Libraries Committee meeting April 19, 1995

The Libraries Committee met in the Joyner Library
Conference Room at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 15, 1995.
Committee chair J. Bascom presided.

Approval of minutes
The minutes from the March 15, 1995 meeting were
approved.

Unavailability of data bases over the networks
Making data bases available over the old campus network
was not feasible. With the new network it will be feasible,
but there are questions concerning site licenses that must
be resolved. Some data bases may require multi-site
licenses, especially for courses taught off campus. There
is not a standard pattern for the price structure across
vendors for site licenses. Software for metering the usage
will also be needed. The search engines for the different
data bases are different. The Silver Platter search engine
is more complicated to use than other search engines, but
it can be used with a variety of data bases. The reference
library staff chose to go with a variety of vendors for data
bases rather than with a single research engine that could
access several data bases. Usage data will be collected.
The library may lean toward the Silver Platter in the
future. It is capable of searching 200 data bases.

More on Journal Cancellations
The journal cancellation process is proceeding. There
have been a number of requests to postpone the process for a
year so units will be able to make a more detailed and
careful study of their journal needs and so they will have
time to define a set of core journals. Chancellor Aiken
will be asked to use funds available to him to supplement
the library budget for one year so that journal
cancellations can be postponed. Joyner Library is studying
the long-range problem and is trying to find a long-range
solution. The library staff will initiate a study to
identify core journal material to support teaching and
research.

Additional cuts can be expected because of the decline
in enrollment.

Review of the budget for monograph purchases
The acquisitions budget is used for serials, monograph
acquisition on the approval plan, monograph acquisition
through departmental allocation, and binding. CD's, data
bases, etc. are also purchased from the acquisitions budget.
It may be possible to transfer the approximately $60,000 in
binding costs out of the acquisitions budget. The
acquisitions budget would then be used only for the
acquisition of new materials.

In reviewing the document "Materials budget comparative
study" it was noticed that there was a decline in the budget
after the 93-94 academic year. This is because the
legislature made a one-time allocation of $318,000 for that
year rather than providing an increase in the continuation
budget. The library had requested $1,000,000 in the
continuing budget, but received the one-time allocation
instead.
There are not currently enough funds to meet the teaching and research needs of the institution. It is important to have a good system to make the most effective selections for acquisition. The current ratio of the amount of money spent on journals to the amount spent on monographs is 58% on journals to 42% on monographs. This is low. It is not unusual for this ratio to be 2/3 or as high as 3/4. The library will be conducting a study of unit and program needs. The study will collect information on perceived needs, acquisition statistics, usage statistics, and other information to better determine how the limited acquisitions budget can best be spent. It may be necessary to change the journals to monograph ratio, the approval plan to departmental allocation ratio, and to retune the approval plan. Some departments have requests that go far beyond their allocations.

There needs to be more extensive faculty involvement in selecting materials.

The meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

Submitted by R. Morrison, Secretary