Minutes of Libraries Committee

Meeting of November 20, 2002, 3:30-4:24 pm, Rawl Annex 142.

Person presiding: Ann Schreier

Regular members in attendance: Salman Abdulali, Thomas Allen, Tom Raedeke, Ann Schreier, John Stevens, Gay Wilentz

Ex-officio members in attendance: Dorothy Spencer, Carroll Varner

Others in attendance: Jeff Coghill, Stefanie DuBose, Beth Winstead

Agenda item 1. Approval of October 16, 2002 minutes. The minutes were approved without change.

Agenda item 2. Old business.
   a) Update on Joyner Library Liaison program.
      Stefanie DuBose reported that the new liaison program had got off to a good start. Liaisons to related departments (e.g. sciences) were forming teams. Gay Wilentz requested the formation of a "diversity team" for areas such as ethnic studies. This will be considered.

   b) Inter-Library Loan Pilot project for Schools of Allied Health and Nursing.
      Dorothy Spencer reported that the pilot project would be started soon; letters would be sent soon to the concerned departments. She noted that the project could be derailed by budget cuts in early 2003.

Agenda item 3. Discussion of both Joyner and Health Sciences Library Budgets

Carroll Varner reported that Joyner Library's budget for the previous fiscal year is available online. The URL is <http://www.lib.ecu.edu/Administration/budget20012002.html>. He mentioned some features of the current year's budget. The materials budget was essentially unchanged from the previous year's at this time, though reversions were likely to occur during spring 2003. The biggest change was in the allotment of the new Distance Education funds ($640,000). Half of this was going into the virtual library for databases, 30% to Joyner Library, and 20% to the Health Sciences Library. In addition, approximately half million dollars were available to spend from endowment funds. These funds would be used first to compensate for any reversions of state funds. Secondly, the book buying budget would be doubled for the humanities and the social sciences, but not for the sciences. The library was also moving to fill some of the faculty positions which had been left vacant.

Varner mentioned two items which could have a major impact on future budgets. First, new engineering programs at ECU would require substantial investment in library materials. Second, he was going to a meeting of the library directors of the 16 UNC institutions. It was hoped that at this meeting an agreement would be reached with TRLN (a consortium of libraries in the Research Triangle area) which would leverage their buying power to a statewide consortium, which would purchase major databases in the sciences.

Agenda item 4. Additional Committee Business.
   * Carroll Varner reported on events that the libraries were planning for Founder's Week, and, ECU's centennials.
   * John Stevens asked for an update on changes taking place in Joyner Library. Varner informed the committee that reshelving of materials (some into compact storage in the basement) was taking place. This would open up space in the stacks for 5 years' worth of acquisitions.
   * Salman Abdulali asked about the use of electronic materials for interlibrary loan. Stefanie DuBose said that different publishers have different policies, so libraries are reluctant to use electronic materials. Beth Winstead said that Joyner Library does not use electronic materials for ILL, even when licensed to do so. DuBose said that she is working on compiling information on licenses for different journals, which may make electronic ILL feasible.

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 15, 2003, 3:30 - 4:30 pm, Rawl Annex 142