly reviewed the work of the task force on preservation. The necessity of moving part of the collection in connection with the renovation project has led to the consideration of options: on-campus storage, off-campus storage either locally or at a distant location, or withdrawal of volumes. Younger is proposing that 350,000 volumes representing duplicate content be redistributed through one or more of these options. “Duplicate content” includes multiple copies of the same printed item as well as the same content available in print and digital formats, as is the case for a good number of journal titles.

Members discussed the broad strengths and weaknesses of the options. Storage off campus either locally or at a distance entails costs of staffing, retrieval and handling of the volumes. Withdrawal of volumes is acceptable only if access to the materials is guaranteed through another avenue—such as cooperative lending agreements with other institutions, membership in CRL (Center for Research Libraries), and digital duplication of the print material. Long term considerations for space should also be addressed. How quickly will current acquisitions replace de-acquisitioned volumes, thus requiring more collection space? And what time factors need to be considered in accessing stored materials? A question was raised about the impact on library standing of decreasing the number of volumes held by the library. Finally, cost of each option must be compared.

Younger noted that the metric of numbers of volumes held is no longer distributed by ARL (Association of Research Libraries) to the Chronicle; rather, ARL compiles four measures of expenditures as an index tool; thus, libraries are not penalized for using good management practices. She also said that an addition to the Hesburgh library building is not under current discussion, but agreed with members that the second phase of sustainable collections must take into account the rate of new acquisitions, which might replace the withdrawn volumes in about five years. Growth on campus—increases in graduate students planned at 1000 in five years, and regular adjustments to branch library footprints and collection sizes—need to be factored as well.

Younger proposed to bring more information on redistributing 350,000 duplicate volumes to the April 2009 meeting with cost analyses (as possible to compile). The library wants advice and ultimately support from UCL on a plan that will enable the library to act on space and preservation issues. In the meantime, subject librarians will be soliciting faculty for their input as well, so parallel discussions will be ensuing. The library would like to act on this issue this summer as a target date.

Meeting adjourned unanimously at 9:09 a.m.