Libraries Committee Minutes for the Meeting of Oct. 20, 2004

Joyner Library Administrative Meeting Room @ 3 pm.

Marianna Walker presiding.

Regular members in attendance: Salman Abdulali, Kevin Gross, Susan DelVecchio, Thomas Douglass, Marianna Walker, Michael Duffy.

Ex-Officio members in attendance: Dorothy Spencer, Henry Ferrell, Dori Finley, Maggie O’Neill.

Also in attendance: Jeff Coghill and John Lawrence.

1.) Minutes of the Sept. 15th meeting were approved.

2.) The ECU Library Budgets (2003-2004) were distributed for review.
Walker questioned the apparent budget discrepancy of the costs for the Virtual Library Data Bases, and Spencer explained that those figures reflect a postponed payment for two years outstanding, not an overpayment.

Ferrell raised questions over budgetary policy regarding the selection of full text Virtual Library Data Bases. Lawrence explained how the library approaches packaged data bases, trying to maximize full-text availability. Also, Ferrell suggested the library explore collecting and storing digital archives.

Abdulali questioned the duration of these virtual data base contracts. Coghill explained how the library tries to negotiate “long-haul” contracts, presently three years in length.

Spencer mentioned the ongoing possibility of scholarly access and online publishing and storage that could be figured into the negotiation for additional virtual library data bases.

Gross mentioned that although he has been very satisfied with library service, over 1/3 of the entire budget is devoted to virtual online databases, about which patrons may not be aware.

Duffy questioned whether the acquisition of foreign language journal archives is possible under present budgetary policy. Lawrence answered that this was not likely unless these journals would appear in JSTOR.

Ferrell suggested that the library digitize their own print resources to make them available online.

Walker suggested the committee table further discussion of the library budget until the November meeting.

3.) The Libraries budgets will be presented at the December 7th Faculty Meeting, by Marianna Walker, Dorothy Spencer, and Carroll Varner.

4.) John Lawrence presented The Libqual Survey via powerpoint and print document. Overall perception of library services in Joyner Library was measured, but in all areas -- Personal Control, Affect of Service, Access to Information, and Library as Place -- the results measured less than desired.

Douglass asked what the next steps might be after the survey. Lawrence responded by suggesting there would be a call for focus groups. Concern was also expressed about the library websites and how they have/have not adjusted to perceived demand.
O'Neill expressed concern for the lack of student study space in the library, esp. study rooms and carrels.

Ferrell expressed concern for the physical access to the library, i.e. parking, location, transportation, and suggested that the physical access to the library site remains a problem.

Walker moved to table the discussion of The Libqual Survey until the November meeting.

5.) Meeting was adjourned at 4:10. Next meeting will be held Nov. 17th in Joyner Library Administrative Meeting Room at 3 p.m.

Submitted by,

Thomas Douglass
Secretary