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Librarians' Meeting: 2005 : 08 : 17

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LIBRARIANS MEETING
Wednesday, 17 August 2005
Library Conference Room

Attendees:
Kathy Arsenault, Jerry Notaro, Karilyn Jaap, Tina Neville, Berrie Watson, Deb Henry, Anita Lindsay, Mika Nelson, Patricia Pettijohn, Jim Schnur

Call to Order: 9:17 a.m.

General Announcements:

Barbara and Jean cannot attend today’s meeting. They will be setting up for the library staff luncheon and also attending a meeting for USPS employees with the regional vice chancellors.

7 September: Campus 40th anniversary kickoff, including Faculty Convocation (please attend!) and Campus Showcase. We’ll have a cake cutting between the library and Bayboro Hall at 4:00 p.m. St. Petersburg Mayor Rick Baker will read an official proclamation commemorating the event. Cake will be delivered by Orange Blossom Catering. Exhibits will be on display in library.

30 September: Library will host first Final Friday of 2005-2006 academic year. Others invited to mingle at this notable event include members of USF St. Petersburg’s Town & Gown (who provided $2,500 to assist with displays and exhibits) and SAPL. Event should last from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m., with a brief walking tour that reveals the earlier history of the Bayboro Harbor area beginning at or about 6:00 p.m. Orange Blossom will handle food for this event as well.

Discussion:

Karilyn has set 28 April 2006 as a firm retirement date. This later date will allow for additional reference coverage during the spring semester after she turns over collection management duties to Patricia. This also provides an extended transitional period for unexpected issues that may arise due to delays in book orders and getting encumbered book funds. When Karilyn turns over her collection development responsibilities at or near the end of 2005, she will also relinquish supervisory responsibilities for Cynthia, who has a half-time assignment in collection development.

Karilyn addressed the possible cancellation of print reference materials covered in full or part by Gale’s Literary Resource Center. We’ve already cancelled three print sources available online, including Contemporary Literary Criticism and the Dictionary of Literary Biography. Two titles under consideration were Nineteenth Century Literary Criticism and Children’s Literature Review. Most concurred that if the price was not too high, the Children’s Literature Review should be retained in print form because it remains a useful source for education
majors. The Nineteenth Century Literary Criticism—though valuable from a scholarly perspective—probably will not generate as much use, especially with the retirement of Daniel Wells, a professor of English and literature. Karilyn will work with Tampa to cancel that serial and make a comparison of print versus online coverage of the Children’s Literature Review that can be presented at a future meeting before the next wave of cancellations are due to folks in Tampa.

Jim gave a brief discussion about the upcoming exhibit and thanked those who have read the rough, rough drafts. He encouraged those who did not have time to review the drafts to email any things that they thought should be included. He noted that much of the text will end up on the editor’s chopping block, and that reviewers should feel comfortable pointing out anything that is not worthwhile to include. He also asked that they let him know if a certain bias or perspective needs to be addressed.

Deb gave an update on the Campus Faculty Council meeting she attended this morning. New chair will be Ambe Njoh (faculty in political science). Discussion of Student Affairs Division’s plan to implement usage fees was a big topic. Jim expressed his belief that the poor handling of this matter, in his opinion, by leadership in Student Affairs is emblematic of why CFC should pursue the matter of faculty evaluations of other divisions/academic units on campus, a practice that took place during Bill Heller’s tenure. Deb also reported that Mark Durand and others have asked CFC to get a sense of whether CFC should be reconstituted as a “Faculty Senate,” with similar scope as the Faculty Senate at USF Tampa.

Tina gave her impressions of the information literacy immersion program held at Eckerd College: “it was amazing.” She noted that USF may be one of the few places that fails to incorporate a substantial library research component in freshman English courses. She invited colleagues to work with her on drafting strategies or plans to enhance information literacy programs through the curriculum. A cohort from UC Berkeley who attended the institute mentioned a successful project at her institution: UC Berkeley awards 5 or so research prizes of $1,000 that reward outstanding undergraduate research projects which take advantage of library resources. Might we start a similar (though smaller) program here? May tie in with some of the extensive work of students completing honors theses, term papers, creative works, or other original research. Tina was asked to bring this matter up for discussion at the Undergraduate Council and—if there was interest—pursuing it with the Awards Committee.

Tina continues to weed reference materials (especially ‘wordy’ resources that may get better use in circulating collection). She has consulted with subject specialists in areas already covered, and is working her way through the collection.

Kathy suggested that we should defer creating a space planning committee until next year, due to the other tasks we must face with SACS, ALEPH, etc., that are more pressing.

Jerry announced that Jim Clapper had left the Audiovisual Department to take a media position in the Manatee County Schools. Mike Mathon has taken his place as AV Specialist. Staff will conduct two interviews this afternoon with possible candidates to fill the Senior AV Equipment Operator position vacated by Mike.
Jerry also addressed the ongoing confusion about the three ID numbers assigned to USF students (2050 library number, 6400 Net-ID validation number, and new ‘U’ number that will replace SSNs). He expressed concerns of AV staff who often field calls and in-person visits from angry folks sent their way. He clarified how to handle student questions regarding access and noted that there is no new free ID for students wanting their ‘U’ number on the card and that none of us should be pressured into revealing this information over the phone or in person if someone persistently asks for it.

Kathy encouraged library staff to direct those wishing to leave suggestions to the Nelson website. The suggestion box located by the entrance/exit has had few comments placed in it recently.

General discussion followed regarding internet access, issues of inappropriate/illegal sites (i.e., patrons accessing child pornography), and technology enhancements planned by Berrie.

Patricia noted that the OPAC would soon have separate bibliographic records for print holdings with a note that recent years’ of print materials were located on the shelf. All agreed that separating print from fiche records will be beneficial to library users.

**Adjournment:** Took place at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM SCHNUR
Scribe